

THE VICTORIA HOME JOURNAL

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

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TALES OF THE TOWN.

REALLY certain married ladies in this beautiful city of ~~Victoria~~ have a grievance; and it says much for their patience that they have so long endured the neglect of their husbands. The whole trouble is that it has become a very common occurrence for a large number of married men in this city to go out at night and enjoy themselves to their hearts' content while their wives remain at home to pass away the evening as best they can. Not long since a married lady directed my attention to this, and as she narrated, in the presence of her husband, the tales of neglect to which some women are subjected, I really felt that something should be done to bring men to a realization of their duty towards their wives.

In the first place, I apprehend that every woman who consents to throw in her lot with a man does so with the belief that the ideal companionship of married life will be attained. In all good faith she consents to act as a companion to him through life; on the other hand, he consents to perform his share of the contract and be all that a husband should be—a protector and companion. Now, I have rarely ever heard of a case in which the woman was the first to violate her part of the contract; but, I do know that the number of instances in which the husband has ignored his part of the agreement are common, too common.

The first months of married life is all attention and everything that a true husband should be, but by-and-bye the restraint of home life galls him, and he seeks an excuse to go to town at night, and finds apparently more congenial companionship in the worship of strange gods than in the presence of the wife of his bosom.

Men who thus neglect their wives must not be surprised if the patience, which has thus far been a virtue, wears out, and the wife also seeks companionship in the society of others. Remem-

ber, I do not commend this line of action on the part of the neglected Victoria matrons, but I do say, neglect on the part of a man is just as worthy of condemnation as it is in a woman.

The spectacle presented of a man out evening after evening, driving and otherwise enjoying himself, while his wife remains at home moping her life away, is not an uncommon one, and I hope that these few remarks of mine may lead some of them to a realization of the duty they owe their wives. I say some of them, because everybody knows that a great number of them are too selfish to think for a moment that their wives were ever intended for anything but slaves, and I have no doubt that many wives are much better off than being worried to death by having such men in the house anyway.

Perhaps the most dangerous as well as the most contemptible creature in a community is the scandalmonger. Burglars and thieves can be provided against, but you cannot guard against the retailer of scandal. A peculiarity of scandalmongers is that when their business is dull they will make up a story or two and circulate it without caring who may suffer by their villainous lies. At the present time two or three young ladies of this city have reason to regret that there is no stringent law to protect them from scandalmongers. Stories are being circulated about these young women which are as false as the hearts and minds in which they were conceived; but just the same the innocent ones will suffer.

Why young men who glory in ruining the reputations of women should be permitted to run at large is something I could never understand. They are not fit company for self-respecting people, and they can never hope to have social standing. I would rather have a snake for a companion than a young man who would blast the fair name of a woman.

"It is a matter of surprise to me,"

remarked a man who is a keen observer recently, "that half the children of this country do not grow up minus an arm." "Here is an illustration," continued the speaker: "do you see that woman walking with a little child? Now, notice her when she crosses the street." At the crossing, the woman lifted the child by one arm; it dangled in the air and its feet did not touch the earth until it was across the street, when the mother dropped it on the sidewalk. "Well, the arm held, didn't it?" "But," continued the philosopher, "I was afraid at one time it would be wrenched from its socket. Now that is a sight you can witness every hour of the day—mothers dragging children out of street cars, across the streets or up a flight of stairs by one arm. I wonder how the mothers would like it if a being four times as large as themselves should suddenly swoop down and lift them by one arm. I'd like to see it tried once, I just would."

Every cultured person remembers Poe's "Bells." It almost reconciles the enemies of the church bells who say that their clappers make hideous the delightful calm of a quiet Sunday morning. The poor, little cottage in which the poet wrote the "Bells," and tenderly saw his beautiful young wife depart for her "high-born kinsmen," the angels, I read, is about to make room for latter-day improvements. Touching bells, there has been much opposition to their clamorous appealing to dilatory worshippers in different parts of the country. Doctors say this clamor disturbs the sick. But the iron tongues continue to speak aloud.

