

CITY CHIMES.

Halifax has had its share of disasters this week. The fire on Sunday night and the destructive storm on Monday have caused havoc in our midst. The full consequences of the latter disaster can hardly be estimated. On land and sea property was destroyed, and in some cases lives lost. The hurricane was simply terrific, its equal not having been experienced on our coast for many years, and it is to be hoped will not be again for many years to come.

**THE CLOSING OF THE FAIR.**—The Masonic Fair which closed on Monday evening was throughout a complete success. It was a pity that the formal closing was postponed from Saturday evening to Monday, but the Management of the Fair, although gifted with remarkable foresight, as shown in the successful outcome of the whole arrangement of the Fair, could not forestall the uproar of the elements which seriously interfered with the imposing ceremonies of the closing. Over 800 people, I am told, witnessed the ladies' march, given under difficulties, as the rain was pouring through the roof of the building, listened to the brief speech-making and applauded the votes of thanks. It seems hard to believe that such a number of people faced the storm, even for the attractions offered by the Fair, but it is quite easy to understand how 800 souls longed for home, sweet home, as the windows crashed in, the electric lights went out, the rain poured within and without, and the raging wind defied the strength of the pedestrians. Cabmen had a busy time conveying the belated pleasure seekers and the indefatigable workers at the Fair home, and the closing of the Masonic Fair will long be remembered. The Masons are congratulating themselves on the success of their undertaking and well they may, although to their lady friends, who have labored with such commendable ardor, belongs the larger share of the glory. The Fair has been compared with the Wanderer's Bazaar of last year, in some respects favorably in others adversely, but all agree that in point of attendance the Masonic rivals all predecessors. The booths were well patronized, the refreshment tables doing an immense business, but the ladies in charge of the fancy work booths would have found many more buyers among the numerous admirers of their merchandise had they placed their prices at more reasonable figures. It is interesting to note how Halifax people groan over hard times, and yet on such an occasion as the Masonic Fair, night after night thousands will congregate and spend their money freely. There appears to be plenty of cash on hand in our old city yet. A goodly sum has passed into the Masonic Fair fund, and its promoters' highest hopes have been realized.

**PLEASING SPORTS.**—The Ramblers' sports came off on Saturday afternoon with great eclat, as society writers are wont to say. The weather was fine, and a large gathering witnessed the sports, which were decidedly interesting. The cyclists had practised faithfully for the various events of the programme, and as a consequence the races were closely contested. The programme opened with a parade of the cyclists on their wheels, a very effective feature. Representatives of St. Mary's, Y. M. C. A., Wanderers, St. John B. C., Truro A. A. C., cyclists from Kentville, Campbellton, and a member of the Chelsea Ramblers' club of Boston, besides a few knights of the wheel who do not wear the colors of any club, competed with the Ramblers, who are to be congratulated on the success of their third annual meet. Next week the R. B. C. are arranging to hold an evening of sports under the gleam of the electric light, and some good bicycle races are promised. Halifax men are enthusiastic over the sport of cycling, and many are becoming or have become experts in the art of riding.

**A SWEET SERVICE OF SONG.**—St. Matthew's church held an unusually large congregation last Sunday evening. It having been announced that Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore would take part in the service of praise, many churchgoers of all denominations forsook their wonted places of worship and gathered at St. Matthew's. Those who went expecting much from the choir were not disappointed. Mrs. Blackmore rendered a solo as only her magnificent voice could, and charmed her hearers as in days gone by when Halifaxians delighted to gather to hear Miss Laine's full sweet tones. Mr. Blackmore also sang with his wife, their voices blending well and producing most harmonious music. The thanks of the congregation are due Mr. and Mrs. Blackmore for this genuine treat.

**BACK TO WORK.**—Doubtless the teachers as well as the pupils of our public schools are wondering where the vacation has gone, time has passed so quickly. And now they must return from pleasant jaunts, gather up books, slates and school accoutrements generally, in order to be in their places when the schools reopen. The summer has been a very pleasant one, and it is to be hoped those who have enjoyed vacation outings have returned well fitted for work, teachers refreshed, and boys and girls full of health and happiness, ready to pick up study with a will and a determination to do their best. There is no reason why every healthy boy and girl in the city should not be at school, no excuse but ill health should keep them away, and it is to be hoped that the authorities will insist upon the enforcement of the compulsory law, Halifax has good schools, competent teachers, and should have few illiterate citizens.

