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THE NELSON ECONOMIST IS ISSUED EVERY WEDNESDAY. SUBSCRIPTION: $2.00 PER ANNUM; IF PAID IN ADVANCE, $1.50. CORRESPONDENCE OF GENERAL INTEREST RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED. ONLY ARTICLES OF MERIT WILL BE ADVERTISED IN THESE COLUMNS, AND THE INTERESTS OF READERS WILL BE CAREFULLY GUARDED AGAINST IRRESPONSIBLE PERSONS AND WORTHLESS ARTICLES.

NO better evidence that there is a general expectation in trade circles of rising markets and widespread activity could well be furnished than the appearance of warning against the fostering of a speculative spirit, remarks an exchange. It is well worth, under the circumstances, to inquire whether it is profitable to take active measures to oppose a speculative tendency. We know that past experience has taught us that, in the long run, the evil after effects of a wildly speculative fever largely counter-balance temporary advantages. We know that a boom usually lets in a good deal of foreign material. In other words, it drives work abroad which could have been kept at home had not the demand been artificially exaggerated by the operations of outsiders. A boom may be described as a scare of buyers, created by speculators. During such a period only a few are great gainers, a far larger number of manufacturers and traders profit more than they otherwise do, while the great majority look back on such a period with mortification and regret. Yet it is difficult to see how a rise can be prevented when circumstances warrant the movement. Speculators cannot be kept out of any business. They are buyers when others are still in doubt, and are only too glad to sell their goods. The more venturesome in the trade are the first to follow the lead thus taken, purchasing raw materials liberally, while they hold back on a part of their product. The craze spreads until all are involved in it, and the great majority have reached the conclusion that a passing fever is to be the normal condition for a long period to come. It is then that he becomes a public enemy who dares to utter sentiments which a short time before would have received general applause. However numerous those may be who are determined to oppose a rapid rise, there will always be a small but powerful minority who initiate the movement, and give it sufficient impetus to win over converts rapidly. We question whether there are many who have witnessed former booms, who have not back of all their protestations the desire to take an earlier hand in buying, and be quicker at selling than they were before. We believe that this feeling is far more general, and would prove a more potent factor for action than the desire to preserve the trade generally from any future dangers and complications by abstinence from or resistence to a rising market. So far as we can learn, there are none in the trade now who look forward to advances in price at all comparable with the famous boom period of 1879-1880. The word "boom" is so intimately associated in the minds of many with that extraordinary time that it is possibly misleading and unwise to use it now in connection with the improvement looked forward to. The term has, however, become identified with any upward tendency in trade, and has entered general usage in that sense.

A WRITER in one of the magazines has discovered that first-born children excel later-born children in height and weight. This may be due to the greater vigor of the mother at the birth of the first child. We are reminded of a fact, mentioned later, that out of fifty great men of this century, 30 per cent. were the youngest sons. In England it was found that growth degenerates as we go lower in the social scale, there being a difference of even five inches in height between the best and worst fed classes in the community. An investigation of 10,000 children in Switzerland showed that children born in summer are taller for their age than those born in winter; as a majority of children in the public schools are poor, in winter their parents are forced to economize more on account of expense of heating; their rooms are also liable to be small and poorly ventilated, while in summer they are out in the fresh air; food is also cheaper and more varied. The influence of unhealthy conditions on a very young child would be much greater than when it is old and better able to resist them.

THE Victoria *Colonist* says: "Mr. David B. Bogle has been led by the publication of Mr. Herschell-Cohen's letter to send us a communication dealing with the progress of mining in British Columbia. The facts stated by Mr. Bogle are very interesting. We hope other readers will follow the example of these gentlemen and let us hear from them on points germane to the subject in which the *Colonist* is endeavoring to arouse a renewed interest. No doubt Mr. Bogle is correct in citing the poor returns from investments in this province as a reason why it is difficult now to secure British capital for British Columbia investments. One has only to look over the financial papers of London to see the attractive list of dividends on Westralian and other properties, with which this province has to compete when inviting the investment of capital. There is

no getting away from the fact that our list of dividend-paying mines is meagre when compared with the number of flotations. Mr. Bogle hints at what he thinks is the cause of this. The point is well worth exhaustive discussion. If we could point to a list of dividends regularly paid from British Columbia mines, we would not have to seek for capital. Capital would seek us out. What is the real trouble ? Will those who are best able to express opinions in this connection kindly do so ? No subject is better worthy of close consideration. The province is full of mineral. Good mines have been opened. Why are not dividends the rule ?"

FORTY-SEVEN years ago Macaulay, the historian, wrote of America : " Your republic will be pillaged and avaged in the twentieth century, just as the Roman empire was by the barbarians of the fifth century, with the difference that the devastators of the Roman empire, the Huns and Vandals, came from abroad, while your barbarians will be the natives of your own country, and the direct product of your own institutions. A day will come in the State of New York when the multitude between half a breakfast and the hope of half a dinner will elect your legislators. Is it possible to have any doubt as to the kind of legislators that will be elected ? You will be obliged to do those things which will render prosperity impossible. Then some Caesar or some Napoleon will take the reins of government in hand."

