

CITY CHIMES.

The Nautical Fair and all the work connected with it pretty well tired out the ladies who devoted themselves to making it a success. But Tuesday night found many of them sufficiently recovered to make their appearance at the ball given at Maplewood, North-West Arm, by the officers of the Army Service Corps, Ordnance Store Department, Medical Staff and Army Pay Department, including Deputy Surgeon General McDowell, Lt.-Col. Jolly, Lt.-Col. Raymond, Lt. Col. Lea, Surgeon-Major Browne, Surgeon-Major Grier, Capt. Garsson, Capt. Tratman, Surgeon Weston, Surgeon Fowler, Capt. Monteith and Capt. Andaid. A brilliant assemblage of guests were present, including His Royal Highness Prince George of Wales, General Sir John Ross, Admiral, Mrs. and Miss Watson, Lt.-Governor, Mrs. and Miss Daly and the officers of the garrison, fleet and militia. Delightful weather for dancing prevailed, the air being deliciously cool and fresh. The grounds at Maplewood were illuminated with Chinese lanterns, the long drive being particularly brilliant with lights. Marquees were provided and comfortably fitted up for sitting out, and there were lots of cosy corners about the house, which was lighted throughout, for those who did not care to expose themselves to the cool air. Music for dancing was provided by the band of the West Riding Regiment, and the repast furnished by Street, the caterer, was of the most *recherché* description. About four hundred guests were present and a delightful evening was passed. This is but the beginning of the promised gaieties of the autumn. Next week the social ball will be kept rolling in good style.

The Nautical Fair was brought to a close on Friday evening after a week of unprecedented success. The Fair was visited by thousands of people nightly, and the various booths did a brisk business. The voting for the best decorated booth resulted in a decision for the Anchorage, which certainly deserved it, for while great taste was shown in the decorations of all the booths, this one was particularly attractive. Miss Lawson was successful in winning the first prize, \$10, in the puzzle competition, and Mr. W. A. Henry carried off the second prize. What came near being a serious accident occurred on Friday evening just as the march was about to begin. A great many boys who wished to get a good look at the crowning attraction of the Fair, held on by the large gas pipe which runs around the gallery of the building. The pipe not being calculated to bear up under this increased weight, came down on the heads of the people. There was no panic, but some people were very much frightened. A few bruises and crushed hats made up the sum total of the injuries. There is every reason to feel thankful that it was no worse. The extra staircases were opened for descent from the galleries on Thursday, thus removing a great source of danger. The accounts have not been fully made up, but it is believed that \$4,000 has been netted for the Seamen's Rest. A meeting is to be held next week, after which we will know certainly what has been made. The *Sailor's Star* or *Nautical Fair Gazette* done up in sets for mailing to friends is for sale at Knowles' book store.

The Ariel-Thomas Combination gave a successful concert in Orpheus Hall last evening under the auspices of the 63rd Rifles. The entertainment will be repeated this evening.

The annual convocation of Dalhousie College was held in the Academy of Music last evening at 8 o'clock. A large gathering was present. The idea of holding the convocation in the evening is a new one and promises to be an improvement over the afternoon arrangement.

A levee will be held at the residence of Sir John Ross to-morrow at 12 o'clock, when the Governor-General and officers of the garrison and fleet will be present. The Lieut.-Governor will hold a reception at 4 o'clock the same day. Society will be quite gay during the visit of the Vice-regal party.

COMMERCIAL.

The week that has elapsed since our last review has witnessed no material change in the general state of trade. It is generally conceded that the indications continue to be, on the whole, favorable. If less business has been doing in some lines it is due more to shortness of supplies than to anything else. This is specially the case in different lines of groceries, stocks of which have been well worked down in first hands of late and fresh supplies are not yet to hand in any quantity. In dry goods there has been a fair sorting-up trade, while in iron, although there are complaints of reluctance on the part of some buyers, the firmness is fully maintained, while some orders are reported to have been booked during the week. In fact prices are bound to go up here on British pig and English iron, as the Scotch iron masters have decided that they will not accede to the demands of their men. This has had the effect of causing further excitement in warrants in Glasgow and, of course, the regular market will be affected thereby. Money continues tight, but persons competent to judge of the financial situation express themselves as confident that an improvement that will be steady is bound to set in very shortly.

Bradstreet's report of the week's failures:—

	Week Oct. 4, week.	Prev. Oct. 4, week.	Weeks corresponding to Oct. 4			Failures for the year to date.			
	1890	1890	1889	1888	1887	1890	1889	1888	1887
United States....	192	179	188	146	131	7625	8194	7476	7120
Canada.....	26	31	30	43	21	1216	1198	1317	968

