

Society Notes.

It was with many regrets we repeatedly heard remarked last Friday, "to-day is Lady Watson's last At Home," so, notwithstanding the numerous other attractions for the same afternoon, most of those who were favoured with invitations put in an appearance.

Being a lovely day the grounds of Admiralty House were looking quite their best. The view from the Terrace with the harbour below is a landscape rarely equalled. The band of the Flag-ship played most inspiring tunes which added greatly to the pleasure of the entertainment. Not being too hot for Tennis the two courts were kept fully occupied—judging from their appearance rather unusual for them. Those who availed themselves of the opportunity were delighted to play on such courts of size and quality, and some capital games were watched with interest, particularly those in which one visitor played far above the average, though he offered many excuses for not playing better, having only just come ashore.

Among others present were several officers of the American Flag-ship "The Philadelphia," who, like the late French Naval visitors, seemed to fully appreciate the welcome accorded them. The ladies' dresses appeared to be of much darker hues than befitted the occasion and the bright day. Probably some of them wishing to air their latest and best for this particular gathering, with ample room to display the material and style, before the "shine" is taken off them at crowded "Tea fights" and other "suffocations" which come with the dark days.

A white and gold dress richly braided, a silvery grey surah relieved with pale pink trimmings; a black broche with handsome passementerie; a slate cashmere with lighter drapery made in Mother Hubbard style; a cream foulard, and a shepherd's plaid were the most taking. White muslins always look nice, of which there were several, and they, with the more costly black dress showed up the varied coloured costumes—some similar to—that notable coat of old, as worn by Joseph. For instance, a Terra Cotta embroidered with green; a dark green with trimmings of blue and red, and the posy of flowers as a substitute for a hat, to correspond, but for the sake of fashion, one has to limit one's expressions of opinion as to whether it suits the wearer, or is unbecoming.

An account of a charming English Fete held lately is quite a novel entertainment, and may interest some who like myself were not there. It was held in some lovely grounds a short distance from London and was in aid of the Society which provides nurses for the sick poor in their own homes.

There were groups composed of perhaps a dozen little children, and each girl in the group was made up as a flower. Thus, one group was all scarlet Poppies, another pinks, a third appeared as Cornflowers, but the White Lilies were the prettiest of all.

The flower inverted formed the hats and the colours of the blossoms and leaves were very cleverly reproduced in the rest of the costume. All the young ladies present were dressed as waiting maids and served the tea, ices and strawberries and cream. There was good music and a great variety of entertainments for the visitors.

How delightful it would be if we could look forward to spending such an enjoyable two hours every week or oftener, as we were able to do last Friday evening, when the Bands of the Leicestershire Regiment and St. Patricks' Band played in the Public Gardens, on a most lovely night, and the Gardens as seen by the Electric Lights looked indeed beautiful.

That was the second Concert of its kind and was thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed by the hundreds of people who attended. Each succeeding one will be more so—that is—if we may place any confidence in the report, that probably the public may have the great pleasure renewed to them—and shortly that will be followed by others. It is no ordinary Band, that the small sum of 25 cents

admits one into the gardens to listen to, and each time one hears it it seems to have improved if possible under the directorship of the new Bandmaster, so that the Leicestershire Regiment has indeed cause to be