EDWARD WHYMPER, the British mountain climber, intends to spend the coming summer with Swiss guides among the Rocky Mountains of Canada. He will endeavor to ascend a number of peaks that have not yet been climbed, and he has particular in view Mount Assiniboine, a fine peak about twenty miles south of the Canadian Pacific railroad. It is nearly 12,000 feet high, bears a remarkable resemblance to the Matterhorn and is apparantly inaccessible on all sides. Several attempts to ascend this mountain have failed. Professor Charles E. Fay, of the Appalachian Mountain club, says that in this region, within twenty-five miles of the Canadian Pacific railroad, there are at least a dozen peaks, whose ascent is likely to be extremely difficult. He speaks of Mount Assiniboine as offering a problem apparently more difficult of solution than was the Matterhorn before Edward Whymper discovered its secret in 1865.

LAST week we referred to the proposed revision of "The Westminster Confession of Faith." This was the subject of a remarkable sermon preached at Ottawa the last Sunday in May by Rev. W. T. Herridge, D D., of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. He not only advocated the revision of the Westminister Confession of Faith, but the formulation of a simple creed. " The Westminster confession in its general system of doctrine is soundly theistic, and especially Christain," said Mr. Herridge. " But it has its limitations, like all other works of man. It emphasizes what may be called the dynamic view of God as a sovereign, rather than the moral view of God as a Father. It dogmatizes on the subject of election in a confident way which the Scriptures scarcely seem to warrant. It identifies the anti-Christ with a single person instead of finding the anti-Christ in every temper and tendency which opposes His holy will. This confession did great service for its age, but this age has out-grown it," he declared. " Let the Confession remain with all its defects and all its excellences. But surely the church is not now so lacking in intelligence and spiritual fervor that it cannot formulate a simpler creed, which more appropriately expresses the religious ideas to which time has given clearer emphasis. This is not necessarily an insult to any creeds of the past, nor yet a denial of their essential principles. It is a simple acknowledgment of the fact that they are not perfect. We shall not be infallible any more than they ; but unless the truth of God has ceased to instruct the world it would seem to be our duty to make what progress we can in the understanding of it. The strong and steadfast truths which have done so much to educate our church to the place which she holds to-day, will remain as an imperishable inheritance, but instead of being content with a setting of them which can only be made vivid by historical imagination, it will surely be of advantage to incorporate their essential features in a working theology which directs and inspires us in the actual battle of life. For my own part, I could get along with this creed, which fell from the lips of the Master Himself : 'God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him might not perish, but have everlasting life.' Every essential doctrine of Christianity seems to me to be contained in it ; the doctrine of God's love, of man's guilt of Christ's divine power of salvation through faith in Him, of a life which reaches beyond the grave, and which nothing can ever destroy. And when Presbyterianism is accused of being narrow, as it sometimes is by whose who do not know it, I wish to say with emphasis that no church in Christendom is bro der in its tests for membership. It is true that its ministers and elders are asked to give a general assent to the system of doctrine set forth in the Westminster Confession. If anyone understands it to teach that certain helpless infants are damned for all eternity, I suppose he may teach that horrible falsehood, but I never heard of anyone doing so. In my humble judgment it would be wise to remove all doubt as to what our church teaches by such a restatement of the whole question as would make it clear that the love of God is never partial nor arbitrary. I do not think that either piety or the orthodoxy of the church will be injured by a less elaborate and technical creed than that of the Westminster divines, and which revolved round the great central fact that the compassion of the Father in heaven is infinite, and that it covers all men. Faith in Christ and obedience to Him is all that is required

of anyone. Within these bounds there is room left for wide divergence of individual opinion. No church could ask less without ceasing to be a church and it has always seemed to me that no church has any right to ask more."

EVERY effort of the citizens of Nelson should be put forth to secure the lead refinery. The location of the refinery here practically establishes this city as the centre of the mining industry of British Columbia. Not only this, but it facilitates the establishment here of other industries. It appears that all that will be required to bring about the desired result is the undivided efforts of the citizens, and when it is considered what is at stake, surely the residents of Nelson should at once unite to accomplish the desired end.

SAYS the *West*, of Regina : "In 1891 the census showed that New Brunswick had decreased in population, whereupon a dismal howl went up from the Liberal press upon the failure of the then Conservative government to keep our young men in Canada. But the census of 1901 taken by the Liberals, and at a time of world-wide prosperity, shows that the province of Prince Edward Island has decreased in population. Now what's the matter with the government ? Is it the National Policy that they stole that is responsible for this decrease in Prince Edward's population or is it merely the fact that they have not been able to govern with that wisdom which ought to come from a cabinet which possesses 'all the talents."