DRY GOODS.—There has been no change in this branch of trade during the week. Some sorting orders for fall fabrics have, however, been received, and the outlook seems quite as hopeful as it was. As a rule trade is dull

and uninteresting. There is a firm tone to prices generally, both as regards cotton and woollen goods. Remittances have shown a slight improvement in some localities but, on the whole, they are complained of as rather slow.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—The firmness in pig iron continues, and advices from primary sources indicate that further stiffness is probable. Buyers, however, as a general rule, still show more or less disinclination regarding purchases and, strange to say, are supported in their views by jobbers, who do not appear inclined to take advantage of the firmness at primary centres, and are selling lines at figures at which they could not be replaced. Stocks throughout Canada are small, confined to a few hands and prices vary. Some holders naturally talk firm figures with recent developments in New York and London, 25c. and over at the former centre for October delivery. Bar iron rules firm and unchanged, and we do not hear of any feature in any other lines of iron. In our opinion the general tendency is upward. The same remark applies to pig lead and lead pipes. Tin plates rule firm under the recent advance. Canada plates are still in fair enquiry. The severity of cast scrap iron is still as noticeable as ever, buyers finding it very difficult to fill orders. Wrought scrap is quiet but steady. Sheet goods are firm, but the volume of business is limited. Ingot tin is less excited in London, having dropped £1. 15s. during the last week. Copper remains firm.

FLOURSTUFFS.—The local flour market remains unchanged as far as the spot market is concerned, there being only a small jobbing business doing. The tone is about steady. Beerbohm's cable reports wheat firmly held, corn steady. Weather in England cooler. In Chicago the wheat market has fluctuated frequently but within very narrow limits. Corn was about steady, and oats were firmer. At New York, Duluth and Toledo wheat, corn and oats were steady and unchanged.

PROVISIONS.—The demand for pork and lard in the local market has continued good, and a fairly active business was done in these two articles at fair prices. Hams and bacon are slow and steady. The only change in the Liverpool provision market was in lard which ruled firmer and advanced 3d. Pork, bacon and tallow were steady. There has been an unsettled feeling in the Chicago provision market, light grades were firmer and 5c. higher, while heavy were easy and 5c. lower. The cattle and sheep markets were steady.

BUTTER AND CHEESE.—The butter market presents no new features, and business on spot is confined to a fair, quiet jobbing trade in the best late-made varieties. There are reports from the country of long prices for September creameries, but the figures would only be misleading if quoted here. The prevailing idea with holders appears to be about 21c. for August and September, but combination lots are not in much favor at present. The cheese market is essentially unchanged. The Englishman seems determined not to go over 50s., while the factorymen will not part with their holdings at anything near that. Consequently the market rules dull and the only business doing is a picking-up trade in odds and ends.

FRUIT.—There has been nothing during the week worthy of very special mention in foreign dried fruit. Another advance in Sultana raisins has placed them quite beyond the reach of the Canadian trade this fall, as the jump from 38s. to 60s. precludes the idea. Elemo is also likely to be very scarce and high. The old stock of both these lines has all been cleared out of first hands. Recent advices quote an advance of 1s. in currants at Patres. There is nothing new to report as to the apple situation.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—The position of raw sugar remains unchanged. With a comparatively moderate and well-controlled supply, and with owners confident, the market continues steady. The idea is also gaining ground that refiners are working on much smaller supplies, and that any expansion of outlet would compel them to become seekers for fresh material. The spot market continues steady under a good trade. There is no movement of note in molasses. Holders have great confidence in the market and the statistical position is certainly very favorable to them.

TEA.—The tea market is quiet, buyers not falling into the views of the holders as readily as expected.

FISH OILS.—Our Montreal informant says:—"There is a little more doing in this market, and though enquiry is not brisk there is still sufficient to keep up the price, and some of the more sanguine are even looking for advances. In Newfoundland cod oil quotations are unchanged at 38c. to 39c. in round lots, and 40c. for smaller quantities. Steam refined oil quiet but steady at 51c. to 52½c. Cod liver oil is firmer at 50c. to 55c., Norway cod oil, 80c. to 85c." Gloucester, Mass., October 6th.—"We quote cod oil 27 to 30 cts. per gal.; medicine oil 60 cts.; blackfish oil 55 cts.; menhaden oil 23 cts.; livers 30 cts. per bucket."

FISH.—The weather has been unfavorable this week for large catches and bait continues scarce. The report from all along the shores respecting mackerel is "none." Very few codfish are being taken. As to the local markets no improvement is noticeable in the demand either for home consumption or for foreign shipment. The bank fishing vessels are about all home or coming home, and will abandon fishing till next spring. Some of the fleet have done pretty well in the season, but many others will find a difficulty in making their accounts balance on the right side of the ledger. The shore fishermen are not doing much at present in taking herring or mackerel, but they hope to succeed better later on. There is a good home demand for large dried codfish, but the supply is miserably small. No. 1 mackerel are also enquired for, but dealers are shy of purchasing any quantities at the high prices at which they are now held in Boston, which is the controlling market, and occupies a fluctuating and doubtful position. Our outside advices are as follows:—Montreal, October 6,—"The market is bare of stock, with values unchanged. We quote dry cod \$4.50 to \$5. Cape Breton are wanted and are quoted at \$5.75 to \$6, but shortness of stock is in the way of business. No. 1 shore, \$4.50 to \$5. Yarmouth bladders are steady in the market with values unchanged at \$1.25 per box of 60, and \$5.