

ANOTHER TRIUMPH

For the Shamrock Amateur Athletic Association.

Gala Night at the Academy of Music—Floral Tributes to Mr. and Mrs. Downing, Mr. Collier, and Other Members of the Company—Mr. Edmund Hayes is Honored and the Calumet Lacrosse Club of Chicago Remembered—"Ned" Halley to the Front—His Heroic and Successful Efforts in Behalf of the Shamrock Club.

Last week the members of the Shamrock Amateur Athletic Association and its affiliated clubs, as well as those of the Old Emeralds, held their first theatre night at the Academy of Music. It was the intention to have introduced the project of a theatre night at the semi-annual meeting of the association, which takes place during November, but matters were somewhat precipitated by the fact that amongst the members of the Downing company performing at the Academy was Mr. Edmund Hayes, a member of the Calumet Lacrosse Club, of Chicago.

The members of the Association and the Shamrock Lacrosse Club, acting under an impulse characteristic of their race, thought it a fitting opportunity to give some measure of their appreciation of the warm hospitality so generously bestowed by the members of the Calumet Lacrosse Club on the Shamrock team during their recent visit to Chicago, and consequently in the space of a few days made the necessary arrangements to attend in a body at the performance of "Virginius," in which Mr. Hayes essayed the difficult role of Ictinus.

During the day appointed for the performance several members of the Association were busy decorating the interior of the Academy. The box set apart for the presidents of the various sections of the Association was beautifully decorated with trophies won in the battlefield of lacrosse. Notably among the number was the N. A. L. A. banner, the lacrosse sticks carried by Neville, Kelly, Tansey and others which scored the games in the celebrated contest for the World's Fair Championship Cup. The banner presented by Bro. Arnold, and the beautiful flag given by the ladies of St. Ann's parish on the occasion of the closing exercises of the Shamrock Tombois.

The audience was a large and thoroughly representative one, including leading Irish-Canadian citizens who occupied boxes and seats in the orchestra and dress circle, while never in the history of the Academy has the upper gallery, better known as the "gods," contained such a gathering of the youth and vigorous sons of Canada, whose conduct was of such a character as to give an additional charm to the occasion. Of the play itself nothing can be said but praise, and the manner in which it was received is a splendid evidence on the part of our young Irish-Canadian fellow-citizens that they can rise to a conception of an appreciation of such noble classical productions as "Virginius," when the interpretation is in the hands of artists of high rank, such as Mr. and Mrs. Downing, Mr. Edmund Collier, Miss Osborne, Mr. E. Hayes, and Mr. Hall. While the performance on the stage was the chief attraction, none the less important, in some degree, was the splendid programme of vocal music, which was carried out by the members of the Association in the "gods."

Mr. James Wilson, the well known, popular and talented young Irish-Canadian musician, presided at the piano, and Mr. Frank Feron, the able and genial basso soloist of St. Patrick's choir, was a worthy assistant to Mr. Wilson in wielding the baton and directing the choruses.

At the close of the first act Mr. W. P. Clancy rendered with much fervor the ever welcome and charming song "The Dear Little Shamrock," the chorus of which was given with enthusiasm. Then followed the leader of the chorus Mr. Frank Feron, who gave "Daisy Bell" with vigor. Mr. Feron was standing at the lower portion of the gallery and his deep sonorous and powerful bass voice was heard throughout the house. The chorus of "Daisy Bell," although never

heard by more than one-tenth of those present was taken up and rendered with powerful effect. The applause which followed Mr. Feron's rendition of "Daisy Bell" was long and continued.

At the close of the second act, another feature was introduced. Other performers appeared on the scene in the "gods" whom we might term sky sailors, in the persons of the two tight little fielders of the Shamrock team, Dick Kelly and Charlie Neville, who handled the ropes with all the dexterity and skill that they handled the lacrosse during the season. It had been arranged to make several presentations to the members of the Downing company, and two wire ropes were strung between the stage and the "gods," upon which the offerings would be conveyed. The first of these sent down by that peculiar contrivance was a lacrosse stick embedded in roses and shamrocks, and the recipient was Mr. Edmund Collier, a noble actor, occupying a place second to none in his profession. Mr. Collier is a favorite with the boys in green; his genial manner and unassuming disposition has won for him a lasting place in their hearts, as was evidenced by the manner in which they sang "He's a Jolly Good Fellow." This presentation was followed by a song and chorus, "Nancy Lee," the solo of which was rendered by Mr. Chas. Hamelin in such a vigorous manner as would make one of those hardy sons of the sea forever hide his head. Mr. T. Grant followed with a beautiful ballad, and received an *encore*.

When the curtain dropped after the third act, loud calls were given for Mrs. Downing and Mr. Hayes, and when it

Mr. Downing concluded his remarks in expressing the wish that the Association would always be prosperous and never know defeat.

