

CITY CHIMES.

The ball to be given at the Bedford Hotel, Bedford, by Mr. and Mrs. Morrison and their guests this evening, gives promise of being a brilliant affair. Many from Halifax, including the elite of the city, have been invited, and a special train, leaving North St. depot at eight o'clock, will convey the guests to the scene of the festivities. This hotel is situated at the head of the beautiful Bedford Basin, and has entertained a large number of the great four hundred during the summer. The proprietor, Mr. Morrison, deserves much credit for the admirable way this summer resort is managed, and the excellent accommodation he provides for all who wish to rusticate in this delightful suburb of the city by the sea. The refreshing air at Bedford is a good tonic for all who need an invigorating change, and the little town's popularity is now well assured.

Not for many a day has the old Lyceum Hall held such crowded, enthusiastic, interested and well pleased audiences, as Zera Semon, the old favorite, has been attracting every evening during the past two weeks. His list of miraculous wonders, fascinating conjurations, and marvels of ventriloquism seems to be almost endless, and old as well as young have been completely mystified by the wonderful acts of this wonderful man. Magic always exerts a perfect charm, and Zera Semon may be assured of a successful season whenever he visits Halifax.

"School is begun, so come every one, etc.," is the refrain that rang in the ears of the boys and girls on Monday morning, when they were forced to realize the fact that the long looked forward to, eagerly planned for vacation of 1891 was now a thing of the past and only a memory, though we trust a pleasant one. The public Schools have now fairly begun work for the coming year, and we do not doubt that teachers and scholars have alike profited by the rest they have enjoyed. This week also we have to welcome some of the busy band of students who make our city their winter quarters. The Law School opened on Tuesday, with a goodly number in attendance, 11 taking the preliminary examinations, 3 the intermediate, and 19 the final. In about two weeks Dalhousie proper will open, and then we will gladly greet "the other boys," many familiar faces and many new ones, but all very welcome in our midst. The presence of Dalhousie University, with its troops of merry students, in Halifax adds not a little to the interest taken in the solid old city, and, notwithstanding the numerous and vigorous protests of the young men of Halifax, the students seem to gain ground with the young ladies just the same. Of course the city boys are jealous, but they have to take their chances, and remember they have four months of each year ahead of the jolly good fellows who come from other places. Next week the County Academy will reopen. This institution is rapidly growing and widening its sphere of usefulness, and is now a first class High School, each year contributing its fair proportion of graduates to the higher seats of learning. The educational institutions of Halifax leave nothing to be desired, and few cities of our size and population afford such excellent opportunities for the ambitious student. Girls have equal rights with the boys, and all who have sufficient push may gain a liberal education at a comparatively small cost. The Ladies' College, completely renovated, and with a full and competent staff of teachers, re-opens on Wednesday next, and we sincerely hope the unfortunate circumstances of last spring will not affect the coming term. The School for the Blind, Cambridge House, Convent of Sacred Heart, and other like schools have fallen into marching order, and the busy brains of the seekers for wisdom are fairly at work once more, after the season of "running wild from books and teachers."

Among other school matter, we notice with pleasure that a Kindergarten department has been added to the Alexandra school, under the charge of Mrs. S. Harriman, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Besides teaching the Kindergarten, Mrs. Harriman will train young ladies for the work—work which has a recognized standing, and is a splendid branch of teaching for anyone possessing the necessary qualifications to take it up.

The game of baseball on Saturday last on the Wanderers' grounds between the Wanderers and Crescents was looked forward to with much interest, especially by friends of the latter club. The boys of the red and gray were defeated but not crushingly, the score being 9 to 7. Next Saturday afternoon they expect to play a return game on the Royal Blue's grounds. The game of the Amateur League series on Saturday between the Metas and Clippers resulted in the Metas carrying off the palm.

A merry crowd met around one of the bountifully spread tables of the Halifax Hotel on Monday evening, the occasion being the eve of Dr. Cameron's marriage, when about twenty-five of his gentlemen friends joined in wishing him and his prospective bride many years of happiness. An address expressing the good wishes of the party, accompanied by a magnificent silver service, was presented to the jovial Doctor who has made himself so popular in our city, and amid song and speeches the pleasant evening sped away.

Now that the schools are open again, it is a pretty sight to see the children coming out after the day's lessons are over, so full of life and fun, and glad to be free to play. A few days ago we saw a procession of little girls, two and two, hand-in-hand, coming down the hill in front of St. Mary's Cathedral, looking as pretty as pictures, as the saying is. It is enough to make the features of the most hardened pessimist relax into a genial smile to see these little blessings looking so happy.

