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Vol. I. VICTORIA, B. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1904 No. 6

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Progressive Victoria.

Indications Which Promise Great Things for the Future.

As compared with Seattle the growth of Victoria during the last half dozen years has not been great; Vancouver can claim to have shown more rapid development; but let us not imagine that during this period this city has stood still. If a comparison were instituted with eastern cities of similar population, we would find that our progress has been very satisfactory. Doubtless Victoria has not gone ahead as rapidly as we could wish, or as we hope to see it advance in the near future, but the movement is strong and steady in the right direction. A very encouraging feature of the situation is the general recognition by the people of this city that, however true it may be in some respects that "all things come to him who waits," it does not apply to cities on the northern frontier of Canada. It is not always easy to hold what we have; it is absolutely necessary to strive for what we hope to get. Experience has taught Victoria that they have active competitors in the race for everything, and there are signs of a very active awakening to the necessity of effort. There is wealth and enterprise in this city sufficient to accomplish almost anything upon which the citizens set their minds. Meanwhile we are not standing still.

Just glance backwards with your mind's eye for a very little while. Don't you find it hard to realize that it was only the other day, so to speak, when men with long-handled hoes were raking the mud off Government Street in the very heart of the business district? If you want to be reminded of what it was like, you can see the performance going on now after a heavy rain just a little beyond Chinatown. It was only a very little while ago that we had nothing except plank sidewalks anywhere in the city. You remember what a nightmare Bastion Street was, and how you used to apologize to your visiting friends, when you walked up with them from the steamer, for its dreadful condition. Now the "point of view" to our streets in the business part of the city and can claim that there is nothing any better anywhere in the world. And as every one knows, this work of improvement has only been fairly begun—this, by the way, is a reminder that Cook Street is in execrable condition and gives a black eye to one of the nicest residential parts of the city. The condition of the streets is one of the first things that impress strangers and one of the most powerful influences operating on the minds of those who are looking for a place in which to reside. Therefore the advance which Victoria has made in this respect is of the greatest value apart from the comfort and convenience to the citizens.

The James Bay improvement is something which we do not half appreciate, and chiefly because its completion has hung fire longer than we expected. But the finish is not far off and when it is done, when a fine paved street extends all the way to the Parliament grounds, with good concrete sidewalks, we will wonder if it could be possible that we endured those evil-smelling, untidy-looking tide flats for so many years.

The Point Ellice bridge is hardly to be classed as an improvement, because it was an absolute necessity, and the same may be said of the extension of the sewerage system; but a city of the population of Victoria is not to be criticized as lethargic, when it undertakes works of that kind at the time it is carrying on those above mentioned. In point of fact the city, as represented by the municipal authorities, has been singularly up-to-date, and has set an example that the citizens in their individual character might well emulate.

But private enterprise has not been idle. It is doubtful if there is a city in Canada, or anywhere else in North America in fact, that can show greater proportionate progress than the retail stores of Victoria. We have got in the habit of taking everything as

it comes without stopping to ask why it has come. Just take a walk through the stores on Yates and Government streets and compare them as they are now with what you remember they were six or seven years ago, and you will find a great deal of cause for surprise. You will think better of your city; you will feel more confident of its future; you will go home with a great big doubt in your mind if Victoria is as non-progressive as you have been in the habit of telling your friends at the club or across the dinner table. What keeps up these fine establishments, some of which would be an ornament to a city of three times the population? Vancouver is growing apace; Nanaimo is holding its own; Ladysmith has sprung into being with its business houses; Cumberland has done the same thing; West Westminster does more business than ever at the old stand, and the interior is full of new towns. What is the basis of this excellent business that supports the really first-class retail establishments in our city, and how is it that their owners have felt warranted in making such extensive additions and improvements to them? Whatever the cause be avoided just now. There is vigorous progress remains, and it augurs very well for the future of the city.

If one looks around at the industrial condition of the city he will see decided evidence of progress. The cause be avoided just now. There is vigorous progress remains, and it augurs very well for the future of the city.

The great improvements that have taken place in Esquimalt have been a source of much benefit to the city, and if one may judge the future from present indications, what we have now at the Naval Station is only relatively small in comparison with what we will have.

The importance of this station is steadily increasing and with the rapid march of events in Eastern Asia it must be yet further augmented.

