

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

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

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VICTORIA, B. C., DECEMBER 10, 1892.

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TALES OF THE TOWN.

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

SEVERAL Vancouver business men I understand, are agitating for the establishment of a house of entertainment in that city conducted on the plan of the variety theatres in Seattle Tacoma, and in every prosperous town in the West. On account of the absence of a resort of this character, the business men of the Terminal City claim, and with facts on their side to substantiate it, that an enormous amount of money has been lost to that city during this year. It must be admitted that a great number of men who are engaged in sealing, mining, logging, etc., for eight or nine months every year, and who have money to spend, will go where they can enjoy themselves in their own way. Because there is no place of amusement in Vancouver catering to this class they go over to Seattle and other Coast cities. Thus these latter cities reap the benefit of the money that should be spent in Vancouver.

That amusement houses of the character referred to above circulate and keep money at home, is borne out by the statement of business men in our own city, who agree that over \$160,000 has been lost to Victoria this year by the closing up of the variety theatre. Sealing men, miners and others, who hitherto remained in the city during the winter months, have gone to San Francisco and other American cities, simply because there was no place in which they could pass away the evening in a manner suited to their tastes, and the money which they would have spent with the merchants of this city has found its way into the pockets of the American merchants. In the meantime, Victoria business men must groan when their bills fall due at the banks, and by the way it would be well to secure the opinions of Victoria bankers as to the cause of the scarcity of money.

But the worst phase of the whole matter is the fact that young men who passed away a harmless hour or two at the variety theatre, have found their way to places which have ruined them both physically and financially. If a variety theatre is an evil (and I am far from thinking such is the case) surely houses of ill repute are a greater one; and would it not be well to follow the precept, to choose the lesser of two evils, as is proposed by the Vancouver people?

The new Irish organization has a grievance. Some few weeks ago, the Victoria

correspondent of the Vancouver World, cast a severe reflection on the Sons of Erin, and concluded by printing an imaginary dialogue between two members of the society. The dialect was certainly not Irish, and the man who attempted to pass it off as such is either a lunatic or an idiot. Who ever heard an Irishman pronouncing necktie "nicktoif"? There are a good many other things in this world which the ambitious correspondent of the World might better employ his transcendent genius than in villifying the Irishmen of Victoria—earning his salary for instance.

"Did it ever occur to you," said a friend of mine the other day, "why is it that so many young men fail now-a-days." I confessed that I had never given the subject the attention which it deserved. My friend then proceeded to enlighten me on this point. A young man may, he said, become very learned or skillful or rich, his name may be on all men's tongues; but into their hearts he can gain entrance by one thing alone—tact. If he has tact, he may do with men what he will. He may convince them without learning or eloquence. He may force them without authority. He may gain their assistance without money, and their friendship without prosperity. He has

The only credentials,
Passport to success,—
Opens castles and parlors,—
Address, man, address."

There is an old English saying which tells us, in a quaint phrase, that "Manners maketh man," which is the same thing as saying that a man is not a complete man until he is a gentleman. Of similar import is the shrewd remark of the wise Frenchman, Joubert, that a man who is not polite enough is not human enough. That is, the basis, nay, the complete science, of manners, is sympathy with humanity. In Emerson's poem already quoted from, is the darning stanza:

"What boots is thy virtue?
What profit thy parts?
The one thing thou lackest,
The art of all arts."

This "one thing lacking" of Emerson's poem is tact; that is, the loving sympathy with men that moves men by putting itself in their place.

I regret very much the apathy of Victoria young men towards the Parliamentary Debating society. Such an institution is a great factor in developing the mind, and fitting young men to shine in whatever sphere of life they may be cast. It seems to me, however, that the cause of this lack of interest can be traced to the fact that several of the members, last year, devoted altogether too much time in discussing rules of order and laying down precedents which might very well be

dispensed with. Two or three red-hot debates would be of more benefit to the society than a lot of ridiculous discussion of rules, in which ordinary persons are not interested. I merely throw out this hint, with the hope that it may be acted upon.