THE State of Colorado has in force a mining statue of her own which is in line with common sense as regards the location of mining claims. It provides that before filing a location for a claim the discover shall locate his claim by sinking a shaft on the lode to the depth of at least ten feet from the lowest part of the rim of such shaft so dug must expose the vein on which the location is based, and it is not sufficient that a discovery is made of some other vein within the limits of the claim. The Supreme Court of Colorado has just sustained this law by holding that a discovery made subsequent to the location could not relate back to the date of that location so as to cut out intervening rights.

FROM every Province in the Dominion and every State in the Union come reports of strikes. Instead of abating, the war between master and man seems to grow more fierce. Speaking of the strike of the building trades at Ottawa, the *Citizen* has the following sensible remarks : "The labour troubles in connection with the building and kindred trades in Ottawa appear to be spreading, and the plasterers are the latest addition to the ranks of the strikers. It is unfortunate but we presume it is unavoidable. Trade is brisk, business is good and the men desire to profit from the good times. The question of what they will accept and what employers can afford to give is one to be settled by negotiation. It is not a matter for out-side interference. The men have labor to sell and the employers have to buy it and the only difficulty is to arrive at the market price as affected by the existing conditions of demand and supply. So long as the men on strike take only legitimate, orderly means to support their position the sympathy of the public will naturally be with them. At the same time the *Citizen* can not refain from again pointing out the undesirability of resorting to strikes from the point of view of employers, employes and public. If striking is an unavoidable measure to bring matters to a head, the fact should not be lost sight of that it is a measure which inevitably causes loss to both sides and the longer a strike continues the greater the loss to both parties concerned, and the greater the inconvenience to the general public. If this view of the situation is strongly held, no opportunity of the negotiation and settlement will be lost, and no effort will be spared to avoid irritation by action on either side. It is a straight business deal on both sides, and personal feeling should be eliminated and avoided as much as possible. By so doing the prospect of a speedy settlement is much improved."

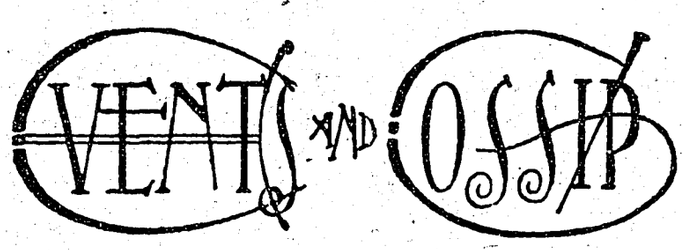
ACCORDING to some authorities, the mine-owners of British Columbia intend to engage in the publishing bussiness in addition to their mining enterprises. It has long been a theory that it would take a man with a gold mine to make certain papers pay, and we will now see how far a silver lead proposition will succeed.

A STRANGER in the city observing the number of men who fall off the wha rf attempting to get aboard the boats, might get the impression that Nelson men preferred to swim to Kootenay Landing rather than avail themselves of the comforts provided by the navigation companies.

THE examination for entrance to the High School has been set down for June 24.

AN Irish gentleman is travelling through the Northwest seeking out land for an Irish colony. If he could arrange the settlement in the vicinity of the location of the Doukhobors, Paddy, with his well-known aversion to foreigners, might make it unpleasant enough for Sifton's pets to get them out of the country.

THE government press suggests that an investigation is to be held into the census of 1891 on the ground that the enume ation made the population of Canada larger than it was. This action is proposed because the returns of the census taken this year are found to be disappointing. Certain rural districts in Ontario and Quebec are reported to have less people in them than were counted ten years ago and this is held to be proof that the census return of 1891 was " stuffed."



THE Charles Erin Verner company, now at the Opera House, is one of the best that has yet visited Nelson. Mr. Verner is an exceedingly clever impersonator of Irish characters, and he is supported by a company well-selected for the class of plays produced. Of the men an extra word of praise must be given Louis Belmour and Percy Oblien, both of whom are actors of more than mediocre merit. Miss Kitty Belmour has for many seasons enjoyed the distinction of being the most capable character woman with the coast stock companies, and remarking that the other women in the cast gave general satisfaction is not an exaggerated claim. Judging from the applause, it is safe to say that the Verner company will be well received whenever they may again visit Nelson.

Louis Belmour, who is now performing at the Nelson Opera House with the Charles Erin Verner Company, can reasonably claim all the privileges of a Nelson pioneer. Mr. Belmour was here two or three weeks in 1892, with the Belmour-Gray Company, which was probably the best stock company ever seen in Nelson. One of the plays produced was "Solomon Isaacs," a production which Charley Gray was particularly adapted for. Another one of the company was Miss Kate Dalgleish, who has since supported Modjeska and other great actors and actresses. Of course, it is scarcely necessary to remark that Mr. Belmour sees many changes in Nelson, but it may interest the public to learn that he was unable to locate the place in which this company gave their performances, the old *Miner* building on Victoria Street, then in process of erection. Mr. Belmour's experiences at that time will probably form an interesting chapter in the history of the drama in Nelson—when it comes to be written.

