

Society Notes.

It is a very delicate business dealing with questions in which the medical, or any other profession, is interested; and the greatest care should be taken not to cast reflections on any particular member of the profession. Professional reputations are very difficult to make, and just as easy to damage, and an outsider should think well before throwing any slur—directly or indirectly—on a man of long experience and well-tested ability. These remarks are for the benefit of "Vagrant" and writers in his style, who certainly have a great deal of common-sense, and put forward sound arguments, but do not consider the extreme unfairness of the language in which their letters are couched, and the harm they may unwittingly do to an individual.

Talking of "Vagrant" in particular, we quite agree with his main argument, and the balance of opinion expressed during the week is on our side. There is no doubt that it would be desirable for one or two doctors to be told off for diphtheria cases alone; and it is especially advisable that ladies' doctors should not attend diphtheria cases, at a crisis like the present one. Nor is it any argument that doctors' families are as a rule healthy; for when a man comes home from an infected house, his wife's common sense, if not his own, would compel him to take his bath and change his clothes before mixing with the children.

A very bright concert was given on Tuesday at the residence of Mrs. J. Y. Payzant, Spring Garden Road, on behalf of the Church Women's Missionary Association. There were songs by Mrs. Kennedy Campbell, Mrs. Nesbitt, Mr. Marshall and Mr. Norman Lee. Mr. W. H. Hill and Rev. W. B. King gave characteristic readings, while an inimitable recitation by Mrs. D. C. Edwards "brought the house down" with peals of laughter. Miss Morrow gave two grand piano solos, and Miss Gladys Tremaine played very sweetly on the violin. The audience was very "smart," and the concert a great success.

There is a "Burn's Anniversary" Concert at the Orpheus Hall to-night, which is likely to draw a large audience, as these national affairs always do: whether the essentially Scottish sport of Curling will prevent many of the men from paying their annual tribute to the great Northern poet is a very open question, and must remain to be seen. The concert is under the patronage of the North British Society, the principal performers being the choir of Chalmer's Church, Mrs. G. S. Campbell, Mrs. J. Cook, Miss Lizzie MacKenzie, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Rainnie, and Mr. Greenlces: commencing at 8 o'clock.

We referred a few weeks ago to a circular left at most of our houses by a Mr. Heber Hartlen, (city contractor), offering to remove our ashes every week through the winter, at the certainly moderate charge of 25 cents per week. We signed our coupon with alacrity, but it has never been called for, nor have we heard anything of the project from that day to this. The result is that more harm than good has been done, people naturally keeping their refuse in stock, till such time as the contractor's carts condescend to call for them. Will Mr. Hartlen kindly explain whether he intends to do anything in the matter, or not?

Rev. John Ambrose, Rector of Digby, who has been in California for his health, is rapidly improving, and hopes to return to Nova Scotia quite strong again.

Progressive euchre is by no means on the wane. A very pleasant party was given by Mrs. Dalziel on Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Murphy, of St. John's, Nfld., has returned to Halifax on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Payne. Miss Mabel Payne, who has also been in St. John's, returned with her sister.

Everyone is sorry to hear of the departure of Major and Mrs. Bagot from this station, so much sooner than was expected. They will sail for England early in February, and few people will be more missed.

The engagement has lately been announced of Miss Emily Wharton, of Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, to Senor de Munoz, of Cuba.

Nothing more sad has happened among us for a long time than the death of Master Charles Rigby, of diphtheria, at the early age of 14. Mrs. Rigby has the sympathy of all classes of the community in her great grief.

Many people will regret to hear of the death of Mr. Alexander Macnab, which took place in Manchester last month. Mr. Macnab was well known in Halifax, though for the last ten years he has lived in London, where his house, at Earl's Court, has been a centre of hospitality for Canadians in England. He married Miss Smith, of Digby, and leaves four children, of whom one is still at school. Mr. Macnab was 53 years of age.

The Court of Appeals at Paris have decided that Mdlle. Adele Hugo, at one time resident in Halifax, is entitled to all the profits arising from the works of her father, Victor Hugo.

At the annual meeting of the Windsor Electric Light Company the other day, it was stated that 800 lights are already in operation, and new dynamos being put in to supply further demand. This looks pretty flourishing for a little place like Windsor.

People should be very careful about the ice in this uncertain sort of weather, especially after a wind-storm. Last Saturday, for instance, there were any amount of people out on the Arm, and yet the ice had disappeared up past Thornvale, and was thoroughly rotten in parts and full of cracks.

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