

The Rockwood Review.

The Ladies Musical Club has finished a most successful season, and congratulations are offered. This organization has done more in a year to advance musical culture in Kingston than anything that has preceded it, and the members have learned to appreciate a higher class of music than was formerly the case. The President is a woman of broad culture, and her influence has been of the most healthy type, and she has inspired the members of the Club to work and develop in a satisfactory manner. She has been ably assisted and backed up by a coterie of accomplished women, who have done what very few are willing to do, that is pocket petty jealousies in the wish to advance the true interests of music. Musicians are notoriously quarrelsome and given to trivial bickerings it is said, and that the best musicians of Kingston can combine and work harmoniously, speaks volumes not only for their management but for the musicians themselves. Long may the Womens Musical Club flourish.

Now that Kingston has taken a decided step forward in things musical, might it not be in order to suggest to the press the advisability of attempting honest criticism in the case of local musicians. It has come to be an unwritten law that when a concert takes place, it shall be the endeavor of the reporter to write the most eulogistic notices of the performance and the musicians. "Mr. James Jerolomey sang the Death of Nelson in magnificent voice, thoroughly satisfying the large audience that he has few equals as a bass in Ontario." As a matter of fact Mr. Jerolomey sang this song with the expression and style of a steam calliope out of tune, and the audience appreciated the fact. Such a notice as the above not only encourages James to even more vile performances, but confirms him in the belief that he is a phenomenon. Here is another, "Miss Leonine Lilacs enchanted

her hearers by her piano solo. Chopin's "Ta-ra de boom," Opus 19 in D. Her technique is faultless, and her future as a pianist assured. Kingston is proud of her." The truth was that Miss Leonine should have been suppressed. The press are not altogether to blame, as the local amateurs are insulted if they are not accorded fulsome flattery, so conventional has this sort of thing become. The only occasions on which anything like true criticism is attempted are those when professionals appear. There is no reason why amateurs, especially the younger ones who may improve, should not be subjected to kindly criticism, and have their faults as well as their virtues pointed out. They will appreciate it when it is done in a kindly spirit, far more than the conventional adulation which does duty after every entertainment at present.

The ice lingered in the harbor until the 21st of April.

Mr. Carl Ford added a dark necked English pheasant to the Rockwood collection. It is a very handsome bird, and a pleasing contrast in color to the Mouglians and Ring Necks. It came from New Jersey.

Miss Gaertner, the Cellist, made a most favorable impression on her recent appearance in Kingston.

Mr. Wm. Anglin was presented with a comfortable easy chair and bookrest, by the officials and employees of Rockwood at a recent date. It is hoped that he will live long to enjoy them.

Now that spring has opened, the Fire Brigade is being reorganized, and practices are held from time to time. Mr. Wm. Shea is superintendent of the Hook and Ladder department, but claims that there is too much tendency to hook the ladder, on the part of various employees, to make the position an enviable one.