

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL.

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

VOL. I., No. 32.

VICTORIA, B. C., MAY 21, 1892.

\$1.00 PER ANNUM

TALES OF THE TOWN.

I HAVE on many occasions noted the lamentable lack of interest our young ladies manifest in intellectual subjects or pursuits; and I am not the only one to whom this fact has been made forcibly apparent. I have frequently been asked the name of some refined, intellectual lady, capable of sustaining a conversation on subjects requiring thought and penetration, and I have regretfully replied to the enquiries that I knew ~~one~~—even by reputation.

Young ladies should recognize the importance of their position in society sufficiently to observe their shortcomings, and wherein they have failed to please their male companions. Unless a woman possesses a substantial attraction, she must expect to be given the go-by, and nothing is so attractive as a good conversationalist. Yet, how few of our young women seem to appreciate this fact.

It is painfully apparent that the chief attractions of society—the sole amusement, it would appear—is the card-table. Young men are invited out to spend an evening, only to find that whist is the first, the last and the only resource of his lady friends. If of a thoughtful turn of mind, he is disappointed. Finding nothing of interest in the rooms, and failing to discover a single refined mind among the ladies of his church (if he attends one), his only resource for obtaining benefit is seclusion, or the companionship of his own sex. Yet young ladies complain of the lack of attention they receive from young men, attributing it to every cause but the real one.

Let me recommend the women of Victoria to pursue such a course as is calculated to improve their intellect. Let them study deeper and nobler subjects than the mere twaddle of scandal-mongers or the lessons of the Chautauqua circles. In doing this they will elevate not only themselves, but also

the young men, and through the young men, the moral tone of the community.

Last week, I had occasion to write of the practice of clergymen and others, depending on the public for support, employing Chinese in preference to white labor. Since then my attention has been directed to an article in the Toronto Mail, several points in which I consider well taken. Self-preservation is the first law of nature, and it may be said to be the first law of nations. These Mongolians do not and never will assimilate with our civilization. They nothing of our institutions and care nothing for them. They contribute nothing to our material prosperity or national wealth. They do not and never will adopt our customs or mode of life. But, worse than these things they bring with them what has been called moral smallpox, that is a lower ideal of morality, which is apt to spread and a method of life, which would lower the civilization of the country were they permitted to come in crowds.

The London Economist very properly remarks that a people is no more bound to receive guests to its own certain injury than an individual is. A man would be counted inhospitable who showed his friend the door without provocation. But he may utterly decline to receive even a friend who is suffering from an infectious disease. It is very easy in questions like that of the Chinese immigration to talk humanitarian generalities. But it is evident that, however wide may be our sympathies and our wish to be brotherly to the whole world, the same rules must govern nations as those which govern households. The determination to exclude the Chinese rises to a higher plane than mere selfish dread of competition.

The disappearance of a prominent barrister of this city, after having misappropriated his clients' funds, suggests the enquiry, What became of the money? The answer is that the

greater portion of it was sunk in wild-cat real estate. Should not this be a warning against throwing away money on worthless townsite property. Of course, a great many will say that the men who induced the young lawyer to purchase the property, knowing it to be worthless, are equally guilty, and should be compelled to disgorge their ill-gotten gains.

This leads me to the remark that all real estate men are not thieves, popular opinion to the contrary notwithstanding. I have known many "dabblers in mud" who were really disposed to be honest; but I must confess that association with the money-changers in any way in some instances left them without money or character. It used to be said that there was honor among thieves, but I make bold to remark that within two weeks' time developments will occur which will prove beyond doubt that there is really no honor among thieves. When a half-dozen or so persons conspire to give one man the worst of it, I believe it is high time to lose faith in a moss-covered tradition. Breakers ahead!

If Emin Pasha has really given up the ghost, as has been announced in the cable dispatches, the career of a most peculiar man is closed. He was probably the most pronounced type of an Afromaniac who ever forced his way into the heart of a Dark Continent and got lost. And when he got lost he wanted to stay lost and keep far, far away from the madding crowd. He was satisfied with his condition, and didn't miss even the newspapers which published so many columns about his sad fate. And then how he did play hide and seek with Stanley from the head waters of the Congo to Albert Nyanza and repeat, and when discovered, resent it as a personal insult.