During the course of a conversation with a female physical culture disciple, she made use of a few remarks, which I believe are worth printing. She said: "The amount and kind of exercise depend entirely upon the person and his condition; but there is one general rule which may be borne in mind: Exercise should begin gradually and increase daily, never overtaking the strength. Outdoor exercise is especially recommended for the various forms of nervous diseases especially insomnia. Various muscular exercises when properly taken soothe the overtaxed brain and nervous system. This is easily understood when it is considered how the muscular work aids in equalizing the circulation, quickens and enlarges the respiration, improves the digestion, as well as the functions of all the vital organs. Then sleep, nature's great restorative, comes like the benediction that follows after prayer. I may be asked how soon should this physical culture begin, I unhesitatingly answer, from birth. The little infant comes to us helpless and at the mercy of its surroundings. Perchance it may be deformed, its little limbs are crooked, but fortunately for this little treasure, its bones are at this time of its life mostly compound of animal matter and by careful manipulation they can easily be brought into proper shape. If all mothers and nurses understood how easily this can be accomplished and were properly educated for the work, we would never see bow-legged and knock-kneed men walking our streets. Children would grow up to manhood and womanhood with shapely and beautiful limbs. No set of muscles should be developed at the expense of others, all should have an equal chance. And with this impartial treatment there would come a perfect form. Adorn this form with a well-trained and educated mind and we have God's masterpiece." May that time soon come is my earnest prayer.

I am pleased to observe that the preliminary steps towards organizing for the forthcoming civic election have been taken. A meeting was held Friday afternoon, and the ball was started rolling by the appointment of a chairman and secretary to secure a place to hold a citizens' meeting Monday night, which will likely be the largest ever held in this city, as the people are now thoroughly aroused as to the necessity of securing a thoroughly busi-

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ness council next year. Let the good work go on.

The *Post Intelligencer* of a recent date, attempts to throw some light on the means employed by Florian Waldeck to escape justice. I am not sufficiently posted on the circumstances surrounding Waldeck's sudden disappearance from this city while the city authorities were looking for him; but I know enough to force me to the conclusion that the matter should be thoroughly investigated. I believe the law is very plain on the point of punishing individuals who conspire to defeat justice.

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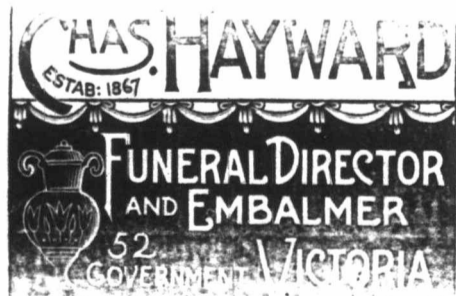
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PERSONAL GOSSIP.

Mr. Jas. L. Fowrester, who lately arrived with his wife from Montreal, has taken up his residence on Pandora Hill.

Mr. F. Victor Austin is getting up a grand concert to be given in the Vancouver Opera House on Monday evening, Dec. 19th.

A grand concert will be given in the Victoria Theatre, early in February, for the benefit of the Royal Jubilee Hospital and the British Columbia Benevolent Society.

An enjoyable coffee party was given by Mrs. A. P. Phillips, of 40 Kane street, last Wednesday afternoon, in honor of Mrs. Marks of Seattle, who is at present visiting in this city.

About thirty couples assembled at Harmony Hall, last Wednesday evening, the occasion being the regular fortnightly dance of the Iolanthe club. The evening was passed very pleasantly.

The St. Andrews and Caledonian Society have announced their intention of getting up a concert, to be held in the Victoria Theatre on January 25th, instead of the Society's ball, which has regularly been held on Burns' Anniversary.

On Tuesday evening, 20th inst., the First Presbyterian Church Sunday school will hold their Christmas entertainment. A leading feature will be a competition between different classes for a prize awarded by the pastor to the best singing class in the school.

A siege was made on 82 Superior street, the residence of Mr. Thos. Harding, by a surprise party of about 20, on Thursday evening, when dancing and a general social time was kept up till about 1 a. m. Mr. Alan Brown supplied the music for the occasion.

The choir of the First Presbyterian church, under the leadership of Mr. J. G. Brown, will give their Fifth Annual Burns Anniversary concert on the evening of January 25th. Mr. Brown's name alone is a guarantee that a treat is in store for lovers of the old songs of the land of the heather and the broom.