A lady familiar with Hispano-American lands thus protests against church bells: "When I was a little girl—and that is quite several years ago—some good and great man, I think it might have been Sam Slick, made a humorous but forcible protest against church bells. It was in a country town, where the bells only rang for service on Sunday and prayer meeting in the middle

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of the week, and of course he had not many sympathizers. I remember the rest of us had no particular feeling against the bells. But now that I am grown up and live in town and have drifted on the tide of circumstance to dwell in the shadow of an austere, old Episcopalian house of worship with a clock, bell and services three or four times every day in the year, I, too, devoutly wish that the bells were abolished. In the Catholic countries of Spanish America, there is a terrible amount of religious noise. In the first place, there are a great many churches. Then every church has several bells of various sizes and pitches—not chimes, either. The bells are not rung, but are beaten upon, and give out the sound that one used to hear for an alarm of fire in one's childhood days in country town or village. Bang-bang-bang-bang-bang-bing, etc. They are rung—or beaten—every day in the year at six, eight, ten in the morning, at noon, at two, at three, at six and eight of the afternoon and evening. Fortunately, the tropical towns are otherwise very quiet, having smooth pavements and nothing much in the way of vehicles. If there were other noise to speak of, the people would all go crazy. Foreigners who go down to these countries raise a terrific complaint about the bells, but they never seem to suffer at home from similar afflictions; probably because there is so much miscellaneous racket that their attention is diverted. Of what use are the church bells in a town of torturing noises? When the world is resting on the Sabbath, they are in place perhaps, even if they merely serve to call up memories of the pleasant days of childhood and fosters a sort of vague regret and bitterness at growing old. But on week days? I wonder if they don't add their feather weight to the nerve torturing, brain destroying circumstances that induce the commission of crime? Listen to the bell of _____ Church every Sunday morning. It has a whining, petulant, peevish, diabolical sound; it makes you think of a shrew belaboring her husband, of a cross infant at 2 a. m. with extra good lungs, even of a tremendous tomcat molesting a moonlit midnight and challenging you to throw brickbats and old shoes. One can't throw things at the bell; one can only shut all the windows and stop one's ears and pray fervently that some

time in the future orthodox church accoutrements may be adapted with a view to the preservation instead of the destroyal of the nervous system of poor sinners in the immediate neighborhood."

The book agent is a much-abused man, and possibly he deserves a good deal of the abuse which he receives for his persistency and his unwelcome importunities, but if comparisons can be made, he is not in it with the typewriter agent. This paragraph is being written on a machine, and if the writer had ever known what the possession of a machine meant, he would have preferred to write forever with a stick of charcoal on a shingle, instead of placing himself in a position where he was regarded as the natural prey of the rival manufacturers. Why, a life insurance agent is the paragon of patience and modesty compared to the individual spoken of. If one owns a machine, every agent in town thinks that the unfortunate possessor wants another or else wants to make a change. He is generally a suave and pleasant-mannered fellow, with an abnormal development of cheek and a protruding desire to visit with you when you want to work, and make himself agreeable. Time seems to be of no object to him, and if he spends an entire morning conversing and lauding the merits of his particular invention, he thinks that the time has been well spent. He is, of course, doing his business in his way, but the way is not always pleasant for the victim.

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A CHAPTER ON CHINA.

WHY CHINESE NEVER SAVE LIFE.

Much has been written of the peculiarities and eccentricities of the Chinese, but it is not generally known that the people of the Celestial Empire will not rescue one another from accidental death.

At a fire in San Francisco several years ago, six Chinese were imprisoned in a room by three half-inch iron bars, which could have easily been broken away. There were two or three ladders in the neighborhood which could have been placed at the windows and the unfortunates easily rescued from a horrible death. There were hundreds of their countrymen looking on at their frantic efforts to escape. Yet they offered no assistance and gave no evidence of sorrow.

A man who has saved many lives, in speaking with a Chinese once said they were very heartless, and cited this San Francisco fire as an example, whereupon the Celestial exclaimed:

"I tell you. You sabee Joss. Goh Almighty allee samee. Chinaman call him Joss; Melican call him God. Call him anything—allee samee. Now you say Goh Almighty make ebleting?"

"Yes, everything."

"Make allee men?"

"Yes."

"Now ebleting?"

"Yes."

"Now, do you think you know more than Goh Almighty?"

"No, I do not."

"He makee allee men. He see one man. He think him no good. He say: 'You no use; go die.' You think you know beete Goh Almighty. You go swim; you no let man die. Goh Almighty he say: 'He velly smart. He catchee man I tell go die. Velly well, that man he begin new. He cally that man's life all him sins, all him troubles, all him bad luck. You hab heap good thing?'"

"No."

"No hab much houses, much money, much land?"

"No, not much."