The concert given at the Opera House last Friday night, in aid of the English Church, was a decided success. The entertainment opened with an instrumental selection by Mesdames Hannington and Hedley and Messrs. Harris and Campbell, which was deservedly applauded. Mrs. Parry sang in her usual correct and pleasing manner. Mr. Sydney Morse has a very sweet tenor voice and sang several selections. Mrs. Davys sang a coon song in costume and responded to a hearty encore. Mr. Harris' violin solos were excellent. Mr. Scanlan, dressed as a colored gentleman, recited a parody on "Curfew Shall Not Ring To-night, and proved himself a clever comedian. A mandolin solo by Mrs. Woakes, and a cake walk by Master Gilker and Master Cummings completed the entertainment. Mrs. Rowley was the accompanist for the evening.

The customs which govern applause in different conntries will scarcely be understood in this country, where it is simply the expression of appreciation of the work of the performer. I read the other day that the audiences in Russian theaters are strictly forbidden to applaud. The audiences in the theaters of Japan are not permitted to applaud until they receive the cue from the stage, on the prompting of the manager. The first nighters in the theaters of ancient Rome were much more punctilious in the matter of applause than modern audiences are. When the Roman theater goers were fairly well satisfied with a play, they applauded by snapping with the thumb and middle finger. If they wanted the actors to understand that they were really satisfied with the performance, they clapped loudly by beating the left fingers on the right hand. A more hearty token of approval was given by striking the flat palms of the hands against each other. At the two imperial theaters in Vienna, the Opera and the Burg, applause is not allowed until the conclusion of an act, and encores are strictly prohibited.

Physicians and surgeons in general have decided that death following disease or injury is seldom accompanied with fear. Disease dulls the intelligence, so that the situation may not be comprehended in all cases; or, again, the patient may be suffering terrible pain, and may look upon death as a relief. It is generally believed now by psychologists, surgeons, physicians and others who have given the subject attention, that nature, by a kind provision, has prepared the body and mind for the flight of the spirit. It is well known that as the hold upon life grows weaker, the desire to live grows gradually less, and that there is, comparatively speaking, scarcely a recorded instance where the dying person has not at least yielded up life without seeming reluctance or fear. Of course the numerous physical phenomena which usually accompany the act of dying vary considerably in the early stages with the causes which are producing death. To one schooled in death scenes, the physiognomy which the grim destroyer presents in one not easily mistaken. Among the many signs of death that are unmistakable are the failing pulse, the coldness of the extremities, the change in the countenance as the venous blood courses through the arteries; the skin grows clammy as the various vessels refuse to longer perform their functions; the eyes glaze; the jaw drops; fluid accumulates in the windpipe, causing the "death rattle," and finally the breathing ceases altogether.

A writer in one of the magazines says: "If the pupil always hears correct English from his teachers and is always corrected when he uses incorrect English he will acquire a correct use of the language without spending several years studying books devoted to rules and their many exceptions, diagrams, parsing, spelling lists, etc. After the pupil has learned to use correct English, while learning something else which he writes and talks about, five hours a week for one school year is all that is necessary for the systematic teaching of English grammer."

The public is being extensively assured that The Visits of Elizabeth were really made to the most fashionable of country houses in England and France. It may possibly be questioned just how much profit it is to the ordinary reader to possess accurate and reliable information concerning the smart European set, but, however that may be, the accurate information is to be found in Mrs. Glyn's book, and considerable amusement besides. The charming frontispiece to the volume, which we are to suppose is meant as a portrait of Elizabeth, should be a kind of guarantee that the book is reliable. For it is a portrait, only very slightly altered, of Lady Angela Forbes, whose name is almost always, as George Ade would say, "among those present." It is curous, when one comes to think of it, how very few English novelists are capable of writing of fashionable English life from any real experience of

it. Dukes and duchesses abound in novels, and it is probable that in most cases the authors have at least met a specimen of the class to be depicted. You could scarcely live in England without at least doing that. But knowing is a different matter, and it must be admitted that English authors as a class do not have the *entree* to the smart set. This leaves out of account the yearly crop of fashionable amateurs in whose stories the information is accurate enough, but whose lack of skill in writing prevents the net results from being worth much. The novelists of position who could write authoritatively of society may almost be counted on the fingers of one hand.

The city council of Revelstoke has undertaken to solve the Chinese problem in so far as that city is concerned. An effort is being made to hive the Chinese so that they will no longer be a nuisance to white people.

The Cascade *Record* is for sale, the present editor having accumulated sufficient of this world's goods to retire.

