

CITY CHIMES.

Cycling is one of the favorite sports in Halifax this summer, and the number of our wheelmen has greatly increased. The Ramblers' Club now comprises about seventy five members, and the affairs of the Club are in a most satisfactory state. Every fine evening the roads through the Park and the streets bordering the common seem fairly alive with the flying machines. Many of the wheelmen have attained a high rate of speed, and some first class machines are owned by lovers of the sport in the city. The typewriter girl and the "central" are having a rest just now from public notice, and the poets (?) are expending their energies on the charms of the bicycle girl. Our fair city can furnish some charming subjects for these poetic effusions, and our number of lady cyclists is also increasing. The practice is good fun, and the sturdy muscles and glowing cheeks of the young people who take their exercise on the wheel speak well for the healthfulness of the sport.

The Yacht Squadron entertained their numerous friends and the visiting cricketers on Saturday evening at their club house, and a very enjoyable evening was spent with the hospitable yachtmen. The club house and grounds were prettily decorated with bunting and Chinese lanterns, and the scene was indeed a festive one. A platform had been erected for dancing and many took advantage of the polished floor and good music. Refreshments were served in the dainty style for which Carver Street is famed, and the pleasant conversation, dancing and music time sped all too quickly. The occasion will long be remembered pleasantly by all who were present.

The Public Gardens Concert held on Tuesday evening was well attended, notwithstanding cloudy weather and numerous contra attractions for the amusement seeking public. As usual the garden were simply lovely and were much admired by the strangers present. Citizens of Halifax cannot but feel a thrill of pleasure and gratified pride in the abundant praise bestowed upon our magnificent gardens by all visitors to the city. The introduction of a vocal quartette into the programme on Tuesday evening was a decided success, and the ladies and gentlemen who favored the public on this occasion received hearty applause for their artistic rendering of their selections. The duet between Mrs. J. McD. Taylor and Mr. Gillis was enthusiastically encored, but the audience was not favored with a repetition. Mrs. Lear's solo was very enjoyable, and Mr. Norman delighted all hearers in his splendid rendering of "The Beacon Light." In reply to a hearty encore Mr. Norman sang, "The King's Champion," which selection as well as the first was admirably suited to his fine voice. The ballad "Bonnie Charlie's Gang awa" was sweetly sung by the quartette. The Leicestershire band performed a choice programme. The concert was pronounced one of the most enjoyable of the season. It is to be hoped that the vocalists who so kindly gave their services may be induced to again favor us on a similar occasion in the near future.

Mr. S. A. Taggart, International Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., gave an address in the hall of the Association on Tuesday evening containing many points of interest for those interested in Y. M. C. A. work. Mr. Taggart's subject was the "Special Extension Scheme." The International department of the Y. M. C. A. has at least the cause in foreign lands, and the lecturer pointed out that to keep up the work even in a measure as its importance demands requires a large expenditure of money. The special extension scheme advocates a regular and fixed sum being paid by each member. The ideas of the scheme set forth by Mr. Taggart were favorably received by the audience, and Halifax members are giving the matter full consideration.

An onlooker standing at the corner of Cogswell and North Park Street Tuesday evening, had unlimited opportunities to study human nature. On the common south of Quinpool Road the Washburne Circus Company had pitched their tents and the crowd that had collected early in the evening around the show by seven o'clock had reached enormous proportions. About seven thirty the main tent was filled to overflowing and the sale of tickets was stopped. It was said the tent was capable of comfortably accommodating about five thousand people, if so at least six or seven thousand must have made up the audience on Tuesday evening. People—white and black, old and young, silk garments and ragged gowns, mingled in the confusion that reigned supreme, and "butcher, baker, beggarman, thief," (especially the latter) rubbed elbows and pushed their way among the women and children that thronged the common. Whether the crowd felt at the end of the performance that it had got its money's worth is a question; certainly, many, after seeing all that was to be seen for a quarter and paying the numerous admittance fees to the sideshows, realized the truth of the old adage re fools and their money. But it was a "circus," and to a large majority of the people that one word has a magnetic attraction which is irresistible. The other side of the picture spread before the onlooker was the Gospel tent pitched on the common north of Quinpool road, directly opposite the circus encampment. Mr. B. C. Greenman, the energetic gentleman who nightly conducts the Gospel meetings, stood in front of his camp distributing tracts among those who passed by on their way to the circus, until his congregation collected and the usual proceedings were commenced. All through the evening these strikingly incongruous assemblies continued to hold forth. During the intervals between the selections given by the so-called band of the circus the voices of the worshippers rang out loud and clear on the calm night air in devotional songs.