"All light, you nebb hab much luck. How many you save?"

"About 50."

"Oh, you neber get out. You cally all 50 life. Ebleting you do, no finish, work allee time, heap trouble. You nebbe get old; you live long time. Sabee 50 life, you live hunded years—had bad luck allee time. Goh Almighty, he sabee best."

MARRIAGES IN CHINA.

A Chinese engagement dates its beginning from the exchange of red cards between the parents of the contracting

parties. These cards in many districts are immense documents almost the size of a horse blanket. They are important for the reason that they are used as evidence in case of disagreements in the future. We seldom hear in China of broken engagements. Yet if a quarrel cannot be settled peaceably recourse is had to the law, and the judge usually imposes a fine upon the party who has broken the contract. The chief incident in a Chinese marriage is the arrival of the bride in her bridal clothes before the house of her chosen one. That is a de facto fulfillment of the contract. The wedding day is determined by the parents of the groom. The imperial calendar names the lucky days, and on such days the so-called "red celebrations" take place, both in the city and country. The same bridal clothes may be used several times. In districts where it is customary to celebrate the weddings in the forenoon the weddings of the co-wives take place in the afternoon or in the evening, according to the Ostsatischer Lloyd. The Chinese thus hope to make them less important. That the chief part of a Chinese marriage is the arrival of the bride at the house of the groom is illustrated again by the fact that the sons are often married without being present at their own weddings. It is not believed to be fortunate to change the wedding day when once decided. If the future husband, therefore, happens to be called away on the wedding day the marriage takes place by sending the bride to his house.

Chinese law recognizes seven grounds for divorce from a woman—childless, improper conduct, neglect of the parent of the husband, a tendency to steal, jealousy and incurable disease. A natural consequence of the importance attached in China to male heirs is that, where they are absent, the husband marries a co-wife. This, however, is not general, and is limited to families of wealth. The bad results of the system are recognized by the Chinese themselves. The practical Chinese, therefore, have adopted a more simple way of obtaining heirs—the adoption of children who belong to side branches of the family. In this way the family line is kept intact. In the absence of male descendants in the side branches of the family, the sons of strangers are adopted. The Chinese prefer this method to marrying second wives.

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SATURDAY, JULY 2, 1892.

PICKED UP AT RANDOM.

IT IS SAID that capitalists are at work on the construction of a trunk line from the Mediterranean to the Persian gulf. It begins at Acre, on the Coast, and will extend to Damascus, taking in Nazareth and passing along the River Jordan and the Sea of Galilee. A road is building into Jerusalem at the present time, and doubtless before many years one will be able to visit most prominent points in the Holy Land without riding a burro. How strange it would look to see the board fences painted with "Take the Dead Sea limited for all points south," or "The Capernaum Cannonball makes the fastest time to Canaan," or "The Jerusalem Overtaker throws dust over all competitors." And then to hear the brakemen shouting "All aboard for Nicodemusville and Jonah town," "next stop is Jericho—twenty minutes for breakfast," and "change cars for Nineveh and Babylon." Well, it would have a tendency to remind a fellow of old times, to say the least.

A few years ago the Newcastle Morning Chronicle, published at Newcastle, England, celebrated the hundredth year of its existence, and as a souvenir of the occasion, reproduced an exact duplicate of its original issue, which was folded in with its current edition, and sent out to the public. In the afternoon of that day an elderly couple called at the Chronicle office, and stated that they were just from the country to answer an advertisement which had appeared in that morning's paper, requiring the services of a man and his wife to work on a farm. As they did not have the paper with them, and as the attending clerk could not recall the

circumstance, search was made through the paper then on file, and sure enough it was found in the wants column of the Chronicle of a hundred years before. The elderly couple did not obtain the desired situation, but the fact that they had endeavored to secure it, illustrates the enduring value of printer's ink.