Emin Pasha had no need to be discovered. He knew where he was—he was in Africa—and that was enough for him; and when any English-born New York newspaper man went chasing

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UCLAS STREET

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s in Canada and the

around after him with a big bodyguard of explorers and darkies, it hurt his feelings and made him feel like an escaped convict. And when he was discovered, he sulked all the way back to the coast, and was so unhappy that when he reached civilization he acquired a colossal jag just to deaden his grief and then fell out of a window. Think of the discovered hero, who had survived all the perils of a barbarous terra incognita and had come off without a scratch, falling from a first story window and spraining his back. And now probably his spirit is wandering about in the jungles of his beloved wilderness, kicking itself because it was once such a jay as to be discovered by a scoop hunter. If Stanley wants to find him again he will be obliged to go with a retinue of mediums and clairvoyants and all sorts of peace offerings for the heathen deities who rule over Emin's spirit stamping ground.

"I saw a very sharp operation in a small way some time ago," said a traveling man the other night. "I was coming out of Portland in the cars, and seeing some nice apples asked the price.

"Three for a dime," was the answer. "I'll take this one for five cents," I said.

"Say, I'll take the balance of that lot," ejaculated a curious looking genius in the next seat, and he took two apples and paid the speechless fruit peddler five cents. How is that for enterprize?"

Charles McAfee was a little merry-eyed, red-faced son of the Emerald Isle, who once kept a store at the head of Mill River, near Cascumpec, P. E. Island. His establishment included what was considered a tavern with "entertainment for man and beast," as his sign expressed it, and Jamaica rum was a staple article for which he received some money and a great deal of produce. One spring he had a large supply of hoop poles, which he sold to an American who carried on an extensive general business at the harbor. The trade was a close one, and Charlie held out stoutly for "another shillin' on the hundered," but his opponent would not yield, and McAfee had to close the transaction.

"It's very low indade, Mистер Hall, very low indade," said he, disconsolately.

lately. Then as a more philosophic view of the transaction occurred to him he continued: "But nivir mind, sor, afther all it's only pourin' another bucket of wather into the rum puncheon, begorra."

I am much pleased at the energy displayed by the committee having charge of the celebration arrangements. They have worked loyally and well. To do honor to Her Majesty Queen Victoria is a privilege I believe every Canadian should be proud of. I know I for one have never neglected observing the day so long as I can remember. Although a resident of the United States for many years, I always on the birthday of Her Majesty, cast all thought of work aside, and in company with other British subjects proceeded to honor the event of the birth of one of the purest and noblest women that ever lived, as well as the sovereign of the greatest nation on earth. Once more, in my old age, I raise my voice and shout aloud "God Save the Queen!"

PERE GRINATOR.

POOR JOE KELLY.

The Colonist mourns the loss of one of its compositors—Joe Kelly, who was drowned with two Warspite men last Thursday night. Joe was a light-hearted, generous Irish boy, and in his humble way he did all the good he could. More than one feels bitterly the loss of a true friend and companion.

