

CITY CHIMES

The Orpheus Club with Orchestra and Ladies' Auxiliary, assisted by Miss Madeleine Homer and Herr Klingensfeld, gave the fifth concert of the series in Orpheus Hall on Thursday evening of last week. It was largely instrumental, and perhaps may be considered a more popular concert than the recent Mendelssohn evening. The opening "Largo" by the orchestra was well done and the music was sweet; the number by the strings only of the orchestra partook of this quality and was pleasing and restful to the ear. A lengthy symphony called "The Surprise," by Haydn, about which a long explanation was printed on the programme, was the most interesting of the orchestra's performances. It was simple enough to be appreciated by those who do not understand "scientific stuff," while the melody of the subjects was exceedingly gratifying. The Club with Ladies' Auxiliary had only two numbers, but both were good, the second being the "Lullaby of Life," which could be heard more frequently without palling on us. A pleasing variation in the usual list of instrumental performances was Mr. S. Covey's clarinet solo, which was duly appreciated and secured a recall. Mr. Covey was accompanied by the orchestra. Herr Klingensfeld, accompanied by Mrs. Klingensfeld, once more charmed his audience by his violin playing, and was kind enough to respond to the emphatic encore with another selection. Mr. J. Harrison was the only gentleman vocal soloist, and his song, "Big Ben," received an encore, to which he responded with "Celeste," a very fetching composition by Macy and Newcombe. Mr. Harrison should have his fine voice further cultivated before he again essays to sing in the same programme with Miss Homer. That lady capped the climax with her rendering of Gounod's "Canticle" (Queen of Sheba,) and was encored to the echo. She gave in response a touching and tender little English love-song, which was so clearly enunciated that not a word was lost—always a great addition to the pleasure derivable from a song. Her second number, "Mia Picciarella," from Salvador Rosa, by Gomes, also charmed her audience, and Miss Homer was obliged to return twice to bow her acknowledgments to her enthusiastic admirers. As a whole the concert was most successful, but the rather too frequent encores lengthened it out considerably past the usual hour for the national anthem. We are glad to see that our suggestion about opening the doors of the Hall has been acted upon, and that half an hour's wait from door opening to concert is all that is now demanded of us.

The monthly meeting of the Institute of Science was held on Monday evening in the Provincial Museum. Professor MacGregor, Supervisor McKay, Mr. Harry Piers and Superintendent of Education MacKay read interesting and valuable papers.

And now the season of fasting and self-denial is nearly over and on Sunday next will dawn the bright Easter festival. All over the land this week has been especially set apart for religious services, and in the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches of our city services particularly adapted to the time have been held daily and have been largely attended. To-day solemn and appropriate meetings are to be held and the three hours service to be held in some of the churches will be peculiarly impressive. On Sunday next the joyous Easter will be celebrated by choral services, and at the Garrison church the full band of the Leicestershire Regiment will be present and materially assist in the rendition of the anthems and special Easter music.

The Josie Mills Dramatic Company will open a two weeks' engagement at the Academy of Music on Monday evening next. The opening piece is "Dad's Girl," followed during the season by several other popular plays. This company has been drawing good houses in St. John and comes to us well recommended by press and people.

"Our Regiment" is the comedy selected for the W. A. A. C. theatricals, to be put on the Academy boards as soon as possible. This piece was played here by the McDowell Company, and took well with the theatre-going public, who will be glad of an opportunity to again witness it. It is a good comedy, abounds in mirth provoking situations, and will no doubt be ably performed by the ladies and gentlemen to whom the parts have been allotted.

The Epworth League and Christian Endeavor Societies of the city and Dartmouth are to hold a mass meeting this evening in the schoolroom of the Grafton St. Methodist church. Professor Andrews, of Mount Allison University, who is an ardent promoter of the Christian Endeavor movement and who attended the convention in Minneapolis last year, is to address the meeting and will be heard with pleasure by the "Endeavorers" of our city. Rev. D. M. Gordon and others will also speak on this occasion and a good meeting is expected.

The entertainments to be given by St. Mary's Young Men's Society at their hall are announced to take place on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of next week. Professor Zera Semon has kindly offered his services, and his wonderful tricks, royal marionettes, talking figures, etc., make up the first and third parts of the programme. The second is to be made up by specialties by members of the Society and their friends, including songs, clog dancing and a jig dance by a young lady of this city. The proceeds of these entertainments will go towards decreasing the debt on the new building of the Society.

Captain John R. Hire, of the schooner "Lillian," says: "I was suffering with inflammation of the chest, brought on by exposure at sea. Took a good supply of Fattner's Eucalypt which perfectly cured me. It has given me a new set of lungs."