**THE ACADEMY.**—Vernona Jarbeau was the attraction at the Academy for the first three evenings of this week, and drew good houses. The piece "Sarlright" is not a play, it has neither plan or plot, but nevertheless the performances took well, consisting as they did of a number of good specialties. The singers, comedians and the fair little skirt dancer form a strong combination, the ladies are very attractive, and Halifax theatregoers have been

unanimous in the opinion that the Jarbeau company is the best variety company that has visited this metropolis for years.

**THE GARDEN PROMENADE.**—Never was weather more propitious for an open air concert than on Wednesday evening. The gardens were not looking their best, since many of the trees and plants were injured by the storm, but were brilliantly illuminated and presented a charming scene. The decoration of the central path leading from the large gate of the gardens west was very effective, the soft colored glow of the Chinese lanterns among the dense foliage of the trees, whose branches meeting overhead form a high arch, being exceedingly pretty. The band stand was one glow of colored lights and, with the red coated musicians gave a brilliant effect. The King's Own and the 63rd bands vied with each other in rendering delightful programmes, and to both much credit is due. The display of fireworks was very pleasing, in every respect the concert may be justly pronounced a success. It is hoped we shall soon be favored with another evening in this enchanting garden of flowers and music. Much regret was expressed at the destruction of the ancient willow, under whose wide spreading branches such a host of tender words have been said in years gone by, and of whose friendly shade so many Halifaxians, young and old, retain pleasant memories. It is a perfect wreck, and when the broken branches are removed a large blank will be left in that portion of the gardens.

Critics.

DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

All communications to this department must be addressed directly to the Checker Editor, Mr. W. Forsyth, 36 Grafton St.

CANADIAN CHECKER CHAMPIONSHIP. KELLY VS. FORSYTH.

We have just received an assurance from the draughts editor of the Toronto Mail that a trophy will be presented to the winner in the above match, and have mailed him the following reply. Halifax, N. S., Aug. 21st '93.

Mr. Rennie,  
Dear Sir: Your card received. I will hold myself in readiness to commence match in Toronto, on 11th of Sept. on the following condition:

That the Secy. of the Toronto Draught Club or some other responsible person over his own signature shall mail replies to the following questions to reach me on or before the 1st day of Sept.

- 1st. Has a trophy been provided.
- 2nd. What is its value.
- 3rd. What are the conditions on which it is to be given to the winner of Kelly-Forsyth match.

Hoping to have an answer by the 1st of Sept. I remain yours etc.  
WM. FORSYTH.

GAME 229 "CENTRE."

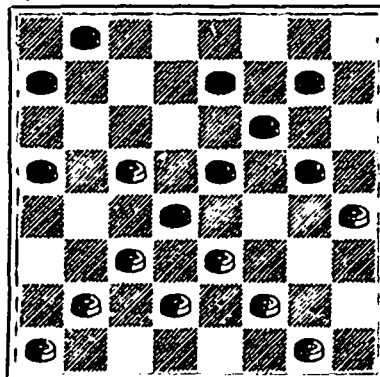
From the Glasgow Herald by W. Campbell.

11-15	4-11	2-7	a 3-8
23-19	17-14	30-26	
8-11	11-15	9-13	
22-17	28-24	26-23	
15-18	12-16	6-10	
19-15	24-20	31-26	
10-19	7-11	10-17	
24-8	26-22	21-14	

a This forms problem No. 346.

PROBLEM 346.

Black men 1, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18.



White men 14, 20, 22, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29, 32.

White to play and win. We think the youngest of our readers should be able to discover the stroke, which wins in five minutes.

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM 244.

The position was:  
Black men 2, 5, 6, 12, 18, 23.  
White men 13, 17, 20, 21, 31, king

18-22	8-11	29-25	31-22
3-8	25-29(1)	15-18	6-10
22-25	11-15	23-26	B. wins.
VAR. I.			
20-16	23-26	24-19	18-23
12-19	31-22	2-7	24-28
15-24	25-18	19-24	5-9

Black wins.

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**SEALED TENDERS**, addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tender for Nyanza Work," will be received until Friday, the 15th day of September next, in view of the construction of a Wharf at Nyanza, Victoria County, Nova Scotia, according to a plan and specification to be seen at the Post Office, Nyanza, and at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa.  
Tenders will not be considered unless made on the form supplied, and signed with the actual signatures of tenderers.  
Each tender must be accompanied by an accepted bank cheque, made payable to the order of the Honourable the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent. of the amount of the tender, which will be forfeited if the party declines to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fails to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted, this cheque will be returned.  
The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.  
By order  
**E. F. E. ROY,**  
Secretary.  
Department of Public Works,  
Ottawa, 2nd Aug., 1893.

Halifax Printing Co.,  
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Halifax.