There will be a general congregational social in the parlors of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, next Thursday evening. High tea will be served by the ladies at 6 p. m. and the evening will be of the nature of a conversazione. The numbers on the programme will be of a high order. The ladies intend making the social a success.

There was a most enjoyable social dance and supper in the Victoria West Hall, Thursday evening, which was the second of the series go up by the young ladies resident in the vicinity of the hall. Music was furnished by the Bantly family, and dancing was kept up until 2:30 by those present. The attendance numbered about sixty couples.

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At Christ Church Cathedral to-day at 11 a. m. The marriage of Miss Esther M. Johnson, to Mr. J. Sterling Floyd, will be solemnized. It will be a full choral wedding. The excellent choir of the Cathedral will render a grand wedding Anthem by "Barnaby." A reception will be held at the home of the bride's parents, St. Charles street, from 2 until 6 p. m.

The regular quarterly meeting of the Y. M. C. A. will be held in the parlors on the evening of Dec. 21. Reports on the various lines of work will be received and two or three short addresses will be delivered on Association work. This will be interspersed with a number of musical selections, both vocal and instrumental. Refreshments will be served by the ladies of the auxiliary committee, and it is the intention to have the meeting partake of the nature of a general social gathering for the members and their friends.

Mr. Geo. T. Borelle, will open the Lyceum Hall on Broad street, as the Victoria Skating Rink and Pavilion, Saturday, 17th inst. It is the intention of the management not to allow questionable characters to attend the rink, so that it will be a popular place for young people during the rainy season. The rink will be open afternoons from 2 until 5, and evenings from 7:30 until 10, Wednesday afternoon being reserved for ladies only. There is a commodious gallery for

spectators, who will be charged 10 cents admission; for skaters 25 cents includes the use of skates. There will be good music in attendance on the opening night.

The second monthly concert of the musical society was held last Tuesday evening at "Armada," the residence of Senator Macdonald. There were fully eighty persons present, being members of the society and friends. The concert was successful, both from a musical and social point of view. The full chorus of about 20 voices rendered "And the Glory of the Lord" from the Messiah, and the glee "Silent Land." Both were beautifully rendered, but the latter was especially fine. The trio by Miss Mouatt, Mrs. Helmcken and Mrs. D. Harris, was nicely rendered. Mr. Worlock gave a fine solo in his usual manly style. Miss Monati's soprano solo was the hit of the evening, and the only encore. Mr. F. Victor Austin's violin solo was ably executed and much appreciated. Mrs. Helmcken's contralto solo "Rest in the Lord," by Handel, was lovely. Mr. Steve Wooton was fairly good in a solo, but was too nervous for good execution. The only jar was the fact that the piano was out of tune, which rendered it exceedingly difficult for the singers to acquit themselves creditably. The next practice of the society will be held Tuesday evening at the residence of the Hon. A. N. Richards, St. Charles street.

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1892.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

Now for Christmas. When that holiday and the New Year are passed, we can begin to enjoy life again.

THE Prince of Wales, who draws \$200,000, is kicking for an increase of wages. Let the Prince strike and draw on his union for support.

HENRY M. STANLEY, Rudyard Kipling and the Asiatic cholera will revisit America in the spring, unless quarantine restrictions are rigidly enforced.

DON QUIXOTE THEODORE has returned from the East, whither he went in search of adventures and to redress grievances, which is properly the employment of knights.

AN eastern medical man asserts that cholera will visit this country next summer. If it comes to Victoria, we trust that there will be no clash between the local Health Board and the Provincial authorities in carrying out preventive measures, which was so pleasant a feature of last summer's experience.

A VICTORIA "JOURNALIST."