The street sprinkler has been assisted in its work this week by the firemen, and while I despise dust just as much as any person, I must confess that I do not admire the spectacle of our principal crossings piled up with mud. However, there are worse things in this world than Victoria mud—Bogusburg real estate, for instance—but there is nothing to make one realize the importance of mud like a trip up the Nile when the inundation is just over. You lounge on the deck of your dahabieh (a Nile boat) and drink in geography almost without knowing it. The voyage forms a perfect introduction to the study of mudology, and suggests to the observant mind the real meaning of mud as nothing else on earth that I know of can suggest it; for in Egypt you get your phenomenon isolated from all disturbing elements. You have no rainfall to bother you, no local streams, no complex denudations; the Nile does it all—it does everything. On the other hand, the bare desert stretches away, rising up in gray, rocky hills. Down the midst runs the one long line of alluvial soil—in other words Nile mud—which alone allows cultivation and life in that rainless district. The country bases itself absolutely on mud. The crops are raised on it, the houses and villages are built of it, the land is manured with it, the very air is full of it. The crude brick buildings that dissolve in dust are Nile mud solidified; the red pottery of Assiout is Nile mud baked hard, the village mosques and minarets are Nile mud whitewashed. I have even seen a ship's bulwarks neatly repaired with mud. It pervades the whole land when wet as mud undisguised; when dry as dust storm.

"Did you know," said a lawyer, "that the legal profession is the only profession that has no patron

saint—at least none that it will own?"

"What is the reason for that?" I asked.

"I don't know," answered the lawyer. "Carelessness, I suppose. When the saints were handed around, the representative who should have been present was probably arguing with the judge in another court."

"What did you mean by 'At least none that it will own?'" I asked.

"Many years ago," was the reply, "an Irish lawyer, who was a fervent Catholic, sought to provide his profession with a patron saint. So genuine was his desire for one that he traveled to Rome to consult the Pope. The Pope graciously received him.

"Pray, your Holiness," said the Irishman, "grant the lawyers a patron saint."

"According to the story, which is a venerable one, the Pope looked over the list and found that there were no saints that had not been given to the other professions, at which the Irish lawyer was much cast down. Observing his depression, the Pope bade him cheer up and then directed him to go to a church near by, to blindfold himself and to pass around the interior saying Ave Marias all the time.

"And," said the Pope, "the first saint you touch shall be the patron saint of your profession."

"Much gratified, the devout lawyer went away to follow the instructions. He passed around the church praying. When he stopped he put out his hand. He was in front of the altar of St. Michael.

"Be thou the lawyer's patron saint?" he cried, and pulled off the bandage. Alas, he wasn't touching St. Michael at all! His hand was resting on the devil under St. Michael's feet."

Subscribe for THE HOME JOURNAL. This paper is now read from the Pacific to the Atlantic, and its circulation is daily growing larger. During the month of June THREE-HUNDRED AND THIRTY-EIGHT new subscribers were added to our list, and the prospects are that the month of July will be equally as good.

THE LAST BLAST.

From the Bogusburg Bugler.

The city of Bogusburg having resolved to give up the ghost, there is no further need of a newspaper to point out the advantages of the town as a place of residence; therefore this will be the last issue of the Bogusburg Bugler. The men who were clearing off the townsite have abandoned their laborious work, and there is no probability that the snuff factory will ever be erected. However, the suspension of the Bugler will only be temporary, as the publisher has his eye on a new townsite, and in the course of a week or so this paper may appear as the Fraudville Fiend.

SOUNDS AND ECHOES.

It is generally admitted in Government circles that Hon. Theo. Davie will be called upon to reconstruct the Provincial Cabinet.

An American exchange boils down the Republican platform adopted at Minneapolis thus: "Resolved, that this is a great nation and we are the people."

A gold coin passes from one to another 2,000,000,000 times before the stamp or impression upon it becomes obliterated by friction, while a silver coin changes 3,250,000,000 times before it becomes entirely effaced.

A first night: Usher—I can give you a good seat after the first act; the newspaper critics go then.

Standee—Don't they come back?

Usher—Bless you, no! They only drop in to verify their suspicions.

By the death of Hon. John Robson, Canada loses a true patriot and British Columbia her leading statesman. His death at this particular time is to be deplored, and Time only can reveal the debt of gratitude we owe the dead Premier.

Dr. Blanchard has received a letter from a young man of Pictou, Nova Scotia, in which the following inquiry is made: "Do you know anything of my brother? When last heard of he was living at New Westminster Abbey, British Columbia."

The World's Fair will be closed

on Sundays. This has been brought about by the saloon men, who hope to reap a rich harvest by the absence of visitors at the Fair grounds on the Sabbath Day. Curious to relate, the church people assisted them in accomplishing their object.

There seems to be no immediate likelihood of the two great trans-continental lines—the C. P. R. and the N. P.—cutting each other's throats; at least we infer as much from having observed the genial agents of these roads together purchasing outfits for a piscatorial expedition.