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 MONTREAL ST., James Bay—Lot on front, 104 feet, good house, \$2600.
 CRAIGFLOWER ROAD—Lot 120x80, small, new house, \$700, corner lot.
 SOOKE DISTRICT—117 acres on the water front, close to railway terminus, \$1,200.
 CHATHAM ST.—One lot and 7-room house, \$1700. \$500 or \$750 cash, balance in 2 years.
 SOUTH TURNER ST., James Bay, next street to one to water, \$1,300.
 FRONT ST., Esquimalt Road—12 to 14 trees, \$500.
 ESQUIMALT ROAD—Lot 20, by switch of Tram Co's Line, \$700.
 JAMES BAY—Lot and two houses, renting at \$25 per month, \$2,800.
 One 13-room house, 2 acres of land, all fenced and cultivated, highest part of the city and overlooking everybody, \$13,000.
 OAK BAY, on the water side—7-room house and beautifully situated for bathing facilities, this is an absolute bargain, \$1,650.
 Four and a half acres in Saanich District for \$13 per month without interest; also farm of 76 acres on Saanich Road.
 ROCK BAY—Two beautiful lots, very suitable for a garden.
 EDMONTON ROAD—Lot 18, Block 70, good garden soil, \$425.
 Hotel to lease, doing a good business, with four acres of land, \$1,700.
 Eighty acres of land, all of first-class quality, Saanich, 30 acres absolutely clear and 50 acres nearly so, facing salt water, \$6,500.
 EARL STREET—Two 1/2-acre lots, \$800 each, partly fenced, well situated. Also one acre of land with house and improvements—\$3,200. Terms easy.
 BELMOT AVENUE—One lot, beautifully situated, \$600; also one lot, \$550.
 FERNWOOD ROAD and Johnson Street—A fine 3-story dwelling containing 8 rooms, closets, hot and cold water, \$3,600.
 VICTORIA WEST—A new 5-roomed house on Front street, fine, airy situation, \$1,200.
 FAIRFIELD ESTATE—Dwelling house, seven rooms, rented at \$14 per month, \$1,300.
 LAKE DISTRICT—6 acres partly cleared, situated near tram line, \$2,100.
 CONSTANCE COVE—About one acre of land fronting on salt water, \$2,500. \$500 cash.
 BEACON HILL—Beautiful house and lot, every convenience, 8 rooms, \$4,200.
 PINE ST., Victoria West—Very good lot cleared, \$525.
 ALBERNI, B. C.—152 acres of beautiful land, barn, stables and everything complete, capable of being made into a first class home for right party, \$3,200.
 POWDERLEY AVENUE—Lot 21 113x118x120, \$525.
 VICTORIA WEST—One house to sell, 5-rooms, bath and pantry, hot and cold water laid on all over the house, \$1,500 very easy terms. Two houses to let, \$12 and \$16 per month, respectively.
 PINE ST., Victoria West.—Lot 60x150, fenced, cleared, small house (new), water laid on, \$1,200. Very easy terms.
 OAK BAY AVENUE—2 lots 60x120, \$500 each.
 ALFRED STREET—One lot, 30x175, \$175.
 OAK BAY, Water Front—Large lot, 60 feet front on road and about 120 feet on water, \$1,000.
 CABBORO BAY ROAD—Lot, 40x120, \$450.
 CABBORO BAY ROAD—Two 7-room houses, very easy terms, \$4,200.
 CHAMBERS ST., cor. North Park St.—3 lots, \$2,000.
 CHATHAM ST., cor. Stanley Avenue—Two beautiful lots, 108x120, \$2,000.
 VICTORIA WEST, Powderley Avenue—A fine lot, 60x120, \$325. \$75 cash.
 ESQUIMALT DISTRICT—100 acres excellent timber, all good land, no rock, adjoining Public School, \$3,000.
 METCHOSIN DISTRICT—102 acres land, 4 acres cleared, 40 acres slashed, two log houses, two rooms each, \$30 per acre.
 House of 5 rooms, bath and pantry, \$1,400. \$18 per month.

No WILD CAT schemes, but solid bargains.

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A, B. C.

street on either side
arden land, \$850.

\$30 per acre, short
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West.—Lot 60x110, fenced,
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—3 lots 60x120, \$500 each.
One lot, 30x175, \$175.

Front—Large lot, 60 feet
out 120 feet on water, \$1,000.

D—Lot, 40x120, \$450.
AD—Two 7-room houses,
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PICKED UP AT RANDOM.

A WOULD-BE gentleman, who auctions "hoff" old stoves, tin pails, rope, and old junk generally, has written THE HOME JOURNAL that in future it will have to pull along without his influence and subscription. Inasmuch as THE HOME JOURNAL is run to educate men like this creature we conceive its mission is a failure. We violate no confidence when we inform this gentleman that this great organ of public opinion is not indebted to his subscription, influence, insolence nor ignorance for existence, and we would suggest that in future he should confine himself to the highly intellectual occupation of disposing of old stoves and tin cans to the "ighest" bidder.

It may interest Marmaduke Wood, Esq., who is now in Victoria, to learn that the social clouds that have been hovering over Lady Clancarty (better known as Belle Bilton, the dancer) seem to be slowly lifting. English society, we are told, is beginning to recognize the fact that the wife of an earl and the mother of a future earl cannot be entirely ignored. Moreover, the Duchess of Portland and Duchess of Bedford have avowed their intention of taking her under their broad wings next season and seeing that she is properly received. Already a number of society "accept" her, so far as dining with her and bowing in the park goes. His lordship the earl is devoted to her, her twin boys consider her a model mother, and altogether matters are very auspicious. The next thing in her favor is that she receives social advances with all humility, declares that she has turned her back on the past, and that all she asks is support and a fair field to do honor to her new name. The same Duchess of Portland who is reaching out a helping hand to "Belle Bilton" is frowning very disapprovingly upon the high kicking of Lady Russell. But the duchess says that's a different matter entirely—that Countess Russell has not the excuse of early association and pressing need.