In short, in view of the fact that Victoria is and will remain the capital of the province, the importance of this station is steadily increasing and with the rapid march of events in Eastern Asia it must be yet further augmented.

The Russians mixed up a good deal of verbal pyrotechnics with their war preparations, which may be of the proper, but it is just as well for outsiders not to be misled thereby and conclude that the conflict is between Christianity and Heathenism. Possibly those amiable people who massed the Jews recently were not their own people, but it is something written to the effect that it is not those who call upon the name of the Lord that enter into the Kingdom. As a matter of fact the Japanese really are more representative of the principles of Christianity than are their enemies.

THE STORY OF THE WEEK.

The war news of the week has been very contradictory and it is impossible at the present to say definitely what has transpired, except to a very limited extent. Japan's plan of campaign has evidently been well thought out. Its first object was to render the country secure from invasion. To do this it was necessary to put the Russian fleet out of action. Hence the sudden blow struck at Port Arthur and the resolute way in which the advantage thus gained has been followed up. What degree of damage has been inflicted upon the Russian fleet and at what cost to the Japanese is not clear from the telegraphic despatches, but the former has been extremely heavy and the latter is not sufficiently serious to embarrass the operations of the Mikado's navy in any appreciable degree. It is a little too soon to say that Japan has secured herself absolutely free from invasion, but the close of the first week of hostilities found that consumption within a measurable distance of realization.

This leaves the Japanese free to begin operations on land and the preliminary steps taken in that direction have been of a very formidable character. Notwithstanding the efforts which Russia has been making for some time past to mass troops in Manchuria, there is every prospect that her rapidly moving enemy will soon have an equal number of men. The indications are that the great trial of strength will be somewhere along the Yalu river, which forms the boundary between Korea and Manchuria.

The action taken by the United States government to secure the cooperation of the neutral powers to limit the sphere of hostilities and preserve the integrity of China has not as yet produced any definite result. The proposal of Secretary Hay was couched in very general terms, and it appears to have been accepted in principle by the several governments to whom it was addressed, including the belligerents, but until a definite understanding has been reached as to what is and what is not to be considered as China limit can come into Manchuria is a part of China, but it will be the theatre of the war and the victor will undoubtedly insist on exercising sovereignty over it. The reported seizure of New Chang by Russia could hardly be considered as in defiance of the proposal of the Washington government.

It is alleged that Russia has directed steps to be taken to prevent further hostilities by the British operations in Tibet and by British diplomacy in Persia, giving even to the extent of an official protest in the former case. No word has reached this part of the world from Col. Younghusband's force which is seeking an entrance into Lhasa. At last accounts the Tibetans were threatening active resistance. The Pekin authorities, who exercise a nominal suzerainty over Tibet, have advised the Grand Lama to meet the British army, which is now on its way to a friendly spirit. So far as Persia is concerned no overt acts have been committed by either the British or the Russian government, which in any way threaten the integrity of the Shah's dominions, and the despatch above referred to would be meaningless if it were not for the understanding that Russia is ambitious to have a seaport on the Persian Gulf, and that one of the few questions upon which the British government has declared its determination to fight is the freedom of the Gulf from control by any power other than Persia. News comes from Constantinople which is interesting in this connection, it being alleged that an influential party in Turkey is urging the Sultan to seize the opportunity offered by the war in the Far East to make a dash for the Balkan principalities. Austria is mobilizing her forces to meet such an eventuality.

Taking one thing with another, the news of the past week discloses as interesting and difficult a lot of complications as has been presented in a long time. All the elements of the conflict, which in respect to the area over which it would extend, the number and prowess of the nations involved and the effect upon the history of mankind would be without a parallel, have developed since the first gun was fired at Port Arthur less

than two weeks ago. The Napoleonic wars would seem like child's play compared to the struggle that may be precipitated by a false move on the part of any one of some half dozen nations.

Earl Roberts has resigned the post of Commander-in-Chief. His place was taken by the Duke of Connaught is offered the office of Inspector-General, which seems to be the highest post contemplated under the plan of army reform. Connaught, though brother to the King, is a thorough soldier. He is said to be disposed to decline the appointment in favor of Grenfell.