"It is quite a mistake to think that women dress for men to admire. They dress to please themselves, and to outvie each other, and cause envy if they can among their friends." If a man had written that it would have been put down to his ignorance or rudeness, or a naturally disagreeable temper. But it is not written by a man. We find it in a delightfully candid paper contributed to the *Ladies' Realm*, by Constance Countess de la Warr, who offers ladies what seems to be unquestionably good advice on the subject. "The art of dressing well," she says, "consists greatly in so having on the right dress that no notice is taken of it." And again, "What spoils good dressing is that everyone tries to dress against the other, and all want their particular dress to be remarked." The old saying that beauty is most beautiful when simply clothed seems to have lost its meaning; yet it is still true that an elegant simplicity is always most admired.

It is a curious fact that the "doctrine of probabilities," or the scientific basis upon which all insurances rests, had its origin in a game of cards. That is to say, the foundation upon which this great economy depends, and upon which it owes its claims to the confidence and patronage of the comunity, originated from investigations regarding games of chance. It happened in this way: About the year 1650 the Chevalier de Mere, a Flemish nobleman, who was both a respectable mathematician and an ardent gamester, attempted to solve the problem of dividing equitably the stakes when a game of chance was interrupted. The problem was too difficult for him, and he sought the aid of the famous Abbe Blaise Pascal, a Jesuit priest, author of "Night Thoughts," and one of the most accomplished mathematicians of any age. Pascal solved the problem, and in doing so enunciated the "doctrine of probabilities," or laws governing so-called chances. Upon this depends not only the laws governing insurance of all kinds, but also the laws governing the motions of planet in space, and, in fact, all astronomical science. This doctrine or theory Pascal illustrated by the throwing of dice. When a single die is thrown the chance of turning up an ace is precisely one out of six, or one out of the total number of sides or faces. But if a large number of throws are made, it will be found that each face will be turned up an equal number of times. From this Pascal laid down the proposition that results which have happened in any given number of observed cases will again happen under similiar circumstances, provided the numbers be sufficient for the proper working of the law average. Thus the duration of the life of a single individual is one of the greatest uncertainties, but the duration, or rate of mortality, of a large number of individuals may be predicted with great accuracy by comparison with the observed results among a sufficiently large number of persons of similar ages, occupations, and climatic influences.

By special request, the Verner company will present this evening Dion Boucicault's celebrated play, "The Shaughraun." This is generally conceded to be the great dramatist's masterpiece, and has been produced oftener than any other Irish play. Special scenery is required in this production, and Mr. Verner is fortunate in having with him all the accessories for a first-class scenic production. The manager is also particularly fortunate in being at the head of a company capable of giving an intelligent presentation of an Irish play.

Ottawa boasts of an alderman who is able to fill a pulpit when occasion demands. That's nothing. Nelson can go one better, and supply aldermen for two pulpits. P. G.

Two ladies contended for precedence in the court of Charles the Fifth. They appealed to the monarch, who, like Solomon, awarded: "Let the eldest go first." Such a dispute was never known afterward.

There is nothing so ridiculous and so easily discernable in a merchant as an air of patronage towards customers. It is a species of vanity which is as ludicrous as it is disagreeable. The bumptious merchant in his vanity reckons himself somewhat of a philanthropist. His behavior towards his customers is offensive to those amongst them are of a keen or sensitive nature. In his overweening vanity he reckons himself the patron and the customer the beneficiary. Every action of his conveys that impression. When he is sympathetic he is condescendingly so; heartiness is luring and often vulgar, his insincerity is apparent, for humanity is a distinctive judge of disposition and character. The patronizing merchant is a humbug.

Though the late Fred Leslie had, as we all have a great admiration for our Colonial fellow-subjects, he was tempted on one occasion to be rather bitter on the ancestry of an Australian who had bored him out of all patience. His tormentor was buttonholing him as they sailed into Sydney Harbour and wound up Leslie's irritation by talking on and on, praising the harbour, the beautiful women, the fine men, etc. When he had at last nearly finished his catalogue of the virtues of the Australians he once more spoke of the strength and the fine physique of the men. "Well and you ought to be a fine race, some of you at least, for some of you were sent here by the best judges in the old country." They treated poor Leslie well anyhow, and no artiste spoke better of them than he; but an Australian poseur with nothing to lean against is hard to bear no doubt.—*English Paper.*

The Castle at Ferguson's.

JERKING and bucking, the "mixed train" slowly labored away, leaving me alone in the dark November night on the wind swept platform at Ferguson's, a Canadian Junction, where I was to await the Boston express. The waiting room was deserted, and the door apparently leading into the agent's room was closed.

I sat dreamily listening to the crackling of the fire and the spattering of snow-flakes on the window, when suddenly I heard the sound of music. The door at the back of the room had been opened, and it did not lead into the agent's kitchen, but into an ancient looking apartment hung with dark tapestry and carpeted with rich skins. At a harp sat a lady sumptuously dressed in gold and white brocade, with an embroidered veil floating back from her flowing red gold hair. Behind partly drawn velvet curtains was a beautiful oriel window of painted glass, showing through an open pane a castle court surrounded by gray battlemented walls. Upon the tapestried walls hung two portraits, one represented the lady in her brocade gown, the other a handsome man in ruby velvet cloak and trunks and pink hose.