SEVERAL things lately have conspired to make me very weary. I will detail a few. There is some individual on the staff of the evening paper who is either a would-be critic, or a confirmed dyspeptic. If the latter, I pity him; but, if the former, he is a miserable failure, even as an aspirant to the position of critic. This individual has evidently been brought up in or near some old country town, and has read at some time or another the dull, todyish "society" paper, which is either fulsomely flattering or abominably abusive. This kind of literature, coupled with the poor diet of that northern part of the Old Country in question, is not conducive to liberal-mindedness; but when such a person reaches the land of plenty, his stomach is ruined and the little mind he ever had is utterly gone. I'm afraid that is what has happened this poor fellow referred to. He can see good in nothing; he reads the extravagant praise or nauseous abuse in the pedantic "society" paper, and steers his course accordingly. The stuff he gets off though is of a very third class quality on the original. He memorises all the Latin and French expressions, or picks them out of the end of the dictionary, and when he gets a chance fires them at the head of the unfortunate every-day newspaper reader. It looks big, and learned, he no doubt

thinks; the average reader looks upon it as about as graceful as that bird, the elephant, trying to waltz. As a rule, they are an awful misfit in a sentence. Of course this person is a journalist; he is not an ordinary, every day reporter who will rustle up news. Such an avocation is beneath him. But he will write column after column of "guff," as the live reporter calls it, and which no one but the writer and the unfortunate proof reader will read. He will get off moral tirades, and write abuse, but such a thing as stating a plain fact in simple language is out of the question.

The other thing that I am weary over is the weekly effusion of a person signing himself "P. Grigg" in the Vancouver *World*. This makes me very sad at times, but now and again I am amused by the sweet inconsistency of the poor fellow. In his remarks on the recent concert, he speaks of stares of "envy, admiration, snobbery, flunkeyism, or what you please," being directed at the box of the Dunsmuirs. His must have been that of flunkeyism, because he plunges into the most disgusting flunkeyism, to such an extent that the unfortunate young ladies must think themselves either the target for a fool's ravings, or the subjects of a coward's covert sneer. I rather incline to the belief that the poor girls were the victims of the former, a literary monkey making a poor attempt at copying its master. The poor thing speaks of the relative ease of certain men wearing evening dress. That statement is now about as old as the evening dress itself, and I shall be glad when there are no more "fresh ones" who get it off as original. (I was going to use a French expression here for "fresh ones," but I won't.) I think it is a twin sister of that other statement of the young reporter's description of a ball, "the gay uniforms of the military and brilliant costumes of the ladies contrasting with the sombre evening dress of the private gentlemen, all tended to make up a picture of," and so on. "P. Grigg," I put down as a flunkey, and a mighty poor flunkey. He attacks "William Greig" for having an opinion of his own on the question of vaccination; William Greig has brains to have an opinion, and whether it be right or wrong, he has facts to back up that opinion. The thing signing himself "P. Grigg," who rails at him, has not even the brains to get up a fact to refute one of "W. Greig's" statements.

I will only trouble you this week with one more source of my uneasiness, and that is a letter signed by a person calling himself "Weather gauge" in the *Glasgow Herald* I think it was. As both the daily papers gave this fellow the lie direct for villifying the province in the manner he did, I will not go further into the matter.

I will put these three points together and deduce one. Comparing the sentiments, style and general expression of the would be critic first referred to, "P. Grigg" and "Weather gauge," I am led to believe that they must be brothers, possibly triplets, a sort of trinity of that class, if not closer.

JUNUIS.

WHAT MRS. GRUNDY SAYS

That people who can but won't pay bills should be made to settle.

That a pure heart and a cheerful disposition are better than a pretty face.

That the "speedy girl" never is first in the race for the matrimonial stake.

That Victorians will not forever tolerate gross indecency on the theatrical stage.

That the girl of the period has much to learn about the appropriateness of dress.

That the best dressed men are not always on cordial terms with their city tailors.

That too many people in this world become alleged reformers simply for notoriety.

That there never was a time when inducements to take life insurance were so great.

That it is a mistake to think that all physicians can keep a secret better than a woman.

That there is always a sensation in society when a "real love match" is announced.

That it would be interesting to know how many who live beyond their means are stealing.

THE MISSING LINK.

To the Editor of the VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

SIR: I was somewhat astonished on reading the comments in THE HOME JOURNAL on the suit of McDonald against the Methodist Church Trustees, to find the following remarks:

"Now it was proved in evidence that the specification from which the page was torn had been in the architect's office for several months. That in itself does not prove that the architect destroyed the missing page."