While military methods are engrossing so much attention it is interesting to note that the United States government has decided to allow standing army of large men, and recruits to me 5 feet 4 inches. The arguments for small men are, first, that there are more of them; second, that one man is as good as another when it comes to fighting at long range; third, that small men are a rule more active than large men, and it takes less to feed them, and last but not least, a small man is not so good a target for the enemy as a large one.

It is announced that there will be little or no railway construction in the State of Washington this year.

The bye-elections for the Ottawa House of Commons held on Tuesday resulted in the gain of a seat by the Conservatives.

There has been a lull in the Chamberlain propaganda during the week, due doubtless to the fact that the member for Birmingham has gone abroad on a rest, which he must certainly need, if he is not made of steel. The recent bye-elections in the United Kingdom have not been favorable to the ex-Colonial Secretary's cause, and the statement attributed to him, that he intended to advocate a bounty on Colonial goods, instead of a tariff all foreign-grown wheat, has set some of his admirers guessing as to just what they are supposed to advocate. On the bald proposition of preferential trade within the Empire, Mr. Chamberlain could probably carry every constituency in the United Kingdom. The divergence of views in all parts of the Empire is over details.

The Government and the Grand Trunk directors have agreed upon the amendments to the transportation railway contract, to which Parliament is to be asked to give its approval. These changes must be agreed to by the shareholders of the Grand Trunk and a meeting of the company will be held a month hence to pass upon them. It is to be inferred that the directors feel confident that such assent will be given. Private advices from Montreal say that the Grand Trunk management is confident that the great project will be carried out in its entirety.

Viceroy Alexieff shot with his own hand the lieutenant whom he held responsible for the Russian reverse at Port Arthur. Presumably this was as Voltaire said of the execution of Admiral Byng, your encourage les autres.

The irrepressible Alexander Begg wants the Alaska Boundary referred to the Hague tribunal. There are three parties to this dispute: Great Britain, the United States and Mr. Begg. The other great nations have reached an agreement, but Mr. Begg is obdurate.

A Supreme Court judgeship, a possible Ontario Court judgeship, and the collection of the post office three nice positions. Can there be any truth in the report that no one is willing to sacrifice himself on the altar of his country and take either of them?

The irony of events was never better illustrated than by the fact that the young Czar, who sought to be the Apostle of Universal Peace, is threatening the world with war. It may well be that the fault is not his, but that he himself is in the maelstrom of a remorseless system of government which is absolutely out of touch with Twentieth Century ideas.

Among the Societies.

ODDFELLOWS.

Since the event of the masquerade ball, matters in L.O.O.F. circles have been rather quiet. However, the brethren are not asleep—merely resting—and, no doubt, will be heard from soon. The Sisters of Rebekah will give one of their pleasant socials on Tuesday evening, February 23rd, to which all Odd Fellows are invited, and doubtless many will avail themselves of the privilege, the Sisters' parties being deservedly popular. Columbia Lodge also intends to hold a social in the near future, for members and friends. The Grand Patriarch installed the newly elected officers of Vancouver Encampment at their meeting on Wednesday evening.

LADIES OF THE MACAOBES.

That the work of the Ladies of the Macaoebes in this city is being vigorously pushed forward, is evidenced by the fact that Mrs. Spoford, Provincial Deputy, has just organized a third hive, which gives every promise of very soon becoming a strong and progressive branch of the order. During the past two years the membership in Victoria has more than doubled itself. Baxter Hive re-organized at Victoria West, and Queen Alexander Hive, which has just been instituted, and whose officers will be installed next Monday afternoon. The charter of this newly organized hive will remain open for a short time and ladies wishing to take advantage of charter membership can obtain information by addressing Spoford, or Mrs. Dennis Harris at Alexandra College. During the past year 37,836 policies have been issued by the Supreme Hive, making the membership 136,921, with protection in force of \$92,499,485 and a reserve fund of \$826,037, a record and showing of which every member may feel justly proud.

THE EAGLES.

The following letter will be read with interest by the members of the Fraternal Order of Eagles in this city:

"Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 5, 1903
"Mr. Joseph Wachter, Worthy President, Victoria, B.C."

