

best methods. If her music left a single void it was more than filled by a personal presence of winsome modesty, self-unconsciousness and that charming self-possession which at once puts an audience at its ease and makes the entertainment a continued ovation of mutually sympathetic recognition and encouragement.

"Every number of the programme was a musical gem and each one was rendered artistically and musically. There were, 'tis true, here and there flashes of more than usual brilliancy and passages of surpassing tenderness and emotional sentiment, but throughout the entire performance there was continued evidence on Miss Laine's part of a cultivated and intelligent appreciation of the composer's ideas and sentiments, and which she expressed in the purest melody, warmed and enriched by her own delicate and refined sense and feeling, and shaded and toned by the softest and sweetest charms of vocal art."

Our own report was very short, and hardly gave Miss Laine her share of praise. We quite agree with the Stranger that Miss Laine has a beautiful voice and would rank high as a singer in any part of the world; but we cannot think that such a flow of superlative adjectives can be any more acceptable to her, than even our own very scant notice. It would be amusing to collect opinions on what Stranger would say of Adelina Patti. Will some of our literary readers make the attempt?

It is wonderful how an amusing paragraph travels over the world in next to no time. The tale about the Nova Scotians published in another column is from the "Week's News" of Allahabad; but we have had it sent at different times by three different correspondents, two in England and one up the country. However, even if some of our readers happen to have come across the clipping our last correspondent's remarks will be fresh to them.

The Archbishop showed a great deal of common sense in preventing the torch-light parade on St. Patrick's eve. It is a perfectly senseless performance, and experience has proved it to be not altogether consistent with temperance principles and orderly conduct.

Messrs. Gordon and Keith intend to celebrate the opening of their new premises on the 31st inst. by a public reception in the afternoon, from 2 to 6, and a dance in the evening, for which about 500 invitations will be sent out. The preparations are on a large scale, the band of the Leicestershire regiment will provide the music, and Street—who but Street?—will see to the commissariat. The new buildings erected for the use of this wealthy and enterprising firm are really worth seeing, and we hope this generous "celebration" will be the beginning of still more extensive operations and even greater success than has been achieved by Messrs. Gordon & Keith in the past.

Mrs. Harvey had a small tea on Wednesday at "The Oaks," but such a disagreeable day kept many indoors, so that they did not venture out so far.

Capt. Jenkins, A. D. C., left on Monday for New York, intending, we believe, to extend his trip to Mexico or California. He will be missed very much in Halifax society while he is away, but we suppose will return full of all kinds of delightful experiences and adventures.

English people and English papers seem to have rather hazy ideas as to the geography of Canada in general, and Nova Scotia in particular. We were very much amused to see in one extremely well-known and well-informed London weekly an account of the deplorable accident at Springhill, putting Springhill down as being in Pennsylvania, and making the mistake worse by adding remarks that the inhabitants of the United States always did things on a large scale. It was also amusing to read the editorial of that same paper, which was upon the late elections, and which charged the opposition with annexationist ideas and tendencies and want of loyalty to England. We would advise the editor to study geography before preaching to us our politics.

Mrs. Jack Stairs had a most enjoyable tea on Thursday, a large gathering of smart people.

Mrs. Augustus West had a similar function on the same day.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Wylde left town for Bedford on Saturday last. Mrs. Wylde will go to England early next month on a visit to her daughter, Mrs. Dixon, at Sefton Park, Liverpool.

Capt. H. R. Stewart, who is now stationed near Aberdeen, is expected to return to Halifax early this spring on a visit to his father and mother, Col. and Mrs. Stewart.

By the death of the late Earl of Albemarle a Canadian lady becomes a peeress. The present Countess of Albemarle was formerly a Miss Macnab of Ontario, and has relatives, we believe, in Halifax.

Mrs. W. B. Reynolds, who started some ten days ago on a long round of visits in the Upper Provinces, has had a sad recall to Halifax. On Saturday last one of her little children died suddenly, and Mrs. Reynolds returned home immediately.

Mr. E. J. Hodgson, Q. C., of Charlottetown, has been spending a few days in town, and at King's College, Windsor.

The engagement is announced of Miss Nellie Snider of St. John, who has many friends here, to Mr. Shortt, of the Bank of British North America.

A sale of "useful and fancy articles" will be held by the ladies of St. Stephen's Chapel at the C.E. Institute, on Wednesday, April 1st. Notice, we say a "sale" and not a "sell," as might be expected on All Fools' Day.

Without any "blarney" we can congratulate the city on the advent of the Band (or rather Bands) of the Leicestershire Regiment. Their concert on Tuesday night was unique in its way: the programme was long, and many people would have expected to get tired before it came to an end, had they known how long it was going to be; but the event shewed that the band is quite capable of not only entertaining, but keeping in a state of excitement, a large audience through a three-hour performance. This is certainly one of the best in the service, which is saying a good deal; the "Hunting Chorus" reminded us of Dan Godfrey's band; and the "Lost Chord" was magnificent, and fairly brought down the house. We must congratulate the conductor on his complete mastery over his men, and can assure him that if his energetic movements *did* raise a titter, it was only among the more ignorant and bad-mannered of the audience. "Those who know" recognized his real power at once. The "oldest inhabitant" assured us that "even the 101st couldn't play like that!" and we sincerely hope that this is only the first of a series of indoor concerts. Now that people know what the band can do, there will be no fear of empty houses.

The entertainment at Mrs. Bowser's house on Tower Road was a great success. The Misses Bowser are very clever, and we hope to have the chance of seeing this very pretty children's performance repeated again shortly. It was repeated once at the Hospital, much to the delight of the patients. Mrs. Bowser is one of a talented family; her mother, Mrs. Tidmarsh, was once well-known as a singer in Halifax.

The midday services for women at St. Luke's Cathedral will be held on Monday and Tuesday of next week. On Wednesday (the Annunciation) and on Maundy Thursday the addresses will be given at the 11 o'clock services. The men's services will be continued at the Church Institute.

The Good Friday services at St. Luke's Cathedral will be as follows;—Matins at 9, Litany and Ante-communion service at 10.30, Commemoration of the Three Hours Agony, from 12 to 3, at which the preacher will be Rev. W. B. King. Evensong 7 p. m.

In the *Dalhousie Gazette* this month, there is an excellent paper on Cremation, by Dr. Carleton Jones. Most thinking men will agree with Dr. Jones, that we ought to have a Crematorium in Halifax.