Canada's national holiday was universally observed throughout the Dominion. The most popular daughter of the Empire is now 25 years of age, and while Uncle Sam looks upon her as being a good match, we believe that the proud, high-bred Miss Canada would treat any proposal from that direction with contempt.

Even an artistic judgment depends upon the point of view. A lady who saw that her servant girl seemed to take a certain interest in the objects of art in her parlor, said to her:

"Which one of these figures do you like best, Mary?"

"This one, mum," said Mary, pointing to the armless Venus of Milo.

"And why do you like the Venus best?"

"Sure, it is the aisiest to doost, mum," answered the girl.—New York Sunday Mercury.

One whose business it has been to find persons suited for vocalists says he never loses time looking for a fine voice in a country where fish or meat diet prevails. Vocal capacity disappears in families as they grow rich, because they eat more meat. Those Italians who eat the most fish (those of Naples and Genoa) have few fine singers among them. The sweet voices are found in Irish women of the country and not of the towns. Norway is not a country of singers, because they eat too much fish, but Sweden is a country of grain and song. The carnivorous birds croak; grain-eating birds sing.

There are strange chambermaids at Shepherd's Hotel in Cairo. A

lady declares that the one who waited on her room and attended to all the duties of the calling, even to making the beds, was a Frenchman, dressed as if for a dinner party, with white waistcoat and dress coat, and having the air of a refined and educated gentleman. It was really embarrassing to accept his services in such a capacity. One lady, on arriving at the hotel, rang for the chambermaid, and this gentleman presented himself. Supposing him to be the proprietor, at the very least, she said:

"I wish to see the chambermaid."

"Madam," said he, politely, in his very best English—"madam, she am I."

The action of the Dominion Department in reducing the salaries of the Victoria Postoffice employees will not increase the popularity of the Dominion Government in this Province. The men work hard at least nine hours a day, and the reduction of their salaries to \$32 per month evidences a decidedly beggarly spirit on the part of Dominion Postal Department. No doubt the citizens of Victoria will avail themselves of the earliest opportunity of resenting this latest attempt at starving men who should get at least twice the salaries they are now receiving. Perhaps the Dominion authorities will press Chinese labor into the postal service. It would be in keeping with the attitude of the Government of late years towards this Province.

Franklin wrote the following letter to a man to whom he was lending some money: "I send you herewith a bill for ten Louis-d'ors; I do not pretend to GIVE such a sum, I only LEND it to you. When you shall return to your country, you cannot fail of getting into some kind of business, that will in time enable you to pay all your debts. In that case, when you meet with another honest man in similar distress, you must PAY ME by lending this sum to him, enjoining him to discharge the debt by a like operation when he shall be able, and shall meet with another opportunity. I hope it may then go through many hands, before it meets with a KNAVE to stop its progress. This is a trick of mine for doing a deal of good with little money."—The Humanitarian.

THE PONDEROUS CROWN OF ENGLAND.

If Queen Victoria were compelled to wear all the time the beautiful crown of which she is so worthy, she would be a woman greatly to be pitied and never to be envied, for that magnificent affair weighs nearly two pounds. "Uneasy lies the head that wears the crown" is a proverb easily understood when one realizes this; and yet, when one considers what the crown of the Queen contains, it ought not to be difficult to realize that it is heavy. It holds more than 3,000 precious stones, more than 2,700 of which are diamonds. The golden head-band holds two rows of pearls, the lower having 120 and the upper 112 of these treasured stones. Between these bands in front is a large sapphire, and behind is a small sapphire—small only when compared with the one in front, however—with six still smaller ones and eight emeralds. Between the sapphires fore and aft are ornaments containing 286 diamonds. Surmounting the band are eight sapphires, above which are eight diamonds, and eight festoons which hold 160 diamonds, and in the front, set in a Maltese cross composed of 75 large diamonds, is the magnificent ruby given to the Black Prince in 1367 by Pedro, King of Castile, and which was worn by that dashing monarch Henry V. on his helmet at the battle of Agincourt.

In addition to these, three crosses containing 386 diamonds are set around the upper part of the crown, between which are four ornaments, each holding a ruby in its centre, and containing respectively 84, 86, 85 and 87 diamonds. From the crosses rise four arches composed of oak leaves and acorns, the oak leaves containing 728 diamonds, and the acorns—32 in number—made each of a single pearl set in cups composed of diamonds. Surmounting the arches is the base of the cross which surmounts the whole. The base, or mound, as it is called, contains 548 diamonds, and the cross—the crowning glory of all this magnificence—contains a huge sapphire and 112 diamonds.