"Dear Sir and Brother: Your letter of the 27th ult. came duly to hand and I assure you it was a pleasure to me to receive the same; it was an-

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other link added to the long chain of care and attention. The lodge was welded in the case of our departed brother, A. K. Prince. I have been intending to write to you for several days but have waited until all was over at this end of the line. The remains of Brother Prince arrived in Chicago under the care of Bro. Howard in due time, and were buried under the auspices of the Masons.

I had communication with Brother McGinty and Schulte before the arrival of the body and preparations were waiting for and floral designs were for the remains of him, whom we loved as a brother, thereby furnishing a fitting conclusion to the courtesies and respect inaugurated by the noble band of brothers in Victoria, B.C.

"Allow me to inform you that because the Associated Press (the most modern transmitter of news) had notified the world of the appalling disaster which befell the vessel with its precious cargo, this Aerie and the family of Brother Prince were aware of the fact by your wire, watching with what care the F. O. E. watches over its members."

As President of Kansas City Aerie, No. 47, allow me upon behalf of our Aerie to extend to you and the members of Victoria Aerie, No. 12, our heartfelt thanks for your zeal and untiring efforts in looking after Brother Prince and his belongings and for the many kind marks of esteem and affection you paid to his memory.

Brother Prince's parents, brother and sisters feel deeply indebted to you all and ask me to convey to their many, many thanks. We sincerely hope that no member of your Aerie will fall in our midst, but should the all Divine Providence see

fit to cast the hand of sickness or death on any while here, we will surely follow out the precepts taught by our noble and beloved order and ex-empowered by your unexcelled Aerie.

"I remain,
"Fraternally yours
"In L. T. J. & E.,
"W. J. PELLETTIER,
"Worthy Pres. Aerie No. 47."

INDEPENDENT FORESTRY.

Tuesday evening was an open night, the first occasion on which the I. O. F. followed out the precepts taught by our noble and beloved order and ex-empowered by your unexcelled Aerie. It was the annual occasion on which the wives and children and friends of the members are invited to the Court to be entertained. As usual, the hall was filled with visitors. The visitors' souls were filled with music and mirth, and at the conclusion their bodies were refreshed with good things, so that they went away saying it was good to have been there. The followers of the great Indian chief are numerous and enthusiastic in this city.

ANCIENT FORESTRY.

Considerable discussion has been going on among Foresters throughout the province respecting the assessing of members in order to establish an organizing fund. Many members of the order in Victoria object to paying such an assessment. Some of the Courts in other places are already paying it and it is thought that the Victoria Courts will eventually fall in line in order that the work may be pushed as it deserves.

Another question which is engaging the attention of the members is a proposal to reduce the initiation fees to charter level. This is being opposed by many who think that if the order is worth anything it is worth paying for.

Court Vancouver held a whist tournament at the close of each meeting.

KNIGHTS OF THE MACAOBES.

D. P. Markey, Supreme Commander of the order from Port Huron, Michigan, is expected to visit the local lodge on March 25th next.

This order has lost but one member in Victoria through death since it was organized eight years ago.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD.

Sovereign Lindsay, Past Consul Commander of Victoria Camp, is to be the delegate to the meeting of the High Camp at Hamilton, Ont., on the 16th of March next. He will represent not only the Victoria Camp with its 230 members, but also ten smaller district camps, most of which are located on Vancouver Island. The largest is at Cumberland.

A. O. U. W.

General activity among the city lodges, is the order of the day. The lodges are fortunate in having officers by bright energetic men, who are embracing their duties with a zeal that will produce good results.

On Monday evening next, Western Star lodge will return the fraternal visit that Banner lodge paid them short time since, when an enjoyable and profitable evening will doubtless be spent as the boys of Banner lodge know how to entertain.

The Grand Lodge have recently moved into a more commodious and up-to-date office in Howe Avenue. The indications are that the Old Pioneer Fraternity, with the membership of nearly half a million is going to maintain its record of the past.

Reports from interior lodges, especially Atlin, are of a most encouraging character.

AT THE WORLD'S END.

An Account of the Now Almost Extinct Canoe-Dwellers and Other Tribes of Tierra Del Fuego, by W. S. Barclay.

[Condensed from the Illustrated London News.]