When the excitement attending the presentation to Mr. Downing had subsided, Mr. Murray gave "Sailing" with splendid effect. Then came the gem of the vocal programme, an imitation of a well known celebrated operatic singer, given by the inimitable "Jim" Wilson, which was greeted with the greatest outburst of enthusiasm from all parts of the audience, especially by the "gods," who were only appeased by a repetition of the last verse.

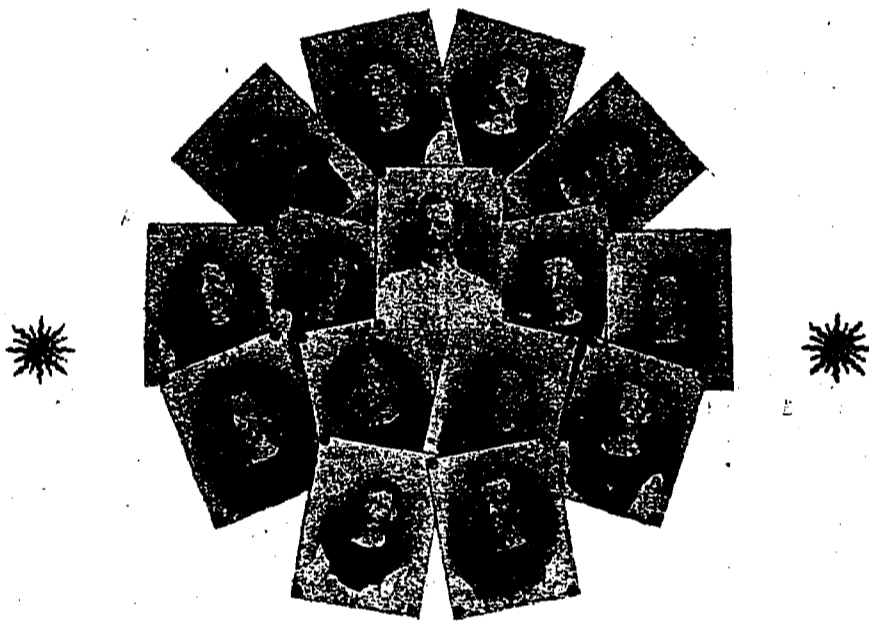
Then followed a quartette by Pegnam, Hamelin, Smith and Murray, "The Old Oaken Bucket," which was executed in a finished and artistic manner, and warmly applauded.

Miss Osborne also received a beautiful bouquet of roses.

The *souvenir* programmes, which were the gift of Mrs. Thomas, of the Academy, were very handsome and appropriate.

The Association box was occupied by Mr. J. P. Clarke, president, and Mr. T. P. Crowe, vice-president; Mr. William Stafford, honorary president Shamrock Club; Mr. W. J. McKenna, president Shamrock Club; Mr. D. Tansey, captain Shamrock team; Mr. P. McKeown, captain Young Shamrock team; Mr. R. J. Cooke, president Emerald Snowshoe Club, and Mr. P. H. Bartley, president Junior Shamrock Lacrosse Club.

The first Shamrock night at the theatre was an unqualified success, and it is only another practical evidence on the part of the board of directors of that spirit of patriotism of a demonstrative ability



SHAMROCK—CHAMPIONS, 1892-93.

arose again the sky sailors were gracefully guiding their ropes laden with a magnificent basket of flowers, ornamented with the colors of the association, for Mrs. Downing, and a handsome gold-headed cane, bearing a suitable inscription, and floral lacrosse stick, for Mr. Hayes.

Mrs. Downing, on receiving the bouquet, gracefully and generously took the association colors and waved them towards the audience.

Mr. Hayes was loudly called upon to make a speech, and, in responding, he thanked them for the great honor conferred upon him and the Calumet Lacrosse Club of Chicago. Mr. Hayes must have felt proud of his reception, as cheer after cheer was given for him after he had retired. Mr. Hayes has made a host of friends during his brief sojourn in the city.

At the conclusion of the fourth act, during the process of which Mr. Downing (*Virginius*) who appeared in several powerful scenes with Mr. Collier (*Appius Claudius*) was called before the curtain, and down along the rope came a magnificent floral horseshoe, from which was suspended a box of cigars entwined with the Shamrock colors.

The "gods" cheered and sang "He's a jolly big fellow," and called for a speech. Mr. Downing then thanked them for their kindness, and said he had rowed a boat, played ball, but never played lacrosse. At this point a well known member of the Junior Shamrock's scored a goal by exclaiming: "You would give a grand body check." Mr. Downing's knowledge of lacrosse being of an infantile character, he did not put up his hand for game. After this little interruption, which by the way was greatly appreciated by the audience,

and of perception of the needs of their nationality such as given by that tireless and courageous young Irish-Canadian, Mr. Edward Halley, when, despite all opposition, he struggled through years to secure a home for the Shamrock Athletic Association which they could call their own; and as he succeeded in locating and establishing a home, which is now in course of being improved and equipped, so also will his conferees on the directorate of the Association, all of whom have been through many years untiring in their efforts to promote its prosperity, long continue to carry on such noble projects as that of Mr. Halley, who may justly bear the proud title of promoter of the new Shamrock ground, also that of the grand complimentary dinner to the Shamrock team a week ago, and the now famous Shamrock night at the Academy of Music, which are all calculated to advance the cause of our nationality.