Of course, anything so grand as this is worth a great deal of money, and the value placed upon it by experts is \$1,500,000—although it may be doubted if anyone could buy it for twice that amount. It is kept in a great iron cage along with the other crown jewels in the Tower of London, which is at all times strongly guarded, as well it may be, for with the rest of the precious stones and crowns and other valuables comprising the regalia, the contents of the cage are estimated as being worth £3,000,000, or \$15,000,000.—*Harper's Young People.*

THE POSITION OF NEW ZEALAND.

There are many lessons to be learned from a recent paper upon New Zealand read before the Royal Colonial Institute by Mr. W. B. Perceval, the Agent-General of that beautiful "England of the Southern Seas." Not the least of these lessons is that of hopefulness.

New Zealand, with a population of 620,000, has a public debt of \$186,795,000, or \$300 per head. It has spent over \$75,000,000 upon railways; \$17,000,000 upon roads and bridges; \$10,000,000 upon immigration,

and about \$50,000,000 upon native wars and defense, yet its people are not given to grumbling, and are as proud of their little country and as confident of its future as if they had Canada's population or Canada's debt of only \$47 per capita. Hard times they have had, partly as a result of extravagance and from other causes, but matters are now on the mend, as must always be the case where energy and patriotism are found in unison. The following table will illustrate this gradual improvement:

	1886.	1890.
Imports.....	\$33,795,000	\$36,300,000
Exports.....	33,360,000	49,055,000
Expenditure of borrowed money.....	7,913,000	1,994,000
Acres under cultivation...	34,225,000	42,312,000

Mr. Perceval draws especial attention to the increasing value of the British market to New Zealand; the growth of its trade with the Mother Country; and the fact that distance is of little importance in modern trade. It is the conditions of production, not freight or distance, which properly controls agricultural profit and commerce. In connection with the beauty of climate and scenery in his native country, Mr. Percival is naturally enthusiastic, and, referring to the labors of the early settlers, he quotes:

Behold their work, revere their names,
Green pictures set in golden frames,
Around the city of the streams
Fulfill the pilgrim's brightest dreams,
With them a fairer England grew
'Neath speckless skies of sunny blue.

Hope and confidence were the framework in which his subject was presented, a sentiment which he applied to not only the future development of New Zealand, but the future closer union and better relations of that country with Canada and the other portions of the Empire. Canadians will reciprocate the sentiment and join in the hope.—*Toronto Empire.*

Work on the mammoth Canadian Pacific Hotel, at Montreal, has begun.

RELICS OF THE CABOTS.

Many relics of the Cabots, the early English voyagers to America, will be exhibited at the exposition by a committee formed for that purpose in Bristol, England, where the Cabots lived. The *Bristol Times and Mirror* of recent date states that the committee held a meeting to complete arrangements for collecting the material for the exhibit: that the mayor of the city presided; that there was a very large attendance, representing especially the leading mercantile houses and the various archaeological associations of the city, and that it was apparent from the proceedings that there was available an abundance of relics from which to select a very interesting exhibit.

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MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

"The Midnight Alarm," which will be produced at The Victoria July 5, is a drama illustrating real life in a great city and exciting incidents in the life of a fireman. "The Midnight Alarm" has melodrama, comedy and specialty features and fine scenery, and has been cleverly reconstructed by Leander Richardson, editor of the New York *Dramatic News*, and also author of Nat Goodwin's "Nominee," "The Millionaire," and other successes. The company carry a carload of beautiful scenery and produce wonderful mechanical effects. Notable among these are the Brooklyn Bridge and the Statue of Liberty with Brooklyn in the distance, Uncle Gideon's farm, the flight of the lightning express, railroad draw bridge, interior and exterior of Engine House No. 6, New York city. There is great excitement at the ringing in of the midnight alarm, and the rush of the steamer drawn by two beautiful horses is said to be very realistic.

"Blue Jeans" is what a drama should be in presenting action, action, action all the time, and because it really interests them in its personages, and because it is an attempt to present the Hoosier character and its environment in the "Blue Jeans district" of Indiana. The audience liked it enthusiastically, and the story, the characters, the scenery, the mechanism and the realistic adjuncts were all good and entertaining in a very unusual degree. It contains political campaigns, country dances, pretty love scenes, pathetic stories of wrong and mistaken identity, a barbecue and a brass band, and is followed by the ultimate termination of the woes of the virtuous. Abundance of comedy relieves the complicated story of relationships, and many realistic effects and much beautiful scenery continually interrupt and relieve the serious passages and keep the attention of the audience alive.