The lady's fingers were drawing silvery music from the harp which accompanied her clear voice, singing an old French chanson.

I listened, wondering, till a rushing roar announced the Boston express, and in an instant I stood between the prosaic, blank, curtain sides of a Pullman sleeper, greatly longing for a backward glance at the mysterious castle.

All the winter I sought information from those who might know the castle at Ferguson's but in vain; and so, still wondering, on a June morning I found myself enroute for my Canadian summer home, again at the Junction, awaiting the local train.

I gazed eagerly over the open fields; there was no trace of castle or even cottage, absolutely nothing except the station house!

On the shady side sat a young woman in a pink calico frock and sunbonnet, shelling peas into a bright tin pan.

"Won't you sit down?" said she, pushing a red rocker towards me.

I seated myself, asking, as I looked curiously around—

"Have there been many changes here?"

"Well," answered my hostess, "Jim and I have a new potato patch this year."

"Last autumn," said I, "I waited here one night and I thought I saw an old castle; I certainly saw a tapestried room and an oriel window overlooking a court with battlemented windows. And now there is not even a crumbling stone."

"Oh!" said the pink calico lady. "You're that one, are you?"

I looked wondering, at the young woman; a line of red gold hair under the sunbonnet caught my eye.

"Do you mean," I asked, "that you are the lady of the harp? But where in the world are the harp and the castle?" and I gazed blankly round me.

"Oh, 'tisn't in sight," said my hostess. "I never have it up days; it would be in the way. I'm real pleased it seemed so natural. You see, in Maine before I was married, I lived right on the street and saw all the passing, and I thought it would be terrible lonesome here, with Jim away a good deal; and I'd always enjoyed reading about old castles, and ladies all dressed up and sitting at harps, so I asked Jim if he minded if I rigged up a sort of little castle here, for company, and he said, Oh, no, if it wouldn't obstruct travel. And he fell to and helped, did all the carpenter work and painting, and I did the embroidery. So that's how it was made. And when I dress up I feel as if I really was the lady Eleanor, and get lots of company out of it. Jim has a handsome suit, too, crimson velvet, but somehow he doesn't like to wear it; his was the other portrait—did you notice? There," she continued, "my peas are shelled. You just step this way."

I followed Mrs. Jim, armed with a lighted candle, down stairs into the cellar, which was mostly occupied by what seemed a wooden cistern with a door which she opened; and I beheld the tapestried castle room, the oriel window with its glimpse of battlemented walls, the harp, the portraits of the Lady Eleanor and her ruby velvet clad knight, and, in the midst, Mrs. Jim, beaming beneath her pink sunbonnet.

"All the painting Jim did," said she, kindly. "Don't you think it's real good?"

"The portraits, you mean?" said I.

"Yes, and the rest," she answered.

And then I saw that oriel window, court and battlemented walls were a cleverly painted background which grandly extended the tiny box of a room.

"It's wonderful!" I exclaimed. "But last November I did not go down cellar."

"We're a rigging up a trap-door, and I haul it up to the kitchen sometimes, and dress up and play. I'd noticed that in the old castles, ladies mostly played harps, so I took some money I'd saved dressmaking and bought a harp, and went to Quebec for two months to learn it, so's to have things complete. I'm real glad you like our castle; it's lots of company for me. There's your train coming! I'm pleased you came this way."

"So am I," I answered, hurrying up the stairs and climbing aboard the "mixed train," which, rattling and jerking, slowly bore me away from the wonderful castle and its proud mistress, the pink bonneted Lady Eleanor.—*Alice Boutelle.*

You can turn the story of the spotted dog into a graceful compliment to any institution—to a newspaper or a political party. Don't you know the story of the spotted dog? Briefly this is it. There was a millionaire in Chicago. He had a lovely team of horses, the admiration of the Lake-side drive, but he hankered after a perfect Dalmatian dog, one that was beyond reproach as to the regularity and shape of its spots. One day at a dog store down town he discovered this paragon. As he left the place with his prize a loafer by the door made some envious or jeering remark that he was in too happy a frame of mind to notice. He went off with his black and white splendidly spotted dog. All Lake-side was in ecstacies of admiration and envy as the Dalmatian ran after the millionaire's team. Presently the weather changed; it began to rain; the spots on the perfect Dalmatain began to mingle with each other. As the storm increased the spots became stripes, and finally the dog presented the appearance of a wretched dirty mongrel, black and white and brown in ugly confusion. And then the millionaire remembered the remark of the loafer standing by the store, "Say, stranger, there's generally an umbrella goes with that dawg!"

SHORT STORIES

A certain English Bishop, as he was going about his diocese, asked the porter of the lunatic asylum how a chaplain whom he (the Bishop) had lately appointed was getting on. "Oh, me lord," said the man, "his preaching is most successful. The hidiots henjoys it partickler."

