

private schools are uncommonly good. Under no other circumstances can we imagine a country preferring to do without state education.

A variety of entertainments has been given in Dartmouth, in aid of Christ church organ fund. The last of those promised, took place in Christ church school house, on Friday evening May 1st. It was the result of a larger amount of work than any of the others, and was deserving of the highest credit to the management although it did not realize much for the fund, the first expenses being so heavy. The chief feature was the rendition of Henry Farmers' beautiful Mass in B flat by twenty-one voices, chiefly ladies and gentlemen of Dartmouth, assisted by several from Halifax. The members of the chorus began the preparation of the Mass about the first of February, and through the energy of Mr. F. W. Drake under much difficulty a result was attained last Friday evening most creditable to the musical talent of Dartmouth. Besides the vocal practice Mr. Drake also conducted an orchestra of seven instruments whose rendering, on the evening in question, was quite as creditable as the concerted part. Of the soloists Miss. McKenzie, whose singing is becoming more and more popular, was in particularly good voice. Miss. Shute, and Miss. Daisy Foster, who divided the alto parts between them, both sang well. Little Miss. Foster promises to have a fine alto voice. W. Larsen, who was the tenor soloist, is from Halifax, and sang the same part there in St. Patrick's choir on Easter day. Mr. W. R. Foster's bass was what we would expect from our favourite singer, his low notes being unusually full. Miss Annie Drake as accompanist on the piano, showed herself to be remarkable proficient as a performer on that instrument. We have described this part of the programme first as being the most important, altho it occupied the the second half of the evening. The programme opened with the following numbers:—

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|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Instrumental Glee | - | - | Sidney R. Bishop |
| 2. Song—"Man the Life Boat," | - | - | Russell |
| | Orchestra. | - | |
| 3. Song—"O Leave me not Dear Heart," | - | - | Tito Mater |
| | Mr. W. H. Bannister. | - | |
| | Miss A. Drake. | - | |
| 4. Flute Solo | - | - | H. Farmer |
| 5. Song—"Afterwards," | - | - | J. W. Mellen |
| | Mr. W. H. Shute. | - | |
| 6. Recitation—"Lady Wentworth," | - | - | Longfellow |
| | Mr. S. C. Drake. | - | |
| | Miss Robinson. | - | |
| 7. Song—"O Had I Jubal's Lyre," | - | - | Handel |
| | Miss McKenzie. | - | |
| 8. Song—"The Better Land," | - | - | J. Gowan |
| | Mr. W. R. Foster. | - | |

There were several encores, but time would not permit a response to all. We hope to hear Mr. Foster sing the last song again, as it is perfectly beautiful.

We are very glad to learn that Mr. Drake intends to repeat the rendering of the Mass, full of such varied and delicious music, we think that it will be even more appreciated the second time than the first.

We were pleased by an inspection of the new Furness boat, the *Ottawa*, commanded by Captain Dixon, late of the *Damarra*, who is an old favorite in Halifax. The *Ottawa* is really a fine boat, very commodious and lit throughout by electricity. Among other details, we particularly admired the smoking-room. As to speed, this ship has been very fortunate in starting with what is for us a good record, doing her first out from London in 10 days, 15 hours.

The Redmund-Barry Company have had a very successful week at the Academy, considering the amount of theatre-going that has been done by the Halifax public since Lent. A *Cure for*

the Blues is the lightest of light pieces, in fact, just what its name indicates. There is a great deal of dramatic talent in the Company, however, and we hope to be able to see it devoted to something a little more serious. The comedietta *Yellow Roses*, is one of the prettiest we have ever seen, and splendidly rendered by Mr. Redmund and Mrs. Barry. Last night, to-night and to-morrow afternoon and evening, the company perform *Cuchillo*, preceded by the farce *Boston Common*. The first three night's next week they give *Life's Storm* (a society drama,) and the comedy *Nan, the good for nothing*. We are sorry to be unable to report on *Cuchillo*, which will give greater scope to the genius of Mr. Redmund and Mrs. Barry, both decidedly clever actors.

The Inaugural Reception at the School for the Blind, on Wednesday evening, next, promises to be a very brilliant affair, and will no doubt be both interesting and enjoyable. The following is the programme for the evening:

1. 8 to 8.45 p. m., reception in assembly hall by W. C. Silver, President of the board of managers, and C. F. Fraser, superintendent of the school. An exhibition of the practical work of the school will be given by classes in reading, map work, etc. Kindergarten map weaving, knitting, sewing, music reading, piano-forte tuning, piano and organ practising, cane seat and basket making will also be illustrated. During the progress of these classes in the several departments, the entire new wing, as well as the main building, will be open to the inspection of guests.
2. 8.45 to 9.30 p. m., musical programme in assembly hall.
3. 9.30 to 10 p. m., addresses and presentations.
4. 10 to 10.30 p. m., refreshments, conversazione, with music by the band of the school.

News has been received of the marriage of Harry Vincent Bailey, of the 5th Royal Irish Lancers, to Catherine Allison Smith of this city. The bride is a daughter of the late B. Smith, and the groom eldest son of Lieut.-Col. Bailey. The ceremony took place at St. Jude's church, South Kensington, and was performed by Rev. Prebendary Forrest, D. D., honorary chaplain to the queen.

Mr. E. K. Hood's Recital at the Orpheus Hall last night was very good indeed so far as it was *not* Mr. Hood's;—that is to say, Miss Laine sang very prettily, but we did *not* think much of Mr. Hood. "How Rubenstien played the piano" was not so bad, and "A Sure Cure" was cleverly done, but we can't get over Mr. Hood's accent at all. As to Mr. Bigelow of Truro, he did the "ridiculous man" with a vengeance, and indeed made him very fairly ridiculous altogether.

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