

## CITY CHIMES.

The Zeffie Tilbury Company have established themselves as favorites with Halifax theatregoers. The Irish drama, "Eileen Oge," drew large audiences on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, and the military drama, "Peace and War," by Messrs. Wood and Marshall, of the West Riding regiment, which is being produced with a detachment of troops from the regiment and a full military band, is sure to be liked in Halifax. "Peace and War" will be given to night and to-morrow evening, and "Eileen Oge" will be given at the prize matinee to-morrow afternoon.

The sixth and last of the Orpheus Club's subscription concerts for this season took place at Orpheus Hall on Tuesday evening. The programme was a long and varied one, including selections by the string orchestra from the Hayden Club, choruses by the Club and Ladies' Auxiliary and four solos, altogether a fitting desert to finish the feast of music given us by the Orpheus Club during the past winter and spring. The Club, with Ladies' Auxiliary, gave six numbers, in one of which, No. 3, "How Excellent is Thy Loving Kindness," Dr. Slayter sang the solo, giving it in first rate style, the Club and Ladies' Auxiliary also being heard to advantage in this selection. The other choruses were all good, the selections from "Ruth" being particularly fine. The Ladies' Auxiliary sang "Pit, Pat, Pit, Pat" very sweetly, and were called upon to repeat, which they kindly did. The instrumental music by the string orchestra from the Hayden Club was rendered splendidly. The opening piece, "March from suite in D," was very sweet, and No. 12, a waltz, "Morning News," so delighted the audience that an enthusiastic *encore* was secured and responded to. Many people would have preferred having more instrumental music, but the variety given on Tuesday evening should be sufficient to satisfy anyone. Miss Gussie Taylor's song, "Danz delle Memorie," was very sweetly rendered, and received an *encore*, which was responded to with "Marguerite," a pathetic song, which she gave with much feeling. Mrs. J. Mc. D. Taylor's rendering of "Tears" was exquisite, and she responded to the richly deserved *encore* with that sweet little song, "As the Apple grows on the Apple Tree." Miss Agnes Burns made her *debut* as a soloist at Orpheus concerts, and rendered "Mignon's Song" artistically, but she was evidently nervous. Miss Burns' fine voice will doubtless be heard to better advantage when she makes her next appearance. Mr. D. C. Gillis' song, "Only Once More," was very good, and received an *encore*, to which he responded with "Marguerite," which was not so pretty as Miss Taylor's "Marguerite," and consequently suffered by comparison. Much praise is due Mr. Porter, the enthusiastic and painstaking conductor, and Mr. T. J. Payne, accompanist, for their successful work, and to Herr Klingensfeld, conductor of the Hayden Club, whose sweet music is so much appreciated by Orpheus Club audiences. Two things—not on the programme—occurred which were not appreciated. The heat was excessive, for which no one is specially to blame, and the Gas Company's electric lights went out, for which some one ought to be responsible. Just as the ladies and gentlemen were singing "From the Rising of the Sun" the lights lit up for a little while, but they soon went out again. The friendly gas gave enough light for the performers to read their music by, but something should be done to keep those electric lights in better order.

The addresses by Miss Williard in Halifax on Saturday and Sunday drew immense crowds, the audiences overflowing into the street. Miss Williard is a splendid speaker, and held the attention of her hearers from first to last. Miss Gordon addressed a large gathering of Sunday school children in the Academy of Music on Sunday afternoon. It is to be hoped that their visit to Halifax may do much good.

Next Friday and Saturday Frank A. Robbins' twelve big united shows will visit Halifax, and the boys and girls will go, and their parents will go to look after them, though of course they do not care a bit about it themselves. It is wonderful what a number of people are willing to sacrifice themselves for the sake of the children when a circus is the attraction. The coming one is said to be the best possible, and bigger than anything ever seen before. We hope you will all enjoy it, for of course you will go, everyone does, and circuses never seem to lose their charm.

To-morrow is our natal day, but the celebration of the event is postponed until Monday, as that is considered a more convenient day for a public holiday. The first concert of the season will take place in the Public Gardens on the evening of Monday. We hope it will be fine, and that many people will be able to enjoy the music, which will be furnished by the band of the West Riding regiment and St. Patrick's band. Refreshments will be obtainable, so those who attend the concert will not faint by the way. Halifax should look its best on its 141st birthday, at any rate the Public Gardens are something to be proud of, even if the market is a perfect sight on Saturday mornings.

We have actually had some warm weather this week, which is something to be thankful for. Under the sun's genial influence the small boy has been indulging in "hokey-pokey," and "grown-ups" refresh themselves with ice-cream or soda-water at Mitchell's and Teas. So it begins to feel like summer, and it is to be hoped that the weather will continue to be fine and warm, for cold winds and grey skies are as unnatural as they are uncomfortable at this time of year, at least the cold winds are uncomfortable, if not the grey skies.

