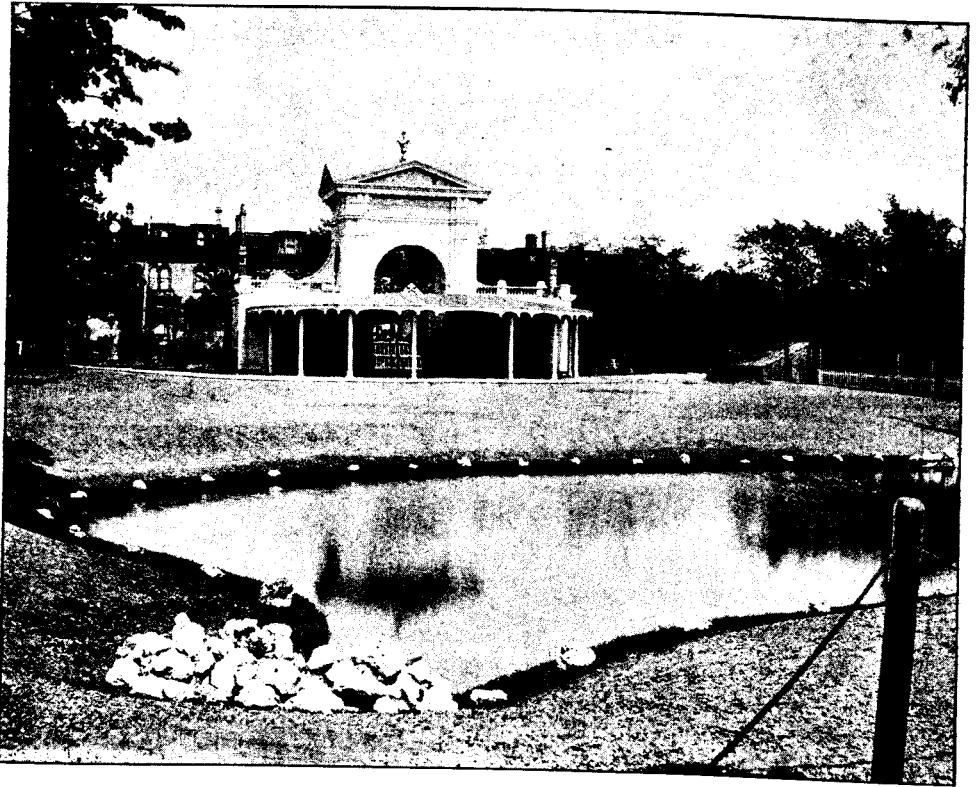


woman of the world as if she were thirty instead of eighteen.

Social life is not confined in this place to amusements. On Saturday, which is "market day," it is the ladies, not the men, who attend to the buying of the week's supplies of groceries; who interview the butcher and who make the streets alive and bright by their presence in the market. Those who are the happy possessors of carriages, generally drive to the market, and drive home again laden with vegetables and poultry, and I have even seen a handsome society lady sitting in her

fowls, the yellow legs of which refused to hide themselves in the dainty little basket, and in the other hand she had a tin bucket containing about two quarts of clams! Upon being asked if she was not ashamed to be seen with such a load, she laughingly replied, "Not a bit of it! I am going to leave them at my husband's office, close by, and the office boy will take them home for me. Besides, why should I be ashamed to carry outside what I don't at all mind carrying inside!" The slight tinge of vulgarity in this speech was so entirely overcome by its



Main Entrance to Public Gardens.

little open carriage side by side with a very nice looking calf's head and feet. This latter delicacy can be bought much cheaper in the green market than at the butchers, and society ladies like a bargain as much as their less favoured sisters. Those who do *not* own carriages, are not ashamed to walk and to carry a neat little basket in which to put eggs, small birds, lettuce, mushrooms, or any dainty that they may find and that is not too heavy or bulky. Not long ago, I saw a lady, a well-known society belle, who had in one hand a basket containing a large pair of

good sound common sense, that it made an indelible impression upon me.

Another thing which enters largely into social life in Halifax, is, the "Auction Sales." In no other place on the face of the globe do ladies congregate at public auctions as at Halifax. They revel in them. In the spring, which is generally the season for sales, it would be hard to say who looks after the house on the day of a specially good sale. Sometimes there are wonderful bargains made, and sometimes the inexperienced buyer finds out when too late that she has paid more than