

furnaces at once, with a view to the immediate reduction of the ores they have acquired in the neighborhood.

CITY CHIMES.

Those who have bemoaned the lack of accommodation for high class boarders in Halifax will be pleased that "Maplewood," that lovely spot on the North-West Arm, has been opened for the reception of boarders by Messrs. Sheraton & McGrath, of the Queen Hotel. A lovelier spot in which to spend part or the whole of the summer it would be hard to find. Every facility for boating and bathing is provided, and the beautiful grounds will be illuminated by electric light. It is probable the house will be filled with guests the entire summer.

The S.S. *Halifax* took about 500 people to Bridgewater on Monday, and in spite of some drawbacks the excursion may be voted a success. It was a merry-looking crowd which thronged the decks as the steamer slowly backed off from the wharf at 8.15, but when York Redoubt was reached some faces began to pale, and the owners thereof were led below to "the seclusion that the cabin grants." Soon the swell began to make itself unpleasantly familiar, rolling the ship about in a very undesirable manner, and getting the better of the majority of the excursionists. When the mouth of the LaHave was reached the invalids came on deck again, most of them looking sad and cheerless, but once in smooth water the uncomfortable emotions of the last few hours were forgotten, and all were able to enjoy the beautiful scenery on either side of the river. The water of the river is hardly deep enough to admit of taking such a large ship as the *Halifax* up to Bridgewater, but after touching bottom a few times and stopping short once or twice, the steamer was successfully moored at the railway wharf, where a train of flat cars was waiting to take the excursionists for a short trip on the N. S. Central Railway. The delay caused by the difficulty of getting up the river shortened the time to stay at Bridgewater to about an hour, so there was no time lost by those who wished to see their friends on shore. A walk through the pretty town was taken by almost everyone, and the universal verdict was that it is a very pretty town. The good Bridgewaterites turned out in force and the whole place was in gala dress. At Doyle's hotel there was a splendid display of bunting, and the genial and obliging proprietor was there looking after his guests and seeing that the new comers were supplied with all they could desire. This hotel is called "Fairview," and as it is well on the top of a hill the title is appropriate. The time to return came all too soon, and at 4.30 the *Halifax* began to move slowly down the river. The "saw-dust question" has not been disturbing the minds of the public recently, and if the discussion of it is in as ill odour as the excessively disagreeable stuff itself is when stirred up by the propeller of a steamer, the longer it can rest undisturbed the better. Perfume and smelling bottles were in demand on this occasion, but the saw-dust effluvia was powerful and would not be overcome by such puny weapons as these. The river LaHave somewhat resembles our North-West Arm in appearance, only of course, being more continuous. The distance from the lighthouse at the mouth of the river to Bridgewater is fourteen miles. On the way back speeches were made by some gentlemen present, and votes of thanks were passed to Capt. Hill and the Directors of the Canada Atlantic S. S. Company for the pleasant trip that had been given them. Dinner was served on board about one o'clock, and all those who were able to eat at all pronounced it excellent. The music was provided by the band of the 66th P. L. F. and Jock Patterson with his bagpipes. The bagpipes may be very gratifying to those who like them, but it is probable, were a vote taken on the subject, the pipes would be dispensed with. At eleven o'clock the steamer was docked at Noble's wharf, and the tired excursionists had an opportunity of getting on *terra firma* once more. "All's well that ends well," and even those who suffered the pangs of sea-sickness announced the fact that they were not sorry they went, and on the whole they had a "good time." The *Halifax* will make some excursions on the harbor during Carnival week, and it is probable she will be well patronized.

The Grayson Opera Co. opened a season at the Academy of Music on Tuesday evening, and although it was quite evident that the members of the company were tired from their journey, "La Mascotte" was given in a very acceptable manner. Miss Bessie Gray has a very pleasing voice and acts well, and Miss Bebe Vining is very charming in appearance, and her acting and singing are excellent. Mr. Herman Waldo, the tenor, was suffering from a cold, but nevertheless his performance was good. Mr. Gilbert Clayton is the funny man of the company, and the lovers of laughter could have no fault to find with him. The company is a good one, and those who appreciate light opera should not fail to hear them.

We had last week in Halifax a concert company which brought out for the first time in the city some novelties in the way of musical instruments. A quartette of German saxophones played several selections in perfect time and tune, the effect of which was most grateful to the ear. Musical instruments peculiar to Italy and Mexico were also played upon in an artistic manner. Mr. J. A. Lucier, the leader of the company, is a masterly cornet-player, and he is very properly classed in the United States as one of the leading cornetists. Taken altogether the concert well deserved the most liberal patronage of our citizens, and those who did not attend it missed an evening of rare musical enjoyment.