The London "*Globe*" tells of an old woman who was being discharged completely cured from a provincial hospital and was having a last interview with the house physician. "Well," he said, "you will have to speak well of the hospital now, won't you?" And the old woman replied: "Ay, that I will, doctor. But, sure, I never spoke ill of it. My 'usband died here."

John Lawrence Toole, the most popular low comedian of his day, once gave a supper to eighty of his friends, and wrote a note to each of them privately beforehand, asking him whether he would be so good as to say grace, as no cleryman would be present. It is said that the faces of those eighty men as they rose in a body when Toole tapped on the table, as a signal for grace, was a sight which will never be forgotten.

An English clergyman once preached a sermon on the fate of the wicked. Meeting soon after an old woman well known for her gossiping propensities, he said: "I hope my sermon has borne fruit. You heard what I said about the place where there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth?" "Well, as to that," answered the dame, "if I 'as anythink to say, it be this: let them gnash their teeth as 'em—I ain't!"

"Swears" believes that Sir Henry Irving is fond of strolling about the outlying suburbs of London, and particularly frequents Hamstead Heath. One afternoon during a walk he passed two labourers who were repairing the road, and one of them was overheard to say, "What's that, Bill, I seem to know his chivvy?" "Yes," said the other, "Why, its Shakespeare, of course"—a compliment Irving would not fail to appreciate.

On one occasion the late Chief Justice Russell went into the English provinces to help the Liberals in a certain campaign. He began his speech of set purpose with some very badly pronounced Scotch. After the confusion caused by his apparent blunder had subsided, Sir Charles Russell, as he then was) said: "Gentlemen, I do not speak Scotch, but I vote Scotch." Tremendous applause followed, whereupon Sir Charles proceeded, "and I sometimes drink Scotch." With this his hold on the audience was secured.

Years ago, while Augustus Harris was conducting a rehearsal at Drury Lane Theatre he noticed an actor, who was almost a stranger to him, standing on the stage. Suspending the rehearsal for a moment he shouted to the man, who is now a well-known and prominent actor, "Hi, what do you want, sir?" "An engagement," the actor shouted back. "How much a week?" said Harris. "Ten pounds," was the response. "Give you two!" said Harris. "Done," said the actor. Many an actor and actress have been "out" season after season because they had not the courage to take a low salary rather then to be unemployed. Occupation is a great thing; of course the actor who said "Done" to Harris's two pounds made a hit and soon had his ten.

The Pelican Club of London, rejoices in a very discreet, not to say suspicious, hall porter. He rarely makes a mistake. Once he did however. A distinguished member had been taking his wife and sister to the theatre. They dropped him at the club on the way home. On arriving at their residence, they found the husband had the hall door key. They hastened back to the club. The wife, a very pretty woman, alighted and asked for Mr. So-and-So. The janitor could not say whether he was in the club or not. "But I am his wife, and I know he is," she said. "Ah, ma'am," said the discreet hall porter with a grin, "they all say that." The poor woman, finding all her efforts in vain to soften the heart of the janitor, at last drove away with the prospect of waiting outside her dwelling until her lord should arrive home. Evidently, however, when the ladies had gone the janitor had informed the husband of their visit, for within a few minutes he returned with the key.

Traveling Then and Now.

In "The Recollections of Samuel Breck," a fine old survivor of the colonial period, some forcible impressions are given of certain innovations made in the early years of the last century. Particularly amusing, in the light of developments, is his account of a ride in a railway car from Boston to Providence in 1835.

"Five or six other cars were attached to the loco, and uglier boxes I do not wish to travel in. Two poor fellows who were not much in the habit of making their toilet squeezed me into a corner, while the hot sun drew from their garments a villainous compound of smells made up of salt fish, tar and molasses. By and by twelve bouncing factory girls were introduced, who were going on a party of pleasure to Newport.

"'Make room for the ladies!' bawled out the superintendent. "Come, gentlemen, jump up on the top; plenty of room there!'

"For my part I refused to move. The whole twelve were introduced, however, and soon made themselves at home, sucking lemons and eating green apples. There is certainly a growing neglect of manners and insubordination to the laws, a democratic familiarty and a tendency to level all distinctions. The rich and the poor, the educated and the ignorant, the polite and the vulgar, all herd together in this modern improvement in traveling.

"The consequence is a complete amalgamation, and all this for the sake of doing very uncomfortably in two days what could be done delightfully in eight or ten. Undoubtedly a line of post-horses and post-chaises would long ago have been established along our great roads had not steam monopolized everything.

"Steam, so useful in many respects, interferes with the comfort of traveling, destroys every salutary distinction in society, and overturns by its whirligig power the once rational, gentlemanly and safe mode of getting along on a journey. Talk of ladies on board a steamboat or in a railroad car! There are none."

This, remember, was written in 1835. If, remarks the "*Youth's Companion*," the fine old gentleman were living now, and would whirl from Boston to Providence in a drawing-room car in sixty minutes, he might revise his pessimistic utterances.