THE HOME JOURNAL is in a position to say that Dr. John Murray, the well-known scientist, will be in this city in

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the course of a week or so. The scientific cruise of the Challenger—a war vessel of the British navy, assigned for a thorough survey of the natural phenomena of the oceans—excited great interest in 1871-5. Sir Wyville Thompson, chief of the expedition, died soon afterwards, and his successor, Dr. John Murray, organized and conducted the important commission of the publication of the physical results of the voyages of the Challenger. His Bureau of Oceanography is in Edinburgh, and the volumes already issued under his direction are forty-eight in number; and as similar explorations (notably that of the United States coast survey) are constantly presented for investigation and assimilation, the Edinburgh Museum of Marine Geography and Phenomena gives promise of even greater utility in the future. Dr. Murray was induced to visit Boston for the delivery of a course of lectures before the Lowell Institute on the "Wonders of the World of Waters"—already crowding the maps of the oceans with even more characteristic features than the topography of the continents, and after ten days of conference with the kindred bureau at Washington reached Winnipeg last Saturday, and is the guest of his brother, Mr. James Murray, assistant superintendent of the Canadian Pacific Railway. It is suggested that those interested in scientific matters should arrange an opportunity for our citizens to meet this distinguished gentleman and listen to his interesting expositions of the mysteries and revelations on the oceanic world.

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VICTORIA BUSINESS INDEX.

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SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1892.

BOGUSBURG BUGLER BLASTS.

From the Bogusburg Bugler.

The beauty of selling Bogusburg lots is that not only the lots are sold, but the purchasers also.

I have a notion
Of diving in the ocean
And seeking out old Bogusburg
At the bottom of the sea.

The rumor that the editor of the Bogusburg Bugler came to this town without a pair of boots on his feet is correct. It was during a hard winter that the Bugler man left Winnipeg, and all he could scare up was a pair of moccasins, which no doubt gave rise to the report referred to above.

A cheerful heart paints the world as it finds it, like a sunny landscape; the morbid mind depicts it like a sterile wilderness, pallid with thick vapors, and dark as the "Shadows of Death." It is the mirror, in short, on which it is caught, which lends to the face of Nature the aspect of its own turbulence or tranquillity. It might be mentioned that there are very few cheerful hearts in Bogusburg just now.

The earthquake which has struck Bogusburg, we fear, may injure the future of our city. The very foundations of the place have been shaken by the great upheaval, and it is feared that our people may lose confidence and refuse to bonus the snuff factory, which was spoken of in a recent issue. In the meantime we would counsel the townspeople to remember that David said, "How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

The Vancouver World is now revelling in the luxury of its regular annual strike.

There will be a large attendance

at the meetings in front of the Methodist Church this season. It is the intention of the management to make them very interesting.

There is a proposition on foot to lease the streets to contractors, merchants and others. The City thinks it easier to make out leases than to keep the sidewalks clear.

A company has been formed to manufacture \$1 watches for sale at the World's Fair. The chief advantage of a watch of this sort is that it is likely to make a pick-pocket die of heart failure.

John L. Sullivan is said to be proud of his abilities as a reader, and the fear that he may some time go about the country giving elocutionary entertainments now rises like a gaunt spectre to confront us.

Willis—I'd hate to be as hard up as Broke seems to be.

Miss Wallace—What leads you to think he is hard up? "Why he's been to see me ten times this week for that five shillings I borrowed from him six months ago."

The report in circulation to the effect that the management of the Y. M. C. A. intend forming a class in mind reading, clairvoyance and mental sciences generally, is without foundation. They say they cannot understand the subjects at all, so will not go into the study.

Helen Watterson, a reformer, of course, advocates eating five meals a day. If Helen will kindly devise some scheme whereby wages may be raised to meet the demand created by increased consumption, and get that in working order first, her five-meals idea may have attention.

Jack Cameron, editor of the Hamilton Spectator and leading paragraph writer of Canada, is most unkind in his comments upon life in Stratford, Ont. He avers that the present exodus therefrom should cause no astonishment. "The wonder is," he says, "that any man can be induced to live in Stratford."

