

CITY CHIMES.

The Board of Governors of the Ladies College have issued a circular to be sent to patrons residing outside the city. It states that extensive alterations in the drainage and sanitary conditions of the college building are being made from plans and specifications drawn out by Mr. Richard P. Flemming, a distinguished Scottish sanitary engineer, from Montreal, who will examine the work when done and give a certificate. The college opens again in September, and we trust will have its usual number of fair daughters in attendance.

The Parlor Museo continues to hold receptions every afternoon and evening. Large crowds are flocking to behold the wonders, and Mr. Somerby seems to be meeting with his usual success.

The Harkins' Fifth Avenue Company, notwithstanding the unfavorable weather, has been drawing good houses ever since their opening at the Academy of Music. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of this week they gave "Saints and Sinners," an intensely interesting melodrama of the highest type in which Miss Percy Haswell, Mr. Harkins and Mr. Bland took the most prominent parts. Miss Haswell as "Lotty Fletcher," daughter of the old village preacher, was simply charming. Her acting is exceedingly graceful, her voice very sweet and well cultivated, and she seemed to carry the sympathies of the audience with her from the first to the close. Mr. Harkins as "Ralph Kingsmill," the young farmer and Lotty's lover, was very effective and took well with the audience. In the part of "Jacob Fletcher," the village parson, Mr. Lionel Bland was grand, and his characterization of the old man was very cleverly given. An enthusiastic curtain call was accorded Miss Haswell and Mr. Bland at the close of the fourth act. The remainder of the cast was fully up to the standard of this well known company. Last night and this evening "Sealed Instructions" is on, and to-morrow evening the great Russian drama "Lorine" will be given, when Miss Julia Arthur will have a testimonial benefit. Doubtless the last performance of this unusually good all-round company will attract an immense audience. Miss Haswell has made many friends among our theatre goers and Miss Arthur has added a large number to her already lengthy list of admirers. Altogether the Harkins Company is one of the best Halifax has been favored with.

Wednesday was Dominion Day, and the excursions were well patronized. Both I. C. R. and W. & A. morning trains carried a large number of pleasure seekers out of town, and the steamer *Bridgewater* took about 200 to Bridgewater. The Socials and Mutuals played on the Wanderers' Grounds in the afternoon, resulting in victory for the Mutuals. Chabucto and Wanderers also played at 3 30 p. m. on Chabucto's Grounds, Wanderers coming out ahead.

The gates for the grand entrance of the Public Gardens are to be placed in position in a few days. They are of cast iron, very fancy, and will be quite an addition to our already beautiful gardens, which just now are looking fine.

At last the much-longed for, sadly needed extension of the Street Railway is no more a myth, and the patient citizens of our northern and western suburbs, who are watching with interest the progress of the work of laying the rails, will begin to believe that all things do come to those who wait—if they only wait long enough. The branch line will join the trunk line on Barrington street at St. Paul's hill, and run through Argyle, Buckingham, Brunswick, Cogswell, Gottingen and Cunard streets, as far as Windsor street. It has not yet been decided whether the line will run along Windsor to North street to complete the circuit at the corner of Agricola to Cunard streets, or whether the cars will be taken out Chabucto road as far as the riding ground. The Company hope to have all in running order before September 1st, in time for the traffic of Exhibition week, when business will be rushing. The cars used on the branch are to be different in color from those in use on the main line, which is a good idea, and will save many awkward mistakes being made. What with street cars and cabs, life to those on top of the hills will indeed be worth living.

Every outdoor amusement has been postponed on account of the weather—yacht race, promenade concert, tennis parties—have all been off, very much off.

About the weather perhaps the least said the better. If it is true that variety is the spice of life, Halifaxians ought to be well seasoned this summer. We have had a few delightful June days, when "all nature seemed to wear one universal grin," and the girls looked their prettiest in light summer frocks, the gentlemen donned straw hats, and we all thought "summer was coming along with a bounding pace, to finish the work that spring begun;" but to use a wee bit of slang—pardon us—we got left and the weather we have had for the past week or two brings to mind the story of the little American girl, who wondered when they had a weather bureau at Washington they didn't oftener pull out the drawer with fine weather in it. But we've always been taught 'twas wicked to grumble at the weather, so as we paddle around in rubber boots, waterproofs, and armed with umbrellas on every occasion, we must make the best of it, "feeling that the order of nature doth this way tend, whatever was begun must have an end," and the fine summer days are surely coming.

The annual exercises of Mount St. Vincent Academy took place on Tuesday afternoon in the presence of a large number of guests. The Pro-

gramme, consisting of music, vocal and instrumental, the beautiful poem Lallah Rookh, dramatised by one of the teachers, and well brought out by the young ladies, and two essays which were both excellent, proved very interesting. Prizes and premiums were presented by his Grace the Archbishop, who afterwards addressed the pupils, and congratulated the teachers on the success attending the work of the year. Interesting addresses were also made by the Attorney General and Stipendiary Motton. There were no graduates this year.

Have any of our Halifax girls the rage for souvenir spoons, or has it hardly yet got a hold in our quiet little city. The American girls have "got it bad," and jewellers are making quite a "spec" of it. A great deal of ingenuity as well as historical information is being exercised in the designing of these spoons, and a collection of them will be exceedingly interesting as well as valuable. Just a brief description of one or two of these novelties: The design of the "George Washington spoon" consists of a finely modeled bust of the Father of his country, which is a faithful copy of the Houdin Mask. The bowl is etched with a fine representation of Mount Vernon in low relief, leaving space to etch the name of any desired locality. The "Brooklyn Historical spoon" is a very cleverly designed specimen. The aim has been to select familiar objects, the old in contrast to the new. On one side of the handle is a representation of Fulton Ferry of 1746, while the other side has the Brooklyn Bridge as opened to the public in 1883. In producing a souvenir spoon to represent all America, the first American—the red man—is appropriately chosen as a model. The handle is of an original outline; on the upper portion of the obverse side is a fine relief model of the bust of a characteristic Indian; below is a representation of Indian corn. On the reverse side of the handle is a group composed of a tomahawk, bow and quiver, above which are two pipes of peace. We might go on, but the number of different styles of these fashionable articles is almost endless. Some of our city jewellers are showing very dainty little spoons as souvenirs of Halifax, which make a unique and acceptable gift for our friends who visit us this summer to carry away as a memento of pleasant days spent in our midst.

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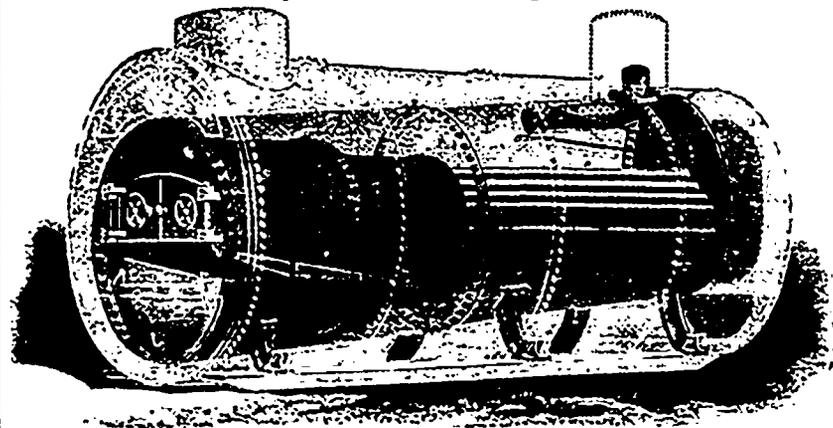
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