Sam T. Jack's "Creoles" at The Victoria, last night, gave a very good performance. Negro melodies were interspersed with dancing and jokes, some of which were a little old. The audience laughed itself hoarse, and no doubt a large house will be present to-night when the same bill will be repeated.

The following are the dates for The Victoria: Midnight Alarm, 5; Gorton's Minstrels, 8; Fast Mail, 11-12; Police Patrol, 14-15; Natural Gas, 18-19; Duncan Clarke's Female Mastodons, 21; Cruikshank Lawn Co., 27-28; McCarthy's Mishaps, 29-30.

PERSONAL GOSSIP.

The following officers for the ensuing six months have been elected by the Sir William Wallace Society:—A. Maxwell Muir, chief; John Mackie, first chieftain; Joseph Mellon, second chieftain; W. C. Kerr, secretary; A. G. Hay, treasurer; A. G. Hay, R. H. Jameson, Joseph Mellon, W. C. Kerr, G. S. Adams, managing committee; Dr. Robert Hamilton and J. F. Smith,

auditors; Robert Jameson and John Mackie, trustees; John Taylor, piper.

The new Zion Church, on Princess street, Vancouver, will be opened tomorrow. The pulpit will be occupied morning and evening by Rev. J. K. Smith, D.D., of San Francisco. In the afternoon addresses will be delivered by various local ministers.

On Tuesday, Mr. Worlock, President of the Protestant Orphan's Home, and Mrs. Worlock, gave a delightful birthday treat to the orphans at Shoal Bay, the country seat of the late A. A. Green, whose tender care for the little ones will long be remembered.

Mr. T. Carson, a well known young gentleman of this city, was married in Vancouver Wednesday, to Miss Mary Connell, Rev. Mr. Maitland officiating. Miss Lena Dunn, of Vancouver, acted as bridesmaid, and Mr. Fetrow, of Victoria, sustained the groom.

The distribution of prizes at Angela College took place last Wednesday night, a large number of friends and relatives of the pupils being present. Miss Dupont has severed her connection with the institution.

Mrs. Geoffrey Walker, of Winnipeg, who has been in the Jubilee Hospital for some time, is improving in health, and will in the course of a week or so be able to return to Winnipeg with her husband.

The Young People's Union of the Calvary Baptist Church on Monday evening elected the following officers:—President, E. Morrison; vice president, Miss B. Walker; secretary, E. Vigor; treasurer, W. Farmer.

The Pioneer Society has changed the date of its picnic and celebration from Wednesday, July 20, to Saturday, July 23. The affair is to be held at Goldstream.

Mrs. H. H. Childs, the Misses H. and R. Childs, Master Childs and Miss M. Surrey, Los Angeles, are staying at Hotel Dallas.

Mr. R. J. Whittle, a leading wholesale merchant of Winnipeg, and his wife, were in the city the early part of the week.

Hon. J. M. Gibson and wife, of Hamilton, Ont., have been visiting in the city this week.

City Clerk W. J. Dowler is enjoying cottage life at Fowl Bay during the torrid term.

William W. Wescott and wife, New York, are registered at the Driad

Mrs. John F. Norris spent the week in Vancouver.

Vancouver beat Victoria 3 to 2 at lacrosse.

The Home Journal is copied every week by over 100 papers in Canada and the United States.

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Lot 1, block 27, Montreal street, 104 feet front x 109, 5-room house, hard finished, \$2,000; \$1,100 cash, \$1,000 in two years.

Lot 14, part of sections 23 and 24, Beckley farm, James Bay, 30x160, 2 houses renting for \$10 and \$18 per month; \$28.

Lots 101 and 102, Edward and Catherine streets, Victoria West, block N, 120 feet on Edward street, 132 feet on Catherine, 2 houses, greenhouse, bathroom, stable, etc., \$4,000.

No. of lot, part of C, block V, Victoria City, 8-room house, bathroom, water, gas, etc., stable; \$3,250; terms half cash; balance 3 years at 8 per cent.

NW 1/4 section 33, range 6, 20 acres, \$10 per acre, Port Angeles, W. T.