The hero who goes to a foreign country, and becomes rich, and returns with money in his pockets in time to rescue his family from starvation, never lived outside of a

novel. In real life, his father has to send money for him to come home on, and he brings a wife and half a dozen children with him for the old father to support.

"Why do you leave me, Bridget?" asked madame.

"It's too far from th' foire department, mum," remarked the cook.

"Surely, you are not afraid of fire?"

"No, mum; but Oi loikes company."

The following extract is taken from a letter of thanks sent by a bride to one of her husband's friends:

"Your lovely etching was received, and gives us both great pleasure. It is now in the parlor hanging above the piano, where we hope to see you very soon and as often as you find it agreeable."

Suppose you were in love with a girl like me,
And were awful shy—it's only supposing—
Do you think if you waited till the end of the year

That I would do the proposing? Not I.

Suppose you'd a cottage so dreadfully small
There was only just room for two,
Do you think I'd marry some one else for his wealth

If I could get the cottage and you? Not I.

Instead of standing so awkwardly there,
Suppose you should ask me to be your own wife;

Do you think for a moment I would say no
And be wretched for the rest of my life? Not I.

"Maria," called out Mr. Billus in an agitated voice, "I have lost my pocketbook! I can't find it anywhere!"

"It is exactly where you left it last night, John," replied Mrs. Billus from the top of the stairway. "It's in the left hip pocket of the striped trousers you hung up on the last hook in the closet. But it hasn't anything in it—now."

"Mr. Grip," said the head of a Victoria wholesale firm, "we have been looking up your record for the past year, and we find that you have scarcely paid expenses. This will never do."

"You seem to forget sir," said the other, as he drew himself up to his full height, "that during the past year I have had more orders cancelled than any other travelling man you have."

A little word to Mr. John L. Sullivan and Mr. Charles Mitchell: Is there no sequestered and solitary

spot on the face of the green earth where you and the able rhetoricians who compose long winded letters for you and your various backers and your whole outfit of howling sluggers and sports can gather together and settle your differences and save the human race from the nervous prostration which the din of your eternal bickering is bringing upon it?

Eugenius Field, the Chicago classicist, says that the word "corker" is derived from the French "corquer," which comes from the Latin "corcare," which comes from the Greek "korka," which means the "incomparable one." "Throughout the Homeric epics," he remarks, "the goddess whom we call Venus is referred to as Venus the corker." This etymology is a great study, and it may be remarked that the flies are just now avoiding Mr. Field with great alacrity.

"John," said the grocer to his clerk, "what are the latest reports from the crops?"

"The peach crop is entirely killed by the last cold snap; cherries badly injured; blackberries and black raspberries killed to the snow-line and pears touched to some extent."

"All right, John; order a lot of new baskets with the bottoms half an inch nearer to the top than last year. I am determined to keep down prices out of pity to my poor customers."

A correspondent of THE HOME JOURNAL suggests the wisdom of organizing a Victoria Real Estate Board. The real estate business of this city, says our correspondent, is too full of large possibilities and high responsibilities to be left unorganized with the chance of being preyed upon by the adventurer class who, in reality, always do infinite harm to a city. Under the new organization, the business would be systemized. Realty prices would be properly scheduled. There would be consistency about the business where now there is inconsistency. The board should be strong in business talent and integrity and it would do more for the city in a single season than could possibly be done in years of disorganization.

Admirers of the fair sex, who are always ready to give full credit to

woman for her influence and achievements, say that Columbus received a "tip" from his wife regarding the existence of a new world. She was a beauty of Libson, the daughter of a distinguished Italian navigator named Perestrello. One day, so the story runs, while Dona Felipa was examining some of her father's papers, she discovered one containing a chart of a new path to the Indies. She showed it to her beloved Christopher, and as the Genoese sailor was as wise as he was venturesome, he knew the value of the chart, and soon after decided to utilize it. The hint embraced in chart, thanks to his wife, led to the discovery which will be ever memorable in the land of Columbia.

The jurors in a murder case on trial in an eastern town, after several hours' deliberation, returned into court and asked permission to disagree. The judge told them that it was their duty to agree on a verdict, if possible, and sent them back to their room, where they finally reached an agreement to find the defendant guilty of manslaughter. It is remarkable that the gentlemen composing this jury should not have known that the right of a jury to disagree is well established. The judicial history of this country is replete with instances wherein the sacred right has been exercised. Eleven obstinate jurors have frequently prevented an agreement by stubbornly refusing to be guided as to the character and terms of their verdict by the arguments of the twelfth juror.