Professor Zera Semon, who is well and favorably known in Halifax as a showman, is now making preparations for an engagement at the Lyceum Theatre to open on Monday the 25th instant. The entertainments will be of a varied character, and the inimitable Zera will again delight and puzzle his patrons with his marvellous feats of skilful wonderworking. The popular magician well knows how to gratify his audiences, and will in all probability be accorded the same extensive patronage that he has met with in the past in our city. Mr. Kelly, who was with Professor Semon last season, is to be stage manager.

Photographs of several groups of students and others at present on exhibition in the windows of Notman's photographic studio are attracting much attention. Several of the classes of Dalhousie College have lately been photographed, and the pictures will no doubt be highly appreciated as souvenirs of the many pleasant days spent at Dalhousie, and as well highly valued by all friends of the students of 1892 who may be fortunate enough to possess one of these mementos. One improvement in the present pictures over those of a few years back is very noticeable. We refer to the large increase in the number of ladies who now grace the scene. Photos of the Dalhousie and Wanderers football teams are also on exhibition. Mr. S. E. Whiston, Principal of the Halifax Business College, his assistant teachers and the pupils of the college, feeling that they too have a pleasant season to be remembered, have taken advantage of the opportunities afforded to obtain a lasting memento, and the bright young men and women who will ere long be fitted for the duties of business life will have in this photograph an effective means wherewith to bring "back to memory, days of long ago" when in the rush and worry incident to business life the days spent at college may be almost forgotten. The idea of being photographed in groups is commendable and is rapidly growing in favor with students attending the schools and colleges of the city.

Rev. Mr. Bond delivered a very interesting lecture in Brunswick St. Church on Tuesday evening. Taking for his subject "The Eye of the East; Damascus and Theroabouts," the lecturer took his audience from Bania (or Caesarea Philippi) over Mount Hermon and into Damascus. Many views were shown of various places visited by Mr. Bond and his fellow traveller, Rev. Mr. McPhail, including a camp on the road to Damascus, Arabs at the tent door, the Druse Village, the street called Straight, (which by the way is now a decidedly crooked path.) Damascus houses, (some of which are simply magnificent,) the Albana, the great mosque and others of equal interest. The lecture was delivered in pleasant conversational style and afforded much pleasure to all present. The next and concluding lecture of the series will have for its subject "Over the Lebanon to the Sea."

The annual dinner of the Halifax Provisional Battalion—to celebrate the departure of the Halifax contingent for the North-West, during the Riel rebellion—took place at the Halifax Hotel on Monday evening, Dr. Tobin, Surgeon of the late Battalion, in the Chair. There were present some twenty survivors of the "bloodless battle of Medicine Hat," including Cola, Bremner and Macdonald, Majors Garrison and Weston, Surgeons Aimon and Tobin, Capts. Mackinlay, Humphrey, Silver, Hechler, King, etc. The dinner, as usual with host Hesselein, was of the best and the wines excellent. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were duly honored, and then with songs and speeches from various members of the force—the three city corps (66th, Garrison Artillery and 63rd) being represented—a pleasant evening was passed. The heroes fought all their battles o'er again, and only separated towards the small hours, determined to meet again next year, with the hope of an equally pleasant reunion. It was suggested and carried, that in future the members should have the privilege of each bringing a guest on these occasions.

April has been treating us rather coldly, almost rudely, of late, and winter garments still prove the most acceptable for protection against the sharp winds. However, the sunshine is growing brighter, the sweet mayflowers are heralding the advance of the flowery season, the birds are tuning up preparatory to the summer's glorious choruses and sweet lullabies, and as

"The sunbeams, lost for half a year,
Slant through the pane their morning rays,
For dry northwestern cold and clear
The east blows in its thin blue haze."

we find it easy to realize that the winter is gone.

The ladies of the Church of England Institute have been employing their leisure hours during the seclusion of the Lenten season in making preparations for a fancy sale to be held on Wednesday and Thursday of Easter week, 20th and 21st inst. The display of useful and fancy articles on this occasion promises to be extensive and varied, and the committee in charge of the refreshment department will doubtless succeed fully in their efforts to furnish a bill of fare that will prove too tempting to be resisted by those who favor them with a call. Afternoon tea will be served in the parlors of the Institute and short concerts given there during the evenings. This bazaar will surely afford a favorable opportunity for the ladies to secure many pretty nick-nacks so much desired after Spring renovating and at the same time assist in advancing a worthy object.

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