The South American Continent does not, properly speaking, end in Cape Horn, for a narrow passage some two hundred and fifty miles long cuts across it somewhat further north. A forty-foot tide rises twice a day into the Atlantic entrance of this passage, covering and uncovering dangerous shoals as will bear witness to its guns. On these shoals many a good ship's back has broken. As we adventure to the west, the waterway stretches between twin ranges of splintered hills, covered to the low snow-line by a dripping forest of Antarctic birch, its slender stems bent at short intervals by blue-white glaciers which push their frozen hummock to the water's verge, or discharge a cascade from cliffs so high that only an icy spray, touched with rainbow hue, falls

athwart the steamer's deck. Throughout all the year the the roaring sou'-west wind blusters past, bringing in its train—save for some short, deceptive calm—showers of rain and sleet and a cloak of trailing mist. Such are the famous Straits of Magellan, which guard the yet more broken channels and islands terminating in Cape Horn—a fit barrier of the wild seas who, in that wild land, mark man's farthest limit to the South.

Since Darwin published his famous "Voyage of a Naturalist," made in H.M.S. Beagle in 1834, Fuegiens have been generally classed as one tribe—the "lowest step in the human ladder"—while popular credulity, based on the fears of ship captains beating a painful passage home, cheerfully consented to dub them wreckers and cannibals as well. Only of late has the mist of half truth lifted, so that we may judge them fairly; and the task must be undertaken speedily if at all. During twenty years of contact with whites, the numbers of the Yaghan tribe, or canoe-dwellers, have sunk from 2,500 to 200; and that of the Onas from 2,000 to 600, man, and child.

The latter are canoe-dwellers, since they must search for ever the shores of otherwise barren islands for food, in the shape of mussels, fish, sea-fowl, or perhaps, by great good chance, a stranded seal or whale. Till the South American Mission established itself among them, they braved the rigours of the climate naked, save for a small, flat otter-skin, slung from the neck to the side where the wind happened to blow. The women, usually two, paddled the canoe from the stern. The man crouched in the bows, alert, harpoon in hand. In the centre of the canoe were piled other simple hunting gear, babies, and a slab of shingled turf, on which smouldered the firebrands carried to each fresh halting-place. For in the Land of the Horn, fire is a first necessity of human life; and from hundreds of tiny smoke-drifts, which lined the channels in the days when first Magellan and Drake passed on their way round the world, came the name "Tierra del Fuego," or Land of Fire.

The Yaghans have evolved no faith, no god; they have no totem to bind them into one tribe, no headman to organize them in common defence or attack. They are still stationary at that microcosm of great empires—the family. They are a chatterbox tribe, and their language is a very compound one, with a regular grammar and upwards of 30,000 classified words. To each tiny baby, each unnoticed headland, they give a full descriptive name, which are the surnames of persons born in six spots. Shortly after birth the child is dipped in the icy sea, to render it more hardy. Their dead are buried without ceremony under rocks or in great midden-heaps of mussel-shells which accumulate by an off-frequented camp. Their name for death signifies simply "gone away," yet they have the instinctive dread of the wild animal for all dead things, and when one member of a family dies, all those who, having been born in the same spot, bear the same name, change it for some other. The departed are thereafter never mentioned, save in some roundabout fashion.

The Onas are foot-Indians, living in the mountainous interior of the great island of which the Beagle Channel marks the southern boundary. Although they are thus in a sense inlanders, they have no canoes, and cannot even swim, being dependent on the guanaco, which frequent the upper pastures, for food and general equipment from their raw-hide water bags to the string shews of their bows. An all-enveloping fur robe is their only covering, and this, when there is need for freer movement, the braves at once discard, standing clothed, like our own ancestors, in the primal simplicity of bow and arrows and paint. They use such pigments to tell their stalking, a science in which they are past masters. To hunt the guanaco they first color themselves according to the ground over which they must move—e.g., white when on snowfields, yellow among dry pampa grass, slate color with red spots when among lichen-covered rocks.

The general physique of the Onas, and especially their keenness of sight and hearing, are developed to an extraordinary degree; for to the Ona his body is a religion, and any bodily defect a disgrace. Their system of courtship is Spartan. The man hands his chosen bride his hunting bow. Its return by her own hand signifies acceptance without more to do! and the girl is used to accept promptly, otherwise she will receive in her calf or thigh, as a light reprimand, one of her suitor's long birch arrows with its beautifully chipped glass heads.