The following has been handed in for publication:

"I would suggest that the following appeal be inserted in the contribution envelope of a certain church on Sunday morning next—'The charitably disposed are earnestly desired to contribute for the purchase of tobacco, cigarettes and pipes for use in the smoking room of the Chinese Mission Church in Chinatown. The high priests and other functionaries in the Joss houses have pipes and all accompanying supplies, and as the Christianized Chinamen who now find an easy living in and about the mission church have to purchase their own tobacco, it would be well for Christian people to come forward.'"

In reference to the above, Mr. Gardener says that smoking is not

allowed among the Chinese at the mission.

LACROSSE.

The lacrosse match next Monday will be one of the leading events of the celebration. The committee having the matter in charge have already completed arrangements in the direction of making this an enjoyable exhibition of Canada's national game. By the kind permission of Rear-Admiral Hobham and officers of H.M.S. Warspite, the band of the flagship will render the following musical selections during the progress of the game:

March—Victoria.....	Riviere
Selection—Gondoliers.....	Sullivan
Polka—Ta-ra-ra-Boom-de-ay.....	Collins
Overture—Waves of the ocean.....	Hermann
Waltz—Loch Lomond.....	Balfour
Piccolo Solo—The Wren.....	Damare
Selection—Mikado.....	Sullivan
Galop—Just One More.....	Fairbank
Waltz—Lacrosse.....	Bantley

TWO SIDES TO EVERY QUESTION.

"Papa, who owns these parks?"
 "We do, my son," replied the little boy's father, "we, the people. As a part of the people, James, we have a right to consider ourselves the owners. It is a glorious feature of our form of government, my boy," he continued, his eye kindling, "that the people are absolute. All property rights are based on their consent. All titles thus come from them and will finally revert to them. The will of the people is the supreme law. By the will of the people, this lovely park has been reserved and set apart for ever as a playground, a breathing place, a common—our common. Here we have a right to come and rest from the toil and worry of life. We are on our own soil. To breathe this pure air, my boy, to stroll at will through these lovely"

"Yah, there," shouted a harsh, imperious voice. "Get of that grass, ye dirty thafe, or I'll run ye in!"

It was the voice of the park policeman.

The other man must have been mistaken, somehow, in his views on parks.

The upper floors of the new Bossi block, at the corner of Pandora avenue and Blanchard street, have been fitted up, by Mr. C. W. Monk, as a boarding house. The rooms are all newly furnished, and the Osborne House enjoys a very fair patronage.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Berry's Imperial Comedy Company has dissolved. George Berry, Kitty Berry and Billy Bennett are filling an engagement at Cordray's Seattle house; Miss Belle Inman, Miss Annie Inman, Baby Inman, J. R. Bronson and Ray Lewis will open at Morosco's, San Francisco, on the 30th. Miss Belle Inman having secured the position of leading lady and Miss Lewis soubrette. Jim Morton will go to Portland, and James Collins has gone to San Francisco to look after the bookings of the Seattle Standard Theatre.

Gus Williams, in Keppler's Fortunes, at The Victoria, Monday and Tuesday nights, gave an excellent performance. This play has been on the road so long that an extended notice of its merits is unnecessary. Mr. Williams is the central figure of the whole performance, and his songs are just as attractive as ever.

The Belmour-Gray Imperial Company opened in Concordia Hall, Spokane, last Monday night. During the eastern trip of this company Miss Dalglish won very high praise from the press.

David Elmer, formerly a member of the Cordray Theatre Company, who has signed with Gus Williams, is in the city for a few days.

Eli Perkins, the alleged humorist, had a house commensurate with his ability as a lecturer—25 persons.

The Amateur Operatic Society met the other night and elected officers for the ensuing season.

Thatcher's Minstrels will be at The Victoria June 7 and 8.

The Ball family of Jubilee singers are in Winnipeg.

The Victoria will be closed next week for repairs.

Ed. Lloyd, late of Berry's company, is in the city.

