

CITY CHIMES.

COOL AND CHARMING.—While our friends over the border are simply existing through the hot weather of Boston, New York, Chicago and other United States cities, we in Halifax are enjoying a most delightfully cool summer, and find it hard to realize what "100 in the shade" that our correspondents tell us of means. Hot is but a nickname for such weather, and we may well bless our lucky stars that we were not called upon to endure such a "sizzard," as an American exchange terms the hot wave. The Bostonians and New Yorkers who are visiting "the Provinces" are loud in their praises of our climate, and will no doubt do their part in advertising Halifax as an ideal summer city.

THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVORERS.—As I predicted last week the city has been taken possession of this week by the Christian Endeavor Society. Everywhere one turned on the street he met young people wearing badges. The invasion began on Monday and all the incoming trains during that evening and Tuesday brought large delegations, while numbers came by the *Bridgewater*, *Lunenburg* and *City of Ghent*. Altogether, between four and five hundred Christian Endeavorers from nearly every city, town and village in the Maritime Provinces have visited Halifax this week. The strangers received a splendid reception from the Halifax Local Union, and have been most hospitably entertained by our citizens, and if their sojourn here has not proved pleasant and profitable no reflection can fall upon Halifaxians. The meetings, which began on Tuesday afternoon and closed last evening with a memorable consecration service, were very interesting and well conducted, and I venture to state that a large number of people, who have in the past treated the C. E. movement with utter indifference or regarded it with unkindly feeling, have had their interest awakened and their opinions changed. Certain it is that the aims and methods of the Society are better understood than they have been before, and the young people of Halifax and Dartmouth who proudly wear the magic letters C. E. will find many hard places in their work made easier. Happiness, earnestness and sincerity appear to be characteristics of the Endeavorers, and the Society has completely put to rout the idea entertained by many people that young Christians are necessarily serious-faced, puritanical and generally tiresome. St. Matthew's Church, the meeting place, was very tastefully decorated for the occasion, and the meetings were largely attended. The Convention Committees of the Local Union deserve great credit for the systematic thoroughness with which they performed their work, and have received as their reward the assurance of the success of the gathering.

SIDE BY SIDE.—The Christian Endeavorers pouring into St. Matthew's Church, and the theatre-goers into the Academy of Music made the scene at the foot of Spring Garden Road an unusually bustling one on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings of this week. It seemed sometimes as though the crowd would get mixed, but the Endeavorers feel quite sure that none of their number occupied Academy seats. It is almost as assured that few, if any, of Mr. Clarke's patrons found their way into St. Matthew's Church.

AT LAST A PLACE TO BATHE.—"Nova Brighton Beach" appears to be an established fact and no longer a myth. Sometime ago it was announced that a number of summer cottages were to be erected at McNab's Island, and the villa to be called Nova Brighton. However, nothing more was heard of it in the city, until a few weeks ago it was given out that bathing apparatus, houses, etc., had been erected, and the public was invited to go and see for themselves the attractions of the place. Now, I no longer see an "ad" in the dailies which states that regular boats will leave the Esplanade, commencing last Saturday morning at 6:30 and 9 a. m., 2, 4 and 7 p. m., and as frequently afterwards as bathers may require. The trip with bath at Nova Brighton costs but 25 cents, and the beach is a lovely spot, well worthy a visit. The summer cottages are to be erected as demand requires, and it looks now as though the Island had a bright future in store as a summer outing ground. In hopes that Nova Brighton will prove an additional attraction to our already attractive city, I gladly give it this free advertising.

WANDERER'S "AT HOME."—The W. A. A. C. have spared neither time or expense in their efforts to royally entertain their friends at their grounds to-morrow afternoon, and if the weather proves favorable there is no doubt the anticipations of those who have been honored with invitations will be fully realized. A well-filled programme has been arranged, consisting of cricket and lacrosse matches, tennis, bowling and other sports, and the entertainment promises to be one of unusual interest.

ST. MARY'S FAIR.—St. Mary's Fair opened on Monday evening with a large attendance and well-filled tables. The attendance has continued good and the attractions of the Fair are very numerous. The promoters who have worked so faithfully for this Fair have been beautifully rewarded by success.

THE ACADEMY.—The Thos. E. Shea Company has been well patronized this week. The plays put on are sensational in character, which quality takes with a large number of people, and are well performed. Mr. Shea is himself a good actor, and is well supported by the members of his company. "Mixed Up" is on this evening.

NEXT WEEK'S ENTERTAINMENT.—The complimentary benefit to be tendered to Miss F. A. Grant at Orpheus Hall on Tuesday evening next is being looked forward to with pleasurable anticipation. Two comediettes with vocal and instrumental music make up an interesting programme.

A COMING SHOW.—Posters are up announcing the coming of "Pawnee Bill's Wild West Show." The very name possesses an irresistible fascination for the small boys, and dozens of them have studied the brilliant pictures on the walls attentively. No doubt when Pawnee Bill's show arrives it will be greeted by good houses, its fame having preceded it.

THE MASONIC FAIR.—The Exhibition Building is once more undergoing a transformation, and is being turned into a most enchanting place. The Grand Masonic Fair opens there on the 14th, and preparations are being rapidly pushed forward. Mr. Greenwood has his company of young ladies pretty well drilled for the march. The living wheat party is also under training, and all promises to come off with great eclat. The ladies in charge of the booths have everything in readiness, and all that is now needed is a few finishing touches, which cannot be added until just previous to the opening of the Fair.

THINGS NOT AS THEY SHOULD BE.—It must be a thoughtless citizen who can hear of the robberies which have recently been committed in the city by a gang of boys ranging from 12 to 14 years of age, and remain indifferent to the state of affairs which is responsible for such youthful depravity. It is deplorable indeed that our city should have so many rough boys among its population, although it must not be inferred that the bad boys of Halifax are one whit worse or more numerous than those in cities of equal size elsewhere. Yet it is an undisputed fact that we have far too large a proportion of young toughs. Why is it so? Allowing for a certain amount of inherited evil in the characters, and of unfavorable home environment of a certain class of young Halifaxians, there are many evils which could be prevented. With our public schools every boy and girl in Halifax who enjoys average good health, should at the age of 12 years know how to read and write. Yet it is a fact that there are boys, numbers of them, who have neither of these accomplishments, and who are neither working or attending school. Without laying any blame on anyone, it must be admitted that this is not as it should be. The true saying that "Satan finds some mischief still for idle hands to do," may be repeated just as frequently by the school teachers of to-day as it was a generation ago, but these youths are not in the schools to hear it. If one truant officer cannot look after the truants we must have two, and if the work is too much for two we must have more; it is absolutely necessary that the boys of Halifax receive a school training. Otherwise youthful criminals and street loafers will develop into hardened criminals and worthless citizens, and for such Halifax has no use. If every one who knows of children not attending school who should be there, would report to the proper authorities, the work of hunting out the truants would be much easier, and perhaps the compulsory school law would be more effectively carried out in the city. School training is but one method by which the bad boys of Halifax may be transformed into good citizens, but it is a most important one. CHIPS.

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