The Crescents and the Wanderers played a lacrosse match on the former's grounds on Saturday afternoon. This was the first game of the championship series between these two teams, and the Crescents defeated the Wanderers after a hard struggle by 1 goal to 0.

Last Saturday the competition for Lord Dufferin's medal took place at the Studley Quoit Club. There were twenty-four players, and the event was made much more interesting to the average player by the fact that it was—for the first time on record—a handicap. Though some excellent play was shown, the champions of the club did not come near their records—with the exception perhaps of Mr. Kaye, who won the medal. The wooden spoon was presented in due form to Mr. G. M. Acklom (of Cambridge House) who is a new member this year, and therefore a legitimate competitor for this honor. Mr. Longley's speech in presenting the spoon is always one of the chief features of these festive gatherings at Studley, and on Saturday he fairly sparkled with humor, and it is with regret that we confess ourselves unable to record his *bon mots* verbatim.

Mr. Somerby is coming again, and opens at the Exhibition Building on Monday the 22nd inst. with a big show of horses, ponies and donkeys belonging to Bristol's Equestrian Club, which are expected to arrive here on the S. S. *Ulysses* on the evening of the 14th. This entertainment will possess the charm of novelty and will probably take well in Halifax.

Delightful weather both in city and country has been our portion for the past few weeks. On our shady verandahs, or under drooping forest trees, with cooling sea breezes blowing softly, we read alarming stories of the suffering caused in the cities across the border by the intense heat. The death rate in Chicago, New York and Boston has been the highest for many summers, and the misery endured in the crowded portions of those cities has been unlimited. Our province has received hundreds of weary travellers fleeing from the unbearable weather of Boston and New York and their surrounding cities and towns, and in the charms of Nova Scotia the travellers have forgotten all care and regained lost health and happy hearts. Halifax has had many visitors, and one and all have expressed delight with our ancient city and our almost perfect summer weather.

Thomas E. Shea and his company have had good houses at the Academy of Music this week. "Escaped from Sing Sing" was put on on Monday and Tuesday evenings, and the several characters of this exciting play were well personated. The piece has no lack of sensational situations, and the interest and enthusiasm of the large audience was thoroughly aroused. Mr. Shea is a good actor and is well supported by the Company. Misses Sahll, Frost and Carpenter each performs well the part allotted her, and the comedians, Jere Grady, Jere McAuliffe and Frank Hewitt provoke laughter from even the most serious. The Company gave "Barred Out" Wednesday evening and last evening, and to-night and to-morrow play "Our Strategists." The prices are low and the entertainment pleasing. The Shea Company intends remaining another week, and will put on some good plays.

Fakes and fakirs have abounded in our city this week, and our peace-loving citizens have been obliged to exercise every caution. Front doors have been kept carefully fastened and many supplicants for alms have been most uncharitably snubbed. It is to be hoped that now that the circus has taken its departure the many followers thereof will leave for pastures new. We may ruin our reputation for hospitality, but Halifaxians extend no welcoming hand to the strangers within our gates who are unworthy of our confidence.

Much interest has been evinced in the lawn tennis tournament of the Maritime Provinces, which has been held this week on the Wanderers' grounds. Halifax has done well.

The Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron held a "band evening" last night in honor of the visiting tennis players.

The yacht race on Saturday afternoon for the ladies' prize, sailed over the inside course, was one of the most interesting of the season. Six boats, each carrying a lady, started, *Lenore*, *Wym*, *Youla*, *Mentor*, *Hebe* and *Minnehaha*. The *Wym* crossed the line first by fifty-five seconds. *Youla* has now won two races, *Lenore* one and *Wym* one.

Arrangements for the coming year in aid of St. Mary's Globe House are being rapidly perfected. The drill shed will be elaborately decorated, and no trouble will be spared to ensure the success of the undertaking.

The Boston A. A. Association are expected to play cricket in Halifax about the last of this month.

For stomach chills from improper eating or drinking take Johnson's Anodyne Liniment.

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Applications for next term should be made at once, as there are but few vacancies.