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A few shrewd speculators of this City did well in securing Sproat's Landing, and were not far wrong in christening the same COLUMBIA. We learn that the lots were only placed on the market some few days ago, and that upwards of 70 have been disposed of, many of them to intending settlers. There is a daily boat service from Revelstoke on the C. P. Railway, Little Dallas, the terminus of the Great Northern, and also daily train service from Nelson down the Columbia & Kootenay Railway to the town of Columbia, so that this Townsite is actually the Terminus of the Main route of the C. P. Railway, Spokane and Great Northern, and the Columbia and Kootenay Railway.

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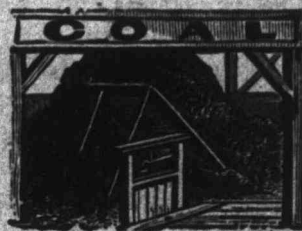
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PERSONAL GOSSIP.

The dance given by the ladies of St. James' Church in their hall last Wednesday evening was pronounced by all who had the pleasure of being present a brilliant success, in fact it was one of the most enjoyable events of the season. The hall was tastily decorated with flags and evergreens, and light refreshments were served during the evening. The ladies of this church are noted for their affable manners, and last Wednesday they certainly did distinguish themselves. It is to be hoped that next season these dances will be repeated. Among the many who worked to make it a success were Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Scriven, Mrs. Raymur, Miss Lawson and Mrs. Goepel. Mr. Boothe made an efficient floor manager. The music was furnished by Messrs. Cross and Pauline.

The Young Ladies' Sewing Society of the Reformed Episcopal Church gave a bazaar and concert last Thursday, which was well attended. When the tableaux were concluded a series of fairy pictures were presented, no less acceptable than the previous ones, and, with the singing of the National Anthem, was brought to a close one of the pleasantest affairs in the history of the church.

A concert will be given in the Victoria Theatre on Monday evening next, May 23, by Mrs. Couperous. She will be assisted by Mrs. Wunderdale and Prof. Armitage. The proceeds will be devoted to aiding the sufferers by the recent earthquake in Japan. The concert is under the patronage of the Lieut.-Governor and the Japanese Consul of British Columbia.

Mr. Ross H. McMillan, late of Toronto, arrived in the city to take up his residence here, as representative of a London, Eng., firm. Mr. McMillan who is an enthusiast in canoeing, has brought his canoe with him, and it is one of the handsomest in the city, besides being speedy.

Roderick N. Begg, of the firm of Kerr & Begg, left Thursday morning on an extended trip, which will take him to Chicago, St. Louis, New York and Philadelphia. He will be away a couple of months.

The Y. P. A. of the Baptist Church, at their meeting on Monday evening, will debate on the question of trades unions. W. H. Ireland will champion the affirmative and M. E. Cleveland the negative.

There was a pleasant little party at Mr. Gill's residence, Blanchard avenue, Monday evening. Amusements of various kinds served to while away the time without its departure being noticed.

A farewell social was given in the Y. M. C. A. parlors last evening, in honor of Mr. F. W. Teague, the retiring general secretary, who leaves on Monday for the east on a short visit.

C. S. Baxter, who returned from Glacier on Tuesday evening with Mrs. Baxter, was accompanied by his mother and sister, who will spend the summer months in this city.

At Christ Church Cathedral, May 17, by the Rev. Mr. Hewetson, Jessie Carlton McGraw and Alan Brown, both of this city, were united in marriage.

A. C. Knox, Miss T. Lemon, and the Misses C. and F. Hamilton, are a party from Pittsburg, Pa., who were registered at the Driard this week.

J. B. Ferguson, a former resident and business man of Victoria, whose home is now in Winnipeg, is paying the city a visit.

NO BOGUSBURG HERE ALBERNI CITY,

At the head of Alberni Canal, is coming to the front more rapidly than any new city in British Columbia, owing to its many

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Frank Deakim and wife, Rosina and Clara Deakim, and Frank Deakim, Jr., of Portland, Ore., are at Hotel Victoria.

Mrs. E. Blackwood entertained a number of her friends at her residence, Work Estate, Tuesday evening.

The Foresters are arranging for a grand excursion to Vancouver by the Yosemite on Saturday, June 11th.

Mrs. Kate Davis, of Nanaimo, is visiting her mother, Mrs. O'Brien, in this city.

Postmaster Miller and Mrs. Miller, of Vancouver, were in the city this week.

Edward M. Parsons and wife, of London, Eng., are registered at the Victoria.

Mr. J. D. Roberts, of Winnipeg, is in the city for a short visit.

Mr. John Cochrane went over to Seattle this week.

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