Following are the ore shipments received at the Trail smelter for the week ending May 8 as reported by the Trail Creek *News* :

	Tons
Centre Star	1413
War Eagle	618
Iron Mask	55¼
B. C.	789
Bosun	20¼
Enterprise	20¼
Paradise	99¾
North Star	117
Total	3132½

Slocan Drill : With this week's shipments, the mineral exports from the division for the year pass in excess of 2000 tons. Two properties are to be figured in the list during the week, the Enterprise and Arlington. From the former 20 tons was sent out while the latter shipped four carloads, or 80 tons. The Enterprise is the only Ten Mile property shipping and its exports average only 40 tons monthly. During the past month a much larger body of ore has been blocked out at the Arlington, which is in about the best condition since its opening. Last year the exports from this division amounted to 2847 tons, made up from 10 properties. Following is a list of the shipments this year to date :

Arlington	1585
Enterprise	200
Two Friends	40
Black Prince	100
Bondholder	23
Chapleau	15
Speculator	10
Phœnix	20
V. & M.	20
	2980

Another rich body of ore has been uncovered in the Hewitt mine. This strike is an important one and was made in a cross-cut tunnel driven north into the hangwall from the No 2. tunnel at a point in some 400 feet, or just beyond the upraise from No 3 The strike was made at a distance in of eleven feet and consists of a body of galena ore three feet in width. It appears to be a parallel ledge or body of ore with the main vein and may be a continuation of the rich body of ore encountered in the lower workings at about the same distance from the main vein. The ore in this new strike carries considerably more lead than any heretofore uncovered in this property. No assays have as yet been made on it, but it is doubtless very rich as grey copper and ruby silver is present in large quantities in the ore. The Hewitt has a large amount of ore blocked out and ready for stoping in all three of its levels and this new strike but adds value to an already rich mine.

A good force of miners is employed by the company in doing development work in the upper levels and the contractor who is driving the eleven hundred foot tunnel, the No 6., has a full force at work. The right-of-way for the tramway is now ready and the crew are only awaiti g the arrival of the cable to rush the work to completion —*Silvertonian.*

On May 31 and June 8 agents C. P. R. at common Kootenay points will sell round trip tickets to St. Paul at $50, good for 60 days with corresponding reductions to all Eastern points. For Pan-American Exhibition tickets will be sold June 4, 18, July 2, 16, Aug. 6, 20 to Buffallo at $76.

Notice to Delinquent Co-Owner.

To Ira Petty, or to any person or persons to whom he may have transferred his interest in the Montana mineral claim, situated about three miles north from Creston, and recorded in the Recorder's Office for the Goat River Mining Division of West Kootenay District:

You are hereby notified that we have expended one thousand dollars in labour and improvements in order to hold said mineral claim under the provisions of the Mineral Act, and if within ninety days from the date of this notice you fail or refuse to contribute your proportion of such expenditure together with all cost of advertising, your interest in said claim will become the property of the subscribers, under section 4 of an Act entitled An Act to Amend the Mineral Act, 1900.

Dated this 14th day of May, 1901.

JOHN F. WILSON,
JENNIE E. SPAULDING,
By her attorney in fact,
SAMUEL LOVATT.

15-5-01

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

In the matter of the Estate of Kenneth Cannell, late of the City of Nelson, Province of British Columbia, stone mason, deceased.

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the "Trustees and Executors Act" of the Revised Statutes of the Province of British Columbia, 1897, Chapter 187, that all creditors and others having claims against the estate of the said Kenneth Cannell, who died on or about the 18th day of October, 1900 are required, on or before the 1st day of July, 1901, to send by post prepaid or deliver to Messrs Taylor & Hannington, of the City of Nelson aforesaid, Solicitors for Barbara Cannell, the administratrix of the personal estate of the said deceased, their Christian and surnames, addresses and descriptions, the full particulars of their claims, the statement of their accounts and the nature of the securities, if any, held by them.

And further take notice that after such last mentioned date the said administratrix will proceed to distribute the assets of the deceased among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims which she shall then have notice, and the said administratrix will not be liable for the said assets or any part thereof to any person or persons of whose claims notice shall not have been received by her at the time of such distribution.

Dated the 24th day of April 1901.

TAYLOR & HANNINGTON,
Solicitors for Barbara Cannell, administratrix of Kenneth Cannell, deceased.

CERTIFICATE OF IMPROVEMENTS.

Golden Queen Mineral Claim, situate in the Nelson Mining Division of West Kootenay District.

Where Located: About 1500 feet north of the "Poorman" and about one mile south of the Kootenay bridge.

Take notice that I, John McLatchie, of the City of Nelson, acting as agent for Eliza Ann Crowe, Free Miner's Certificate No. B 20,406, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a Certificate of Improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown Grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such Certificate of Improvements

Dated this 17th day of April, 1901.

JOHN McLATCHIE, P.L.S.

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