The next movement of the S.A.A.A. should be to endeavor and secure an amalgamation with the Young Irishmen's Literary and Benefit Association. When such an union takes place it will mark a new era of prosperity and lay the foundations of a monument which would be not alone a credit and an honor to all young Irish-Canadians, but such a union of physical and mental culture as was so beautifully portrayed by the poet O'Reilly in the following words:

"A nation's boast is a nation's bone,
As well as its might of mind,
And the culture of either of these alone,
Is the doom of a nation signed."

"What! He left no money?" "No. You see, he lost his health getting wealthy, and then he lost his wealth trying to get healthy again."

SIR JOHN ABBOTT DEAD.

The Ex-Premier Passes Quietly Away on Monday.

Sir John Abbott, K.C.M.G., passed away quietly on Monday evening at 8 o'clock. He had been ill for a long time. The hard work and anxiety that fell to his lot as Premier of Canada told upon his strength, and in November of last year he felt it his duty to resign and seek restoration to health in a milder climate. Sir John Thompson took up the duties of the premiership, and Sir John Abbott went to France and Italy. For a time it was hoped that change and rest, coupled with a good constitution, would restore him to his wonted bodily health; but such hopes were not to be fulfilled. When he returned home last summer it was known that no improvement had resulted from his foreign stay, and though the ablest of physicians gave his case their attention, the ex-Premier gradually sank until Monday night, surrounded by his family, he passed quietly away. He himself fully recognized the seriousness of his case, and several of the notices that acquainted the public with his condition were penned by his own hand.

The funeral takes place from the family residence at 2 o'clock on Thursday afternoon.

SIR JOHN ABBOTT'S CAREER.

John Joseph Caldwell Abbott was born at St. Andrews, Argenteuil, on the 12th of March, 1821. He was the eldest son of the late Rev. Joseph Abbott, first Anglican incumbent of St. Andrews, some of whose early experience in the then unsettled country were recorded in a book bearing the title of "Philip Musgrave; or the Adventures of a Missionary in Canada." His mother was Harriet Bradford, daughter of Rev. Richard Bradford, the first rector of Chatham, in the same county. He was educated at St. Andrews and McGill; called to the Bar of Lower Canada in October, 1847, appointed a Q.C. in 1852, and graduated D.C.L. in 1857. Mr. Abbott was elected to the Legislative Assembly at the general elections of 1857, but not returned, and only secured his seat after an arduous contest. He was appointed a member of the Executive Council and Solicitor-General for Lower Canada in the Sandfield-Macdonald-Sicotte administration, May 24, 1862, and held the office, till May 14, 1863. He represented Argenteuil in the Parliament of old Canada until the union. In 1867 he was elected to the House of Commons, and re-elected at the general elections of 1872 and 1874. He was also a candidate in 1878, but was defeated. He was successful, however, in 1880, the sitting member being unseated, and was re-elected in 1882 by acclamation. In May, 1887, he was called to the Senate and appointed a member of the Privy Council without portfolio and leader of the Government in the Upper Chamber. On 18th June, 1891, on the death of Sir John Macdonald, he was named Prime Minister, and on June 16 president of the council. This office he resigned, owing to ill-health, November 25, 1892. During his parliamentary career Mr. Abbott paid great attention to commercial legislation, the Insolvent Act having been prepared and introduced by him. In the old Parliament he also introduced and secured the passage of measures to consolidate the jury law of this province, and for the collection of judicial fees by means of stamps. He was for many years chairman of the House of Commons Committee on Banking and Commerce. In 1879 he accompanied Sir Hector Langevin to England to lay before the authorities there the facts of the Letellier affair. In 1883 he was named a commissioner to go to Australia to discuss trade and communication matters.

He also filled many posts outside of Parliament. He was mayor of Montreal in 1887 and in 1888. For ten years he was dean of the faculty of law of McGill, and a governor of the university. He was a director of the Canadian Pacific railway and of the Bank of Montreal, and president of the Fraser institute, which owes its existence largely to his efforts and liberality. During the Trent difficulty, when war with the United States seemed imminent, he raised the battalion known as the Argenteuil Rangers, and was lieutenant-colonel commanding the corps from 21st March, 1862, till 22nd June, 1863. He was at the head of the Bar of Montreal, and conducted many of the most noted commercial cases in the courts of the province. He married, in 1849, Mary, daughter of Rev. John Bethune, D.D., dean of Montreal.

On the 24th of May, 1892, the Queen conferred on Mr. Abbott, the order of Knighthood.