CITY OHIMES.

Av Artennoov Orr -What a boon to the workers in the busy hive of our city life is the Saturday afternoon holiday which a large number of our citizens enjoy. The excursion tickets of the I. C. R and W. & A. R., good from Saturday until Monday, are now being issued, and are being extensively used. Only those who know by experience can in the least understand the relief a trip out of town, even for a half day affords, or the enjoyment to be derived from a quiet Sunday in the country. Halifax is, or ought to be, to Halifaxians the best spot on earth, our advantages are far too many to count, and our facilities for the enjoyment of life in the summer months too numerous to mention, but yet those of her citizens who spend a large presention of their time in store or office gladly welcome a change. It is to be hoped that every establishment in the city which can possibly do so will arrange that both employers and employed may have an "afternoon off" once a week during the summer. It has been proven that better work is the sure result of a short season of recreation. It is well to remember that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy.

THE FIRST OF THE SEASON .- To-morrow we are promised the first band afternoon at the gardens, and this charming rendezvous will no doubt be one of the chief points of attraction Only in Halifax can one find such a truly delightful pleasure ground, free to all, where one may walk under the shade of megnificent trees, mid clusters of flowers, and feast the eye on restful, refreshing scenes of beauty, while entrancing music delights the ear. Truly we have a right to be proud of our public gardens, which deserve the admiration and appreciation of all.

THE S. S. Pienics.—The Sunday school pienic is with us again. Chalmer's Church School held its annual outing on the 21st inst., and this week the children of St. Mark's enjoyed their summer festival. It is a wise move on the part of the officers of the Sunday schoo's to give their young people the much looked-forward-to picnic before the public schools close and the scholars scatter for their vacation, so that none may miss the anticipated event. Tired teachers sigh with relief when the annual day of hard work is over, but to many of the little folks it is a red letter day in their uneventful lives. By all means let every Sunday school in the city give its scholars a summer treat; the happy faces and merry voices of the boys and giris will fully repay all trouble and expense.

Uncle Ton's Cabin -Shows may come and shows may go, but verily the "Uncle Tom's Cabin" show seems to be perpetual. Ha ifax has had a visit from a company of these interesting entertainers, and the old play has been put on once more for the benefit of the pleasure seeking public. Large audiences have been the order, and the old story of Eva and her faithful Tom has delighted the young folks.

JUNE 30TH —To-day the ha'f year ends. It seems but a short season since we greeted each other with kindly expressions of our good will for the new year, and now we find ourselves commencing the second half of the year upon which we then had but crossed the threshhold. The summer in all its beauty is here. So far we have had but a few really he days, but during the next two months we shall doubtless find many opportunities to be grateful for the cool refreshing breezes that invariably favor us at the close of even July's most scorching days. The country is suffering for rain, but although there have been many indications of the longed-for showers, they come not.

THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC -W. S. Harkins and his excellent Company have met with a most gratifying reception in Halifax this week. On Monday and Tuesday evenings "Mast r and Man" was put on, and at an early hour on both occasions every seat in the Academy was occupied, and the wals up-stairs and down were lined by large numbers who preferred standing to missing the play. On Wednesday evening and last evening "Bootles' Baby" was on the programme So far as I can remember, this play was never performed in Halifax, and I am sure overyone who has read John Strange Winter's delightful and yet pathetic tale of Bootles and Mignon must have thoroughly enjoyed the Harkins' Company's presentati n. Mr. Harkins is almost too well known to Halifax theatregoers to need words of commendation from any newspaper scribbler such as your humble servant; but I would heartily recommend my Chime readers, who have not already done so, to take in one or more of the plays in which this clever actor takes a prominent part. Mr. Harkins is well supported by the members of his Company, and that Halifax is delighted may be inferred from the audiences which have filled the Academy every evening.

In view of what Hood's Sarsaparilla has done for others, is it not reasonable to believe that it will also be of benefit to you?

As Others See Us.—What a varied amount of information one may pick up if he but keeps his eyes and ears open. Coming up town on a car the morning after the inlumination of the Blake last week, I was much entertained by the conversation of a gentleman sitting opposite me, who was evidently a stranger in town, and who had no hesitation whatever in freely expressing his opini n of Halifax and Halifaxians. With our city he was delighted, although he was not wholly charmed with the dusty sidewalks in some parts of it, the lack of fresh paint on the houses and a few other trifles, but altogether he liked Halifax very much. With the genial hospitality and the sociability of the pople he was more than pleased, but of their lack of push and go-aheaditiveness he had not a few unkind remarks to make. He, with some friends, had been out in a row-

boat on the harbor the evening before, and had nothing but praise for the picture presented, as the hundreds of small boats with their morry crews encircled the huge man-of-war, and rested upon their ears awaiting the fall of darkness and the lighting up of the Blake. What surprised my unknown fellow-passenger was that while so many of our citizens had made every effort to take in the entertainment provided by the officers of the flag ship, large or small would have been gay with colored lights, and the air would have echoed with music." Now I can fancy some of my readers saying "why should we care what a stranger's opinion of us as a people is." Perhaps we don't care quite enough. Although I was almost ready to join in the conversation above referred to, and assist the Halifax man to whom these slighting remarks were addressed to stick up for Halifaxians, yet down deep in my heart I know every work Mr. — uttered on this subject was only too true. We have a magnificent harbor, we could not wish a more delightful way of spending a summer evening than in cruising around on its glassy surface, why don't we make more of it? An evening with uttered on this subject hundreds of row boats on the water, with brilliantly lighted excursion boats and plenty of music, should be a very frequent event in the summer weeks, and would give the American tourists, of whom we hear so much, a chance to find out that we in Halifax have unexcelled opportunities for enjoyment, and that we have enterprise enough to take full advantage of them. It is not pleasant to be told that we are slow, behind the times, etc. Let us hear no more of it. CHIPS.

A QUESTION.

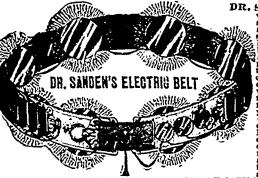
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remedly proved useless; and at the time I
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