Miss Laine's position in the Ladies College is to be filled by Miss Madeline Homer of New York, a young lady spoken of in high terms of praise as a vocalist. Miss Homer was a pupil of Madame Varlott Garcia of Paris and is said to possess a soprano voice of splendid dramatic power. It is rather questionable taste to herald the young lady's personal appearance, but as our contemporaries have contained paragraphs signifying that Miss Homer is very pretty and attractive, we can only congratulate ourselves on the fact. It is so seldom that nature bestows the gifts of music and beauty upon one person that usually people are quite content with one who possesses either in a marked degree. The combination is very charming and satisfactory to contemplate.

At last! at last! From tender years it has been the dream of all Halifaxians who make their homes in the north and west end of the city that "some sweet day bye and-bye" the horse cars would run up the hills instead of landing Northenders at the foot of the mountain. Only those who for years have bent their backs to the task of climbing the almost perpendicular ascent to the high places of this hilly city can appreciate the luxury of leaving their burden at the bottom of the hill when they step into the car bound for Cunard and Robie Streets. The formal opening of the new branch of the Halifax Street Railway Company took place on Tuesday afternoon at 3.30 o'clock. Two cars, each drawn by four horses, left the City Hall and made the round trip, carrying members of the Company, aldermen and a few prominent citizens who are interested in the advancement of the road. The whole party were driven to the office of the Company at Richmond, where refreshments were served and speeches made by Attorney-General Longley and others, in which the enterprise of the Company was highly commended and hearty wishes for success expressed. The Northend cars are all closed ones, painted blue and yellow, and are very comfortable. So far this week they have been running every fifteen minutes from the head of St. Paul's hill and have been well patronized. We think a little different arrangement will have to be made in order that transfer tickets may be obtained by passengers wishing to go either north or south on the main line after leaving the branch cars, but in all probability such arrangements will follow the successful opening of this new departure.

Saturday afternoon did not look very promising for the sports, when at two o'clock the rain came down in torrents, but before long the clouds dispersed, the sun shone out brightly, and the day, as far as the weather was concerned proved all that the most fastidious could desire. A large and fashionable crowd gathered at the Riding Grounds to witness the long talked of Gymkhana. The ladies appeared to be fully as much interested as the gentlemen in the results of the different events, and were out in full force. Each race was well contested, and the whole entertainment well carried out, the spectators being delighted with the afternoon's sport. Much credit is due the judges, Col. Ryan, R. A., and Lieut.-Col. Hill, R. E., and also Major Reader, the starter, for the admirable way their duties were performed, and the ease which characterized the whole proceedings. The band of the Leicestershire Regiment furnished the music in their usual excellent style, and the American visitors who were present were loud in commendation of "our band."

The races at the Riding Grounds will also prove a great attraction on September 30th and October 1st.

The Lorne Aquatic Club sports will be held on Saturday the 12th in front of the club house grounds.

As usual, that current topic, the weather, has been extensively discussed during the past week. Saturday was unbearably hot, but Sunday ushered in a week of weather that evidently got misplaced from the first of next month to this. Cold? well, rather! Many parlors had cheerful fires blazing in the grates, the wearers of thin blouses felt chilly, and jackets were buttoned as closely as if it were well on in the autumn. Not at all likely it will last (this chilly breath of autumn is not appreciated by many), but we have to meekly submit and murmur not. Propitious weather for the dry goods firms to open fall goods, much more interest being manifested during this state of temperature than last week, when the very thought of a heavy garment made one feel warm. The rain clouds have been very much in evidence, and it is hardly safe to venture out in best bib and tucker, unless a waterproof and umbrella complete the costume; in fact, a good rainy weather outfit is about the most serviceable costume one can possess. We have certainly had in the weather line this week what the pedlar would call "a great variety of various articles."

We are drawing near exhibition time and entries for the fair are coming in at a brisk rate. The city will be filled with attractions for exhibition week, and of course private parties will do their utmost to make it pleasant for the numbers of visitors who will surely arrive. A grand concert, and a display of fire works will be given in the Public Gardens on September 30th, which will be a great attraction. Fire works always prove alluring, especially to the younger people. The island in the large pond is the best place for setting off fireworks, as people cannot then crowd too close and many more get an opportunity to see than would otherwise be the case.

Either we have had immense crowds of visitors in our land this summer, or else large numbers of our own people are stepping over the borders. The passenger lists every week of the Canada Atlantic and the Boston, Halifax and P. E. I. lines are exceptionally long ones, not to mention the hundreds who are patronizing the other routes of travel.