

## CITY CHIMES.

Last Friday evening our friends in Dartmouth gave a concert in Reform Club Hall, which was attended by a large audience. The programme consisted of three parts, English, Irish and Scotch, and Dartmouth talent was assisted by the following ladies and gentlemen from this side: The Misses Burns, Mr. Geo. E. Boak, Mr. Moore and Prof. Currie. The programme was a long one, and when the numerous *encores* were added, extended it far into the night. One of the choice numbers of the evening was the piano duet by Mrs. C. A. Robson and Miss M. S. Troop, the lively Irish air putting the audience in good humor. The readings by Mrs. H. S. Creighton and Mr. L. A. McKenna respectively were cleverly done and caused much amusement. The concert was in aid of St James' Sabbath School, and as the hall was pretty well filled, a snug sum must have been realized.

Miss Jennie McGarry, assisted by some of her pupils, will give "an evening of readings" at Orpheus Hall on the 21st inst. The programme is an exceedingly good one, and the proceeds are to be devoted to the library fund of the Ladies' College. No one can fail to enjoy Miss McGarry's readings, and there should be a good audience.

Now that the ships have arrived social life will begin to flourish again, for it has been in a wilted condition of late. There is to be a ball given by Colonel Fenn and the officers of the Duke of Wellington's regiment at the barracks, on Wednesday, the 22nd of the month, and no doubt other festivities will follow as a matter of course now that things are once started. Tennis and other out-of-door games are being seriously considered by the devotees of these amusements, and lawns are being put in good shape for indulging in them.

The ice cream parlors are opened now and are doing a good business. Mitchell's on George street and Teas' on Hollis street are very, very tempting places, and many people are to be seen entering and leaving them in the heat of the afternoons. It is to be hoped that the supply of ice will not fail before the season is over, as we fear it may do, if the reports of last winter's crop are correct.

An American bride is suggested for Prince Albert Victor of Wales. The idea of another German alliance is obnoxious to the English nation, and as the Prince is bound to marry a Protestant, and the supply of eligible Princesses is very limited, Sir Edward Sullivan has conceived the notion that some fair American would be more pleasing to the nation, in fact that they would welcome with delight a Queen of their own blood, breed and speech. The idea seems to be good so far as it goes, but why not select a Canadian bride for the future King of England? The delight of the Yankees at such an alliance for one of their fair daughters would not be a "circumstance" to the rejoicing there would be in this "Canada of Ours" if such an event took place. And Albert Victor might do worse than choose one of the daughters of this fair Canada to share the Throne of England with him—if he ever is king—which seems a long way off. Imperial Federation might take definite form and shape with such a "power behind the throne" as a Canadian Queen would be.

Mayflowers are about over, almost before we are well into the month. The lack of snow during the winter caused them to be rather poorer than they ought to be, though many beautiful posies have been gathered by those who understand the art of finding the good ones. Every year they seem to come earlier, and if they go on coming earlier the name will have to be changed to something more appropriate. There is an interesting article in the *St. John Educational Review*, "Notes on the Mayflower of the Loyalists," by G. M. Mathew, M. A., F. R. G. C., which shows that the Mayflower of the Loyalists was not our Mayflower, but that the flower which they recognized as the Mayflower was the Spring Beauty, yet that our Mayflower may very fittingly be dedicated to them. There is a rather pretty little legend connected with our Mayflower, which may be new to some of our readers. It is said that the Goddess Flora, in times long past, was making a tour of North America, as well as some other places. When she came to Nova Scotia in the month of May, and saw what a very dreary, cold and desolate place it was then, she wept, and her tears falling to the ground sprung up as pure white flowers. When Flora saw these she was so pleased that she smiled, and as she did so, the flowers turned pink. All of which makes a very pretty story. The white Mayflowers are Flora's tears and the pink ones her smiles.

A large audience attended the subscription concert of the Orpheus Club on Tuesday evening last, and it is unnecessary to add that they were delighted, as the club's concerts have now become the events of the season, and lovers of good music look forward to them with the certainty that there is real enjoyment in store. The lady soloists were—Miss Louise Laine, Mrs. W. Tobin and Miss Josie Shoff. The former rendering in a brilliant manner Gounod's "Arietta Valse (Romeo e Giulietta)" which gave great opportunity for the display of her cultivated voice, but never has Miss Laine sung in public with such marked success as she did in rendering her second number "Good Bye," and it is a satisfaction to know that the farwell rendered in such a realistic manner is not to be carried out in earnest. Mrs. Tobin's voice and manner of singing are pleasing, and that lady was deserving of credit for her rendition of that taking song "So Like a Dream." It is with pleasure that we note the decided advance in vocal culture made by Miss Josie Shoff, who despite some faultiness of style is always a sweet and attractive singer. On Tuesday evening Miss Shoff appeared to imbibe the inspiration of Von Weber in rendering the Scene and Prayer from *Der Freyschutz*, which she did in an admirable manner. Dr. Slayter, after having

sung a pretty duet with Miss Laine in which the want of sufficient practice was most evident, sang a solo "What will you do, Love," by S. Lover, throwing into it the fullness and depth of his great musical soul, but allowing his sense of humor full play in making of the last line, "that's what I'll do," a laughable recitative.