Lot 220, block 44, Michigan street, James Bay, 60x120, 5-room house; cash price \$1,700.

Lot 5, block 3, Howard and Charles streets, 50x115, 4-room house, bath-room, stable, etc., \$575; terms \$50 cash; \$15 per month.

Section 109 Beechy Bay, Sooke District, good land, some rock, beautiful situation, \$1,600.

Lot 32, Chandler street, Gonzales Farm, half acre, \$1,000; terms, \$400 cash; balance in two years, quarterly payments at 7 per cent.

Lot 26, section 69, Oak Harbor, Mount Baker Avenue, 68ft 7in x 154ft 1in x 122ft 5in; 7-room house, shed, etc, fenced, \$1,600, terms \$650 cash; balance 2 years at 10 per cent.

Lot 5, block 3, sub-div of sub-div lots 75 and 76 section 71, 50 x 115, 4-room house, No. 8 Edmonton Road, \$800.

Section 10, range 6, South Saanich, 80 acres good land, 30 acres cleared, 20 acres slashed, 30 acres cultivated, sea shore; \$8,000; terms, \$100 cash, balance 8 per cent.

Lot 81, Lake District, 6 acres good land, not cleared, \$2,100; terms \$1,550 cash, balance 1 year at 8 per cent.

Lot 42 Johnson street and Fernwood Road, 60 x 114, two-story, 8-room house, 24x41, woodshed, chicken-house, \$3,500; terms \$2,000 cash, \$1,500 in 1 year at 8 per cent.

Lot 4, Battery street, 8-room house, bath, pantry, hot and cold water, \$4,200.

Lot 16, block 73, Edmonton Road, 47x146, cleared, not fenced, cash \$475.

Section 100, Lake District, 1/2 of lot 5 and whole of lot 6, \$2,130; 7 1-10 acres of land, 1/2 acre cleared.

Lot 18, subdivision 70, West Fernwood estate, 51 x 135, \$400; terms \$150 cash, balance \$35 quarterly at 8 per cent.

Lots 23 and 24, Cadboro Bay Road and Oak street ea, 40 x 120, two 2-story houses, 6 rooms, bath, closets, etc., \$4,200; terms \$1,000 cash, balance \$30 per month without interest.

Lot on Cadboro Bay Road, corner of Oak st, 40 x 120; \$450.

Lot 63, Whittier avenue, Cloverdale, 1/2 acre, 2-story house, 10-rooms, plastered, good well, \$2,000; terms \$200 cash; \$500 quarterly, or \$500 cash, \$200 quarterly.

Lot 24, section Richmond avenue, 40 x 135, \$200; 1/2 cash, balance in one year at 8 per cent.

Lot 19, Moss street, 65 x 90, \$700, terms 1/2 cash, balance in one year at 8 per cent.

Lot 21, block 10, Powderly Avenue, \$525; half cash, balance 3 and 6 months.

Lot 16, part of section 38, part of lots 34, 36 and 38, Esquimalt District; \$1,000.

Lot 3, Belton Avenue, two houses with pantry, bath, hot and cold water, rented for \$12 per month; \$1,500 each.

Lot 14, Powderly Avenue, 6-room house, pantry, scullery, hot and cold water, wash-hand basin and w. c., shed and w. c. outside; \$1,800.

Lots 12 and 13, Springfield estate, 6-room house, \$2,100; terms \$100 cash, balance \$25 per month without interest.

Lot 15, Alberni District, 150 acres, black loam, all crab apple, 2 acres of orchard, 30 acres seeded with Timothy and clover, small house, 12 x 14; \$3,200.

Lot 15, block 38, Springfield estate, 4-room house, bath and pantry, \$1,400; terms \$200 cash, \$15 per month.

Lot 8, section 74, Victoria City, \$20,000.

Lot 30, Oak street, off Cadboro Bay Road, very easy terms, \$450.

N 1/2 of S 1/2 of block 43, Cloverdale estate, \$350, 1/2 cash, balance to suit.

Lots 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, Block C, Fairfield estate, Esquimalt District, \$1,600; terms \$1,000 cash, balance to suit.

Section 107, Lake District, 10 acres, \$35 per acre.

Part of section 16, S. Saanich, 50 acres, 4 cleared and fenced, at \$60 per acre or \$50 cash.

Lot 20, Springfield estate, No. 20 Front street, Victoria West, 5-room house, pantry and c, \$125.

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