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linking man and wife. The men have a superstition that formerly the women had the upper hand, while the men were forced to do camp drudgery. So on reaching manhood they bind themselves to a kind of freemasonry, whose object is to impose subjection on the women by personifying, on fit occasions, the watchful spirits with which they have peopled the woods and lakes, the mists and mountains, whose companionship is all they have of home.

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ABOUT TOWN.

The Provincial Mining Association is to meet on Monday next in this city. Perhaps this organization has not yet accomplished very much, but it is a good thing and worthy of maintenance. The Association is to young and political conditions have been too disturbed during its short life to make it possible to do much. Possibly also, the management was a little new to the business.

Presumably there is no longer any doubt about Mr. Barnard being Mayor, but at one time, and even after the enabling act was passed, there was a chance of a pretty little municipal middle happening. Credit ought to be given to Mr. Redfern for the very public-spirited course which he followed under circumstances which some men might have thought would justify them in doing something very different.

With commendable judgment the City Council has concluded not to wait for the King Edward to finish the filling of the tide flats, but has contracted with the Street Railway Company to haul in some 6,000 cubic yards of gravel. This ought to complete the roadway, and when it is in place, the permanency of the retaining wall will be thoroughly tested. It ought to stand the pressure. The borings have made for the C. P. R. hotel indicate that the slight deflection of the wall from a straight line may be due to the fact that the King Edward worked too close to the foundation. James Bay seems to be underlain in places with a glacial mud, which is all right as long as it is not disturbed, but once it is broken into nothing can stop its movement until it has adjusted itself to new conditions. If this is the case the King Edward, when dredging is resumed, should keep back from the wall.

The stranding of the Tees on Trial Island was a striking comment upon the arguments of those who opposed the maintenance of a lifeline here, on the ground that a serious accident was not likely to occur on the Straits in the next fifty or a hundred years. The Tees incident was not very serious from a public point of view, but it demonstrates beyond all question that we have no right to assume that we are safe from disasters in the waters of Juan de Fuca. Some of the criticism directed against a lifeline seems to be based upon a fear that to have one here would be to advertise to the world that perils of sea are to be encountered in coming to Victoria. There is nothing in this idea. In fact the lifeline would have just the contrary effect upon the opinion of those whose good opinions we value. At all the great watering places of the world appliances are maintained for saving life, and these are regarded as assurances of safety, not as warnings against peril. Let there be two seaside resorts, one without such appliances and the other with them, to which of them would you care to send your family? The "Creation" is to be sung for the benefit of the lifeline fund. Both on account of the object and because of its merits as a musical production, it should receive liberal patronage.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

There is a movement on foot among the Anglican Sunday Schools of the city to form a Sunday School Association. Such an association would be invaluable as an aid to Sunday School work. The wonder is that it did not become an accomplished fact years ago.

EPWORTH LEAGUE.

The Metropolitan Epworth Leaguers are going about their work in the right way. On Missionary Night they enlisted the service of Rev. Archibald Ewing, who gave a very interesting and instructive address on China and Japan. Mr. Ewing lived for a number of years in China and Mongolia, so he is able to speak with authority on the condition of that country. He has travelled through Japan. One of the most interesting things he told his audience was that a Chinaman from one part of the country often cannot understand the language used in another part. For instance, the Pekin Chinese cannot understand Cantonese, and vice versa.

The lecture was illustrated by a fine set of stereoscopic views shown by Mr. Ritchie.

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On Divers Themes.

Lieut. Governor Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere Talks About Forestry.

About eleven o'clock Wednesday morning I called on the Lieut. Governor at his office in the Parliament Buildings. Sending in my card I was at once admitted and very courteously received with a true British handshake.

When His Honor learned that I was a newspaper man, a slight contraction of the brows was discernible and a look that would say: "Don't come to me for sensational news, for you won't get it." But when I told him that I wanted him to tell me about his work in the practical study of forestry the expression of his face changed to one of genial interest and he at once began to talk.