The dance given by the captain and officers of the *Bellerophon* on Wednesday went off very pleasantly. The new officers and their guests were, of course, comparative strangers to each other, and there was some

not altogether well-bred hesitation shown here and there by ladies about being asked to take refreshments by gentlemen to whom they had not been introduced. Ladies in such a case might remember that every officer of a ship or regiment giving an entertainment is one of their hosts, and that they are perfectly free to accept every attention in the capacity of guests. The music was good, and the refreshments excellent and abundant.

COMMERCIAL.

There has been a steady and satisfactory distribution in all staple lines. While no special activity has developed, the course of trade has been of an even character, resulting in a fair movement. Payments have, as a rule, been pretty well provided for, and no serious complaints are made on that ground.

The weather in this Province has been extremely favorable to the growing crops, alternating rains and warm weather having occurred, and reports from all sections indicate a very good yield in every line of husbandry this season.

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—Cason & Learmont, hotel, Truro, will dissolve Aug. 1st.; Chas. A. Hinchie, builder, Halifax, assigned; T. G. McMullen, saw mill and lumber, Truro, sold out saw mill to Thos. McLellan.

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

	Weeks corresponding to					Failures for the year to date.			
	July 19, week	1889	1889	1888	1887	1889	1888	1887	1886
United States...	170	218	141	152	191	6425	5694	5541	5971
Canada.....	16	16	18	24	20	925	969	708	795

DRY GOODS.—Orders for fall dry goods have been liberal, probably owing to the advance in the raw material, but in some quarters fears are expressed that buyers have operated too freely, though such is not noticeable as yet. Enquiry among the wholesale dry goods men has elicited the fact that payments have been more satisfactorily met since the beginning of the month, and sorting-up orders have shown quite a healthy volume for this season of the year. Our merchants on the whole are confidently looking forward for a brisk fall business, as the late conservative buying of many country storekeepers will necessitate larger orders later on.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—Trade has been fairly active and evidences of improvement are not wanting, while prices of most heavy goods have been well maintained. The outlook favors a good fall trade, and already a satisfactory amount of business for future delivery has been accomplished. Our large hardware merchants appear to be well satisfied over the situation, the aggregate of transactions being decidedly ahead of those of a year ago. Cables have a firm tone, both pig and finished iron being well maintained, but metals are no more than steady. Warrants in Glasgow show a material appreciation, having advanced 5d. Coltness is cabled 1s., and Gartsherrie 6d. higher. Wrought scrap iron is in demand, the sale being reported of 500 tons at 64s., c. i. f., Montreal, spot cash. The sale of 1,000 tons of Trails is also reported as having been effected at 71s., c. i. f., Montreal, spot cash. Sheet zinc is firm and higher, while zinc spelter is steady. One of the largest manufacturers of galvanized sheet iron has cabled withdrawing all quotations. Ingot tin and copper are unchanged. Remittances are reported fair.

BREADSTUFFS.—A strong tone has prevailed in the flour market and holders of desirable grades are very firm though not quotably higher. The demand, especially for strong baker's, was good, and the market has been active with a considerable volume of business doing. Beorbohm's cable says:—"Cargoes off coast, wheat advanced 3d. to 6d. per quarter; corn nil. Do on passage and for shipment, wheat advanced 3d. to 6d. per quarter; corn firmer, held higher. Weather in England, local thunder storms prevalent. French country markets quiet." There was a weak tone to the Chicago wheat market, owing to the crowd selling heavily on reported lower cables, clearing weather in the southwest and the prospects of liberal receipts next week. The market was active with considerable trading and prices declined ½c. to 1½c. Corn was quiet and ruled about steady. Oats were firmer. The New York wheat market was weak and dropped ½c. to 1c. Corn was firmer and improved ½c. At Toledo wheat was stronger on the first two options, prices moving up ½c. to ¾c. The other options were weaker and ½c. lower. Corn and oats were unchanged. In Milwaukee wheat fell off ½c.

PROVISIONS.—The feeling in the local provision market has been steady and prices remained unchanged. The demand for pork has been good and the market was active. The demand for lard is slow. The offerings are large and prices easy. In Liverpool, G. B., lard was weak and declined 3d. Bacon was weak and broke 6d. Pork was steady while tallow was strong and advanced 6d. The Chicago provision market was more active and stronger. Pork advanced 10c., short ribs 5c. to 7½c. and lard 2½c. There was a weaker feeling in the hog market and prices declined 5c. to 10c. The cattle market was steady.

BUTTER.—There has been nothing of interest in the condition of the butter market, which continued quiet but well maintained. There has been business at about quotations but no activity is apparent. The Montreal *Trade Bulletin* reports as follows:—"The export demand, which unexpectedly set in a few weeks ago, has afforded our makers of creamery a capital chance of unloading their June product, and most of them have availed themselves of it. Prices however, are getting above the export basis and shippers state that, on that account, the demand may cease as suddenly as it sprang up. As far as Canada is concerned it is evident that for several years past she has been producing less butter and it is questionable if she will ever again see the large surpluses of former years. This is accounted for by the fact that the extraordinary increase in cheese production has