

will preside at the organ at St. Luke's on Sunday morning for the first time. We extend to Mr. and Mrs. Porter and family a cordial welcome.

We are all glad to see Mrs. and Miss Daly back again, and to hear that Miss Daly is much stronger and better for the change. Any fears that may have been entertained as to the state of her health are quite dispelled by the latest reports of her medical attendants.

With reference to the Preeper controversy, we are glad to see that "Justice" is adopting an independent line. It would be wasting breath and possibly damaging a good cause to commence trying to persuade a writer who makes false statements with a view to turning the tide of public opinion, now almost entirely in sympathy with Preeper. "Justice" and the friends of justice are working quietly but surely, and there is little doubt of their accomplishing their object eventually.

Mr. J. C. Lithgow of the Peoples' Bank, now stationed at Lunenburg, came up on Friday to attend the 66th P. L. F., "smoker," and to meet the *S. S. Alpha*, which brought his cousins from Jamaica. He has since gone back to the little town that has been at loggerheads recently over the unsusceptibility of the hearts of its six Bank Clerks.

We hear that the XIX Club, a body of very young gentlemen who gave a very successful dance at Maplewood last August intend to promote another shortly.

Mr. Gordon Cowie is making visits to Truro, New Glasgow, and other towns in the province.

Mrs. Walter Brookfield was "at home" on Saturday afternoon to a large number of her friends. The commodious room of the pretty house on Inglis street was thronged with guests, the refreshments being looked after by Street. Amongst those present we noticed Mrs. F. W. Bullock, Mrs. C. Stabbing, Mrs. B. W. Chipman, Mrs. Cowie, Mrs. W. Doull, Miss Annie Anderson, Miss Coleman, Miss Oxley, Miss Stabbing, Miss Piers, Miss Lawson, Miss Weir, Miss Baker, Miss Chipman, Miss Ida Mitchell, Mr. Harvey Crowell, Mr. Aubrey Crowe, Mr. Cornish, Mr. Jas. King, Mr. D. Henderson, Mr. H. Thompson, and many others.

A bazaar was held by the children staying at the Bedford hotel last Friday in aid of All Saints Church, Bedford, when a very tidy sum was realized. Among the purchasers we noticed Rev W B King, who stopped over on his way to Amherst.

Mr. Morrison, in a letter published in Tuesday's *Echo*, points out a real abuse in the Railway arrangements. We would like to add a word or two from personal experience. Sometime ago, we were leaving Halifax by the early morning train, with a certain amount of baggage. Arrived at the station, we found the ticket office not yet open, so we tried to get checks for the baggage and get it on the cars in time. The attempt was useless, as the official in charge absolutely refused to check the baggage before seeing the tickets. This was all right enough, but when at last the office opened, and we secured tickets, and simply rushed across to the checking place, we were calmly told that it was quite impossible to get the trunks on in time, and that we had better look sharp, or else we should be left behind too. And in fact we had to make a clear bolt to get on board at all; and had the satisfaction of waiting a whole day at Annapolis for our bags, before going on any further. We seriously intended to sue the Company for damages, but after a few weeks absence cooled down a bit. However, Mr. Morrison's letter recalls this very unpleasant experience, and we agree most heartily that the present arrangement is simply abominable.

Miss Laine's *last* rehearsal will be held at the Orpheus Hall on 28th inst.—It is to be hoped that the public will turn out in force and so show their appreciation of this lady's efforts for the music lovers of Halifax.

Mrs. Donald Keith of Inglis street, had a large tea, followed by a small dance in the evening, on Tuesday.

After three weeks of continuous dry weather, at last rain fell on Wednesday. The country will be greatly freshened thereby.

Mr. Frank Hope is stationed at the Winnipeg Branch of the Bank of British North America.

Mr. Thos. Fyshe leaves for England and Germany in June. He expects to remain abroad some time. Mr. H. McLeod of Minnerapolis, will act as cashier of the Bank of Nova Scotia.

Master A. E. Jubien on his arrival from Porto Rico, week was entertained by a surprise party, which he afterwards had great pleasure in entertaining.

The Inaugural Reception at the School for the Blind on Monday last was a conspicuous success. A glance around the crowded rooms recalled to mind very forcibly some reflections we have made from time to time on the true "aristocracy" of a colonial—or any other—city. The company present at the Reception was the *best* we have ever seen mustered together in Halifax. The church, the army, the legislature, the bar, and other professions were strongly represented, medicine and the navy being weakest. The leading merchants were in great force, and ladies representing many sections of our society. It is a significant fact that a charitable institution should gather within its walls more of the "aristocracy" than are seen at any of the large society functions though it is only natural, and confirms what we have said before. The education of the blind is a subject that appeals to all classes of thinking men and women. To watch them work and to hear them sing, to notice with what skill their four senses have been trained to do duty for five, is sufficiently interesting to all who take a deep interest in human nature.

The choir and band gave evidence of long and careful training, and evidently find recreation and amusement in their musical studies. Among the most interesting numbers on the programme, the "Cuckoo Song" by little Adelaide Saunders, and "The Pilot" by Mrs. Chisholm and Reed came first. The kindergarten music, too, was excellent. This system of teaching seems to succeed before all others in exciting the interest of young children, and it is evidently well adapted for the blind.

Speeches were made by Mr. Silver, the Lieutenant-Governor, Mr. Fielding and Mr. Fraser, all bearing mainly on the point that the Institution is now supported and subsidized, not only by Nova Scotia, but by the whole of the Maritime Provinces. We quite agree with the Premier that it would be unwise to make this a Government institution, as it would do way with the incentive to private exertions in furthering an enterprise of which we all have cause to be proud. It might be added that when a man gives his money, he also gives his interest and his time, and this is what is wanted to ensure success.

Mr. Fraser gave a short speech full of that humour which is peculiar to him; he congratulated himself on being a "fairly good beggar." And no wonder! Mr. Fraser has only got to show what he *has done*, and everyone who has money will feel inclined to help him to do more.

Presentations were made to the Matron and to Dr. Lindsay; and the proceedings ended up with a picnic in the dining room. We spent a pleasant and interesting evening, and congratulate the management on the success of their reception. They have our entire sympathy, and we shall be glad to do in the future—as we have done in the past—all that lies in our power to further the interests of the School for the Blind.

There will be only four opportunities next week to see the Redmund-Barry Company at the Academy. On Monday and Tuesday they appear in "The Colonel," a play which has had a phenomenal run in London, and on Wednesday and Thursday the company will bid "good-bye" when appearing in the "The Bells" which Henry Irving has made historic.