Mr. Norman's rendition of "A Message from the King" was well conceived, but the higher notes in the song were beyond the natural range of his voice, otherwise this number was well rendered. Herr Klingensfeld must have added not a few to his many admirers for his masterly violin work on Tuesday evening. We say masterly because Viouxtemp's "Fantaisie Caprice," Op. 11, is in itself a study, and he who essays to play it can do so with no pretence hand. We congratulate Herr Klingensfeld upon his successful rendition of a most difficult composition. The Ladies' Auxiliary did splendid work in Brahms's Barcarole, the accentuation throughout being most effective. Of the four numbers taken part in by the Orpheus Club, two are deserving of special mention, the first being Abt's chorus for male voices with soprano obligato, "The Larks' rejoicing," which was sung in a spirited style, and Vogel's Arion Waltz, which showed the Club with the Ladies' Auxiliary to splendid advantage, every bar bearing the stamp of the careful conductorship of C. H. Porter, who in his own quiet way is doing an excellent work for the people of this City and Province. Tom Payne was the accompanist, and that is all we need say about it, for Tom Payne as an accompanist has few equals and no superiors.

## COMMERCIAL.

No new feature has developed in trade matters since our last report. The volume of business accomplished continues to gradually expand as the season progresses, and in most lines orders have been fully up to expectation.

Farmers have been enabled in most sections of this Province to get their seed planted, and all indications point to an early and abundant crop of grasses, cereals and vegetables. The season is reported to be two or three weeks ahead of the usual time in most localities. For the full and rapid development of these crops warm and dry weather must preponderate, by which time the product will be fixed, and a little more or less of rain or of drought cannot materially alter the result.

As the present is the "off" season for fruit, it is to be expected that the product of our orchards will be relatively small, and that orchardists who can in the fall put good fruit on the market will obtain full compensation for the low prices which they were obliged to accept for the abnormally large crop of last year.

Remittances have continued to improve slightly, but at the best they are nothing to boast of. Requests for renewals are altogether too numerous to be entirely satisfactory.

The following are the Assignments and Business changes in this Province during the past week:—W. J. Kennedy, genl. store, Estmere, Victoria Co., assigned hook debts; E. B. Betts, genl. store, Wentworth, assigned.

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

	Week Prev.		Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date.			
	May 10.	week.	1889	1888	1887	1889	1888	1887	1886
United States...	174	151	177	167	156	4570	4069	4155	4314
Canada.....	29	29	29	29	30	703	735	500	517

**DRY GOODS.**—In prints and general dress goods a fair amount of sorting-up business is reported but buyers as a rule are unwilling as yet to order fall goods, because they cannot form any definite idea of what their wants may be. Some orders have, of course, been placed, but the bulk of actual transactions is considerably below the expectations of the wholesale trade. Our manufacturers and importers complain greatly of the competition experienced from English houses, the representatives of whom in many instances go direct to retailers. Cotton goods are very firm, and orders in these lines have been rather more freely given than since the beginning of the season.

**IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.**—The pig and iron markets have been about steady. A decline of \$1.05 per ton has taken place in the American market for pig, the Thomas May Company having put down its prices to that extent, owing to the strong competition from Southern makers, who were crowding the market and cutting prices to the extent of \$1 per ton. In Canada plates a fair business has transpired. Tin plates have also met with a healthy enquiry, and business has been nearly active. The metal market is quiet, quotations for copper and tin remaining unchanged.

**BREADSTUFFS.**—The local demand for flour has continued slow, and the market has continued quiet, only a small amount of business having been accomplished, and that merely to supply consumptive demands. The feeling has been weak, and prices are tending to decline. The stock of flour is large, and holders are offering freely, but business has not expanded. The English markets are practically unchanged for both wheat and corn. The French country markets are reported steadier.

**PROVISIONS.**—The local demand for provisions has been fair, and the market has displayed some activity with a good jobbing trade at steady prices. There has been a stronger tone in the Liverpool market, and prices were higher all round. Pork advanced 1s. 3d. Lard moved up 3d. Bacon gained 3d. Tallow was steady at unchanged figures. The Chicago provision market was quiet but inactive, with only a small volume of business. Pork prices were steady. Lard was also steady with little call.

**BUTTER.**—There has been little or no change in the butter situation. All receipts of new meet ready purchasers. The depression in the States has continued and holders of old goods in New York and Boston have experienced heavy losses. Last June creamery of some States has sold in Montreal at 18c., and more is offering there.