When he first came to this province in 1900 and found that the conditions in this Western land, he immediately sent for a number of seeds of Eastern trees from the province of Quebec. These he planted that same year in the grounds of Government House. Some of them are now ten and fifteen feet high, all looking healthy and thriving. The results have in every case exceeded his most sanguine expectation. Many of these young trees he has distributed to people in different parts of the

kindly invited me to call at Government House that afternoon and see the result of his work. The specimens he then showed me were a convincing proof that bad pruning means death to the tree whereas nature heals over the scar when the work is properly done. When showing one of his specimens Sir Henri told how he obtained it.

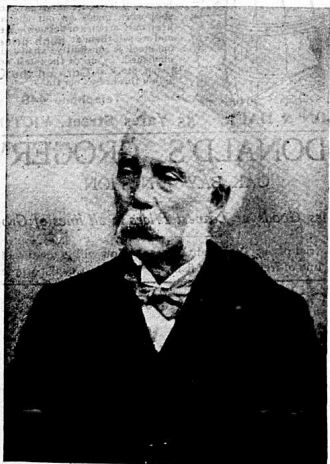
"I was out driving one day in Quebec," said he, "when I stopped to admire two beautiful shade trees standing in front of a house. Seeing me, the owner, to whom I was a perfect stranger, came out and I told him I was admiring his trees, but he was sorry that one of them would not live long. 'Why not?' said he. 'You see where that lough has been cut. The part that is left will decay, the middle of the trunk will be infected. The tree will become hollow and then die.' 'What can I do to prevent this happening?'

"Just fetch me a saw," said Sir Henri, "and I will prune it for you." "The saw was brought, and very soon the offending stump was taken off."

"What can I do to pay you for this?" said the stranger.

"Let me keep this block for my trouble. It is a perfect specimen of Nature's vain effort to heal over the scar of a badly pruned tree."

The rings on one of the perfectly healed scars of a sugar-maple showed that it took ten or eleven years to cover up the mark, yet there was not



SIR HENRI JOLY DE LOTBINIERE.

district. He hopes in this way to get the people interested in the work of planting foreign trees.

Talking of the oak, Sir Henri said that there were none to be found on the mainland of British Columbia. Just why there should be oaks here and not on the other side of the Gulf puzzled him a good deal. He had been assured by a man who knows the country well, that there is not an oak growing on the mainland of British Columbia, unless it is a young tree lately planted. A few years ago he had obtained from Sir Henry Creswicke about fifty acorns of the English oak. These had been planted and he now had a number of flourishing young trees besides some that he had given away.

Another branch of the subject in which he was much interested was that of pruning. He found the people here very careless in the matter, leaving broken boughs and ragged scars to heal as best they might.

Sir Henri is now preparing an object lesson in root pruning. He has taken up several trees, pruned the roots, and then photographed them. The trees are now planted and next autumn he intends to take up these trees and photograph the result of one year's growth of the pruning. To this carelessness he ascribes the fact that so many trees die in moving. "The root," said he, "is the very life of the tree."

Seeing that I was very much interested in the subject, Sir Henri very

slightest sign of decay. The softer, faster-growing trees would heal much quicker than that.

There were roots of trees too, showing the effect of careful pruning. The cut must be made quite clean, no rough scars or broken parts for each of those is the beginning of decay.

Passing then to the garden, Sir Henri showed me his seedlings, the most interesting being several Australian eucalypts, the evergreen trees for which the Southern Cross continent is noted. In that land it grows to an immense size, and these, though only two years old, were ten feet in height. There were also a large number of the thorny berberis, famous for making hedges. We passed one of these hedges and Sir Henri pointed out the immense difference in growth made by trees transplanted in the proper season and those moved when in leaf. The former were more than double the size of the latter.

It was when passing from the garden that Sir Henri remarked that the caring for these seedling trees in his leisure moments made one of the chief joys of his life.

I have known what the enjoyments and advantages of this life are, and what more refined pleasures which learning and intellectual power can bestow; and with all the experience that more than three score years can give, I now, on the eve of my departure, declare (and earnestly pray that you may hereafter live and act upon the conviction) that health is a great blessing; competence obtained by honorable industry a great blessing; and a great blessing it is to have kind, loving and faithful friends and relatives; but the greatest of all blessings, as it is the noblest of all privileges, is to be a Christian—Coleridge.

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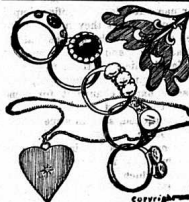
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