Now the writer of the above must have been exceedingly ill-informed on the subject, or the words were penned with the intent and design of doing the architect a grievous wrong. The language used is certainly calculated to lead a disinterested party to the presumption that the architect tampered with the document. Nay; it insinuates that there is *prima facie* evidence of his guilt.

I am a disinterested party in the suit but I happened to be present in court when the plaintiff's case collapsed, and I would like to ask the writer why he did not state the facts that the altered document was not brought forward in evidence by the defendants, but by the plaintiffs, and it was produced for the very purpose of destroying the architect's evidence and credibility. The architect did not know what had become of this document until it reappears in court in the possession of his opponents and is held up in its mutilated form to contradict his sworn testimony. As to who would be most likely to alter the document—the architect or the parties who had it in their possession last and produced it in court to destroy the architect's evidence—I will leave it to people to draw their own conclusions.

I am a constant reader of your paper and admire many of its productions, but I could not allow such a misleading statement to go unchallenged, and still continue to respect the utterances of your journal.

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MR. DAVIE'S MISSION.

Premier Davie has returned from Ottawa and the East, and reports that an arrangement has been made by the Dominion Government for a thoroughly equipped quarantine station at Albert Head. Why was not this arranged for long ago? This is a question for the parties who have failed to compel the Government to supply it to answer. Mr. Davie has, we doubt not, done yeoman service in the matter. He has also, we are glad to note, succeeded in having an arrangement made by which for the purpose of inspection of Puget Sound vessels which do not report at quarantine station, the local health officers at Vancouver, Nanaimo and Victoria, shall be clothed with the powers of Dominion quarantine officers. From Mr. Davie we also have something definite in the shape of information as to the Canada Western Railway project. According to him, "the long and short of the matter is that if the Provincial Government and City of Victoria are prepared to back the enterprise with extensive guarantees of interest, abundant capital will be forthcoming immediately to build the road." For our part, as we have said many times, we desire to see the Railway built and that without delay, as it would most certainly be productive of the greatest benefit to the city and Province.—*B. C. Commercial Journal.*

ABANDONED STORES.

A great deal has been said and written about abandoned farms, but little about abandoned stores. Yet any one familiar with the leading thoroughfares in great cities could tell an interesting story about the latter. The subject is really a melancholy one. The passer-by sees a small shop neatly and perhaps expensively fitted up, and with a stock of goods attractively displayed. A few months go by and the showy sign disappears along with the stock of goods and its proprietor. The expectation of a profitable trade has been disappointed, and very likely the capital invested has been wholly or partially sunk. Frequently very ambitious business ventures succumb to the relentless laws of trade and a fine stock of goods passes into the hands of some great firm, which makes money out of it at a "bankrupt sale." Scores of such cases could be enumerated yearly on any business thoroughfare. Still the stores do not remain abandoned. Some hopeful persons with small capital at once step in and rent them, often to repeat the sad experience of their predecessors.

There is a strange fascination about trade which induces hundreds of people who are earning a living in some subordinate capacity, and who have saved a few hundred dollars by strict economy, to launch out on "their own hook" as merchants or tradesmen in various lines of business. In many cases they have had no special training in the line selected, and have no aptitude for it. They work longer and harder than ever before, but failure is inevitable. Only the well trained and shrewd can succeed even where there is ample capital.

This is a view of mercantile life which

many young men, especially the numerous class who flock to the cities from the farms, do not give heed to. They overlook the fact that the shores of mercantile life are strewn with wrecks. Many a farmer's boy comes to the city and works more hours daily than he ever did on the farm, while his surroundings are far from being as desirable and healthful as those of the home he has left behind. It is hard to make him believe this, and the glamor of city life will continue to draw him from a calling which, diligently and intelligently followed, will enable him to lead a more independent and healthful existence than falls to the lot of a majority of his fellow-men.

WILL PLAIDS PREVAIL?