## COMMERCIAL.

The last week has been without feature, and nothing has occurred to

break or interrupt the generally prevailing dullness. Business is moving along in a very quiet way. Everyone has now to admit that on the whole the conditions are not so satisfactory as could be desired. It is in fact more than ever apparent that the consumer is providing for his necessities only and nothing else. This is evidenced by the nature of passing operations, for it is only in groceries and breadstuffs which cannot be dispensed with or in lines that are requisite for manufacturing purposes, such as iron, etc., that normal business is passing. This very plainly indicates the position of the consumer, while reports concerning the dry goods trade lend strong endorsement to the view above outlined. Even if there was any great desire to place orders, considerable discretion would have to be exercised about filling these, when reports of the condition of things in the country are considered. They can hardly be regarded as in any sense satisfactory. The unusually unfavorable weather throughout the spring has seriously retarded the growth of the crops, and accentuates the reports which we receive as to their condition. In consequence of this uncertainty regarding the growing crops, an unsettled feeling prevails, while payments are away behind the average for the month. This is true not only of Nova Scotia but of every province in the Dominion of Canada this side of the Rockies. From British Columbia we have no direct reports but her crops do not amount to much. A gentleman who has just returned from an extended tour through Cape Breton Island, Antigonish County, etc., reports that in nearly all sections the grass, which should by this time be ready for cutting, is scarcely a span high and would not make hay at present. There seems to be a strong probability that the hay crop will be very small this season. In the western fruit-growing counties the prospects for a very large crop of both large and small fruits are excellent, but it is feared that the severe night frosts that have occurred in the last two or three weeks may have had an injurious effect. There is this unpleasant fact also, compared with other seasons, that farmers are generally sold out of their stocks of grain, etc., and that, consequently, they have no reserves to fall back on. This but adds to the tightness of the situation. In fact the conditions induce every one—both buyers and sellers—to get along with as little as possible. The weather this week has taken a more favorable turn, which will doubtless cause an improvement in crop prospects and bring about the state of activity in trade so anxiously looked for.

Bradstreet's rep. of the week's failures:—

	Week	Weeks	Weeks	Weeks	Failures for the year to date.
	June 13, week.	corresponding to	June 13, week.	corresponding to	
United States	1890 1890	1880 1888	1887	1890 1889 1888 1887	
Canada	140 175	115 212	116	5091 5410 4871 4785	
	18 27	21 28	12	825 817 853 594	

**DRY GOODS.**—In this branch business continues quiet with the same spirit actuating jobbers as formerly. They all complain of small orders for fall goods, but seem at the same time determined not to rush things while the situation in the country remains as at present. Just now there is only about enough doing to keep the machinery of business in motion. Payments for the month are, contrary to precedent, very poor, and customers say that they are unable to make collections, owing to the fact that farmers have neither reserve stocks of produce nor the funds to call upon. Renewals according to all accounts are numerous. As to prices both cotton and woollen goods show remarkable firmness, no signs of weakening being exhibited in any quarter.

**IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.**—While this line has been without any feature worthy of special mention business has moved along with the usual amount of activity since our last report. The tone is about steady, and though some shading might be and has been done on lots for future delivery, it is unlikely that any great concessions would be made on lots out of store; But little has been doing in bar iron and other lines and buyers continue more or less reluctant. Still a fair amount of business has transpired. Tin-plates are a strong feature abroad, although no change has occurred here on spot in prices. Owing to large purchases on American account—fully 1,000,000 boxes—the market in Great Britain is firm with stocks comparatively light. Private advices say that for the last four or five weeks the market was distinctly firm, and that those who imagine that they can secure more favorable terms by holding off are liable to disappointment. Canada plates are steady with a little more enquiry. Ingot tin and copper are firm at the recent advance. In hardware a very quiet trade is reported in shelf goods, some dealers reporting it the dullest ever remembered.

**BREADSTUFFS.**—Flour here remains quiet and dull, the firm tone of holders being unchanged. There is just about enough business doing to prevent friction. Beerbohm's cable reports:—"Cargoes off coast, wheat quieter; corn do.; do. on passage and for shipment; wheat slow, corn firmer; the coast is being rapidly cleared of cargoes. Liverpool spot wheat rather easier; weather in England unsettled." Wheat was firmer in New York, advancing about 1c. Corn and oats were unchanged there. Wheat opened firmer with the local crowd inclined to operate for an up turn. An article in the *Price Current*, estimating crop at 415,000,000 bushels, was based on the Government report, but it was considered bullish and influenced some local buying.

**PROVISIONS.**—The local provision market continues quiet and dull, trading being restricted to very small lots needed for immediate consumptive demands. At Liverpool pork declined 3d. The prices of lard, bacon and tallow were without change. In Chicago hogs were stronger. The cattle market there was lower.

**BUTTER** is steady on the whole, but there is nothing of importance doing. Now and then some sale is heard of, but it is at long intervals, the trade being of a purely jobbing character.

**CHEESE.**—There has been little doing in spot, as the trade is waiting to learn how Western Ontario will turn out, but little cheese here is open to negotiation. The feeling is firm, with holders as a rule actuated by the bullish feeling that has characterized them all the week. However, although