The minds of domestic manufacturers seem fixed upon the plaids for the spring and especially of silk. A large quantity is already shown, but it is only a hint of what is preparing for the spring, so that evidently every woman is expected to look like an immense criss-bar by that time. Plaids are a change from stripes and figures, and have been a furore in Paris for several months. They are also useful and stylish for the fashionable waists and blouses that will be even more worn next season than at present, and they are also a perfect godsend to the economical shopper bent upon combinations or remaking old gowns. A handsome silk plaid is difficult to make, and must bring a good price, which will, in a measure, prevent it becoming a strictly popular article, as unfortunately, popularity seems allied to cheapness. Tasteful plaids are full of charming colorings that would make them becoming were it not that the very form of a plaid requires a tall, slender figure to wear it, and we are not all built after that fashion, even though the present styles demand it. If Paris completely drops plaids in the spring, our fashionable people will not cling very closely to them, and plaids have a warm appearance for summer wear. Here is another material that the dressmakers do not like, as it requires more time to match the squares in cutting out a gown for which they can not charge more, for the extra work does not show, and women, probably men, too, are loath to pay for invisible value. Just now it remains a question, are plaids to be all-pervading, or only a passing ripple in the sea of fashion?—*New York Economist.*

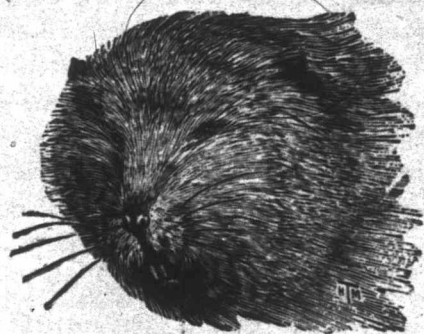
EYE WATER VERSUS SPECTACLES.

In the course of my professional business I have observed that many persons, both old and young, but especially referring to young ladies and gentlemen, are in the habit of wearing spectacles. As it is very difficult to credit that young persons really require to use them, I have come to the conclusion that in a majority of cases young people wear them more as an ornament than use, forgetting that they are really injuring their eyes by so doing. As I have had many years' experience respecting persons wearing eye-glasses, and also the professional advice of one of the best physicians of his day, the late Sir Henry Marsh, physician to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, who gave me his formula for eye-water, recommended by him, I think it

my duty to advise the public and young people in particular to refrain from their use. Sir Henry condemns the usual eye-water given by druggists as very injurious to the eyes. Druggists' eye-water as a rule is sulphate of zinc. I beg to offer a bottle of eye-water made from the formula of Sir Henry, free to the first twenty persons that call for it (for their own use) at the Dominion Hotel from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, except Sunday. In one township of County Grey, Ontario, I sold 12 dozen bottles of this eye-water in six weeks; 16 pairs of spectacles were to my knowledge taken off for good, and I heard great compliments paid to me for the benefit the eye-water conferred on them. Price 25 cents. Apply to

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nights,' he remarked last evening, 'when, with the couch drawn up before the fire, my book and my pipe, I shall forget the cold and storm without in the cheer and comfort within.' What do you think of that sentiment from a man who is a good dancer? Isn't it all too ideal and dreadful?"

And the other girls looked very solemn and said that it was.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE Imperial Stock Company will get a benefit at The Victoria, next Thursday night. Mr. Frank Readick will be seen in the title role of David Garrick, supported by the entire company. Mr. Readick is a very clever actor, superior in fact to the majority of leading men that play with combinations. The company is generally good, and no doubt they will receive a good house. Previous to the performance of David Garrick, Prof. Donald Downie will give one of his illustrated lectures. Of this gentleman as a lecturer, a Seattle paper says: "The Seattle theatre has had a most unique and high class series of entertainments this week. All the warm encomiums on Prof. Donald Downie have been justified by his performances and his illustrated travels in Ireland. Last evening was an artistic and literary event in theatrical circles. With 100 beautifully colored dissolving stereopticon views, vividly thrown on 400 feet of white screen beside him on the stage by his expert, at the rate of one each minute, he carries his delighted audience through scenes of picturesque and historic interest. The cultured traveler throws some views on the screen at his opening showing the pictures and impressions he is collecting in the Northwest"

D'Artagnan the impetuous hero of Dumas's popular novel "The Three Guardsmen" will be impersonated by Alexander Salvini next Monday evening with the help of a competent cast the most important member of his company being the well known English actor, Mr. William Redmond. The character of D'Artagnan is familiar to almost every schoolboy as well as to older heads. It is said that Salvini locks and acts the character to life. He has the face, the figure, the dash, the impetus for the brilliant figures of the French,

Italian and Spanish heroes of the days of romance, and plays D'Artagnan with its requisite heroic vitality, and with inspiring enthusiasm. The play will be presented with all the elaborate stage settings and scenic effects and the same great cast as characterized its presentation during Salvini's memorable five weeks' engagement at the Boston Theatre last spring. Salvini has awakened a sensation by able performances, in all the principal cities of the Pacific slope.

Mr. Charles F. Riggs, who is traveling in advance of the Calhoun Opera Company, has made final arrangements for three nights at the Victoria—January 10, 11 and 12—when "Said Pasha," "Boccaccio," and "Fatatinza" will be produced. Among the principals are Laura Millard, prima-donna soprano; Julia Calhoun, mezzo-soprano; Martin Pache, tenor; Douglas G'lint and Kirtland Calhoun, comedians; and Carl Martens, conductor. The eastern newspapers speak in the highest terms of the work of the Calhoun Company, which consists of 35 people.

A Portland paper says: "Alexander Salvini in 'Don Cæsar de Bazan' did not disappoint the brilliant audience that crowded the Marquam Monday night, although reports of his brilliant talents have been flooding the papers for months past. To say that his acting more than justifies his reputation, would be simple justice. As the gay and dashing Don Cæsar he held the audience in his magic spell and infused his own enthusiasm into the enraptured applauders."

The Wagner society will give no performance at Bayreuth in 1893. The society some time since appointed a committee to raise money for the purpose of securing relics and souvenirs of the great master to form a Wagner museum at Vienna. Many such relics and souvenirs were obtained, and it is now rumored that they are about to be sold to persons in the United States.

The denunciations by the London critics of "Agatha Tylden, Merchant and Shipowner," Mrs. Langtry's play, have been ignored by the public, who nightly flock to the Haymarket Theatre. Mrs. Langtry has bought

the provincial and American rights to the play, and when she again visits the United States she will probably appear in it.

Paderewski will sail from London on the Havel for New York, on Dec. 14. He has delayed his departure in order to fulfil engagements here that were postponed owing to his recent illness. He has written a new Polish rhapsody for the piano and orchestra for the Norwich Music Festival next year, where he will play a solo part.

Henry Irving's company have presented him with a statuette of himself in the character of Mathias, as a memorial of the twenty-first anniversary of the first production of "The Bells." The statuette is the work of Onslow Ford.

Isadore Philo, assisted by amateurs, will produce Monte Christo at an early day. Mr. Philo is the young man whose acting in Leah the Forsaken was so universally admired in this city a few months ago.

Our German Ward is not a great play, but it affords ample scope for the introduction of specialties, which are of the highest order. The "business" was all new, and the singing and dancing above the average.

Turner's English Girls were at The Victoria Monday night. The performance was ———.

Sydney Grundy has rewritten "White Lies" for Mr. and Mrs. Kendal.

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OF INTEREST TO WOMEN.

IT is remarked by a writer in *Invention* that women inventors by no means confine themselves to those departments where they might be supposed to possess special experience. Patents have been granted to woman for a plan of deadening noise on railways, for preventing sparks from locomotives and for a new form of life raft. The greater number of their inventions, however, are connected with dress and domestic appliances. During last year nearly four hundred patents were applied for by women. Some of these have reference to textile manufactures, electrical and railway appliances and stationery. Appliances for the sick have received considerable attention from women inventors.

The burning question, "Should women ride astride?" has been settled in Somerset and Devon Counties, England. Half a dozen prominent women have adopted suitable costumes for such exercise. They find such riding habits neat and extremely convenient for the hunting parties which lend an interest to life in that part of England. One of the emancipated ones writes the following to an English newspaper: "The phenomenon no longer appears a phenomenon among us, so common has it become; but perhaps the real reason why we have so readily sunk our sense of the conventional in a sense of the convenient is that our hunt is essentially a business-like and workman-like one. We come to it not for the meet, but for the stag; we have a rough country to travel, and we dress as best pleases us best to enjoy the pleasures of our hunt with due regard to the susceptibilities of our neighbors. Thus, if it pleases her ladyship she will come in skirt and tennis blouse and straw hat, and she will consider herself thus attired neither more nor less remarkable than her sister huntress who comes in the most generally accepted form of riding habit and skirt, than the bolder lady who comes in divided skirt, than the still bolder who appears with neither garments *propria quoque maribus* and riding-habit bodice, or than the lady, most courageous of all, who rides in long riding coat, breeches, and top boots. And I, for one, think

that they are each and all entirely right."

Neatness is a good thing for a girl, and if she does not learn it when she is young, she never will. It takes a great deal more neatness to make a girl look well than it does to make a boy look passable. Not because a boy, to start with, is better looking than a girl, but his clothes are of a different sort, not so many colors in them, and people don't expect a boy to look so pretty as a girl. A girl that is not neatly dressed is called a sloven, and no one likes to look at her. Her face may be pretty, and her eyes bright; but if there is a spot of dirt on her cheek, and her fingers' ends are black with ink, and her shoes are not laced or buttoned up, and her apron is dirty, and her skirt is torn, she can't be liked

The London courts will be called upon soon to decide one of the most curious cases that ever puzzled legal brains. A lady was seated a few weeks ago in the Zoological Gardens, and for security's sake removed from her pocket to her lap a purse containing six sovereigns. The show elephant shortly afterwards came on its round and, mistaking the brown purse for a bun, gracefully transferred it to its trunk and thence to its stomach. The management of the Gardens were at once appealed to and emetics were applied, but no more than two of the sovereigns and munched bits of purse were recovered. The solicitors for the lady are now, therefore, suing the Zoological Society for the missing four sovereigns, and seeing that the Society possesses the elephant, and the elephant possesses the sovereigns, the plaintiff claims to have a clear case.

A man living in Sheffield, Eng., had paid for some time to the Accident Insurance Company. He tired of the annual tax and determined to give it up. His wife tried to dissuade him from this step, but did not succeed. She then did the next best thing—she paid the premium herself, and the husband was none the wiser or the worse. The very day after she paid the first premium her husband met with a mishap. He caught his foot in a nail. The hurt seemed small enough, but it had mortal issue. The unfortunate gentleman died, and Mr. Hodgkinson handed the widow a cheque for £1,000.

TOO DREADFUL.

"What we have got to do, girls," said a pretty young woman the other day, as she sat on her foot among the cushions of a divan exchanging summer adventures and winter plans with a couple of friends, "is to make war on these delightful bachelor apartment houses.

"A man called on me last nig't who went to live in one last spring. He is full of enthusiasm yet, and I don't wonder. The one he lives in is a big house, that was the former residence of Mrs.——"

"When her husband died, she disliked to live there alone, and had it made over into bachelor suites. Then she put her butler, who had married her maid, in charge, and the place is filled with men who live altogether too delightfully.

"My friend says nobody ever leaves unless he dies or gets married, and they evidently take the greatest pains to avoid either misfortune. Mr. L. has, he says, a pretty parlor, with open fire, rugs, and all that sort of thing, and a bedroom and large bath and dressing room, and he hasn't a care in the world. He never knows anything about his laundry, for instance.

"His drawers and pressers are always filled with fresh linen, of whose gathering and washing he is quite ignorant. A stitch is never needed, for it is always taken before he discovers the necessity. His clothes are looked after by the butler, who sends them away to be pressed or sponged whenever it seems to him proper.

"His hats are always brushed, and even his umbrellas are kept trim and taut ready to be grabbed up hastily.

"If he is going away, he wires up from the office, and his bag or trunk is packed and sent off to the steamer; when he comes back, his luggage goes to the house and he goes down town; when he reaches his room again, the trunk has vanished and his belongings are all in place.

"Everything he sends to the house is paid for on arrival and once a month an itemized bill is presented to him and that is the end of it. He gets up when he pleases, touching his bell when he does so, and when he is ready a tempting little breakfast is spread in his parlor. He dines when he chooses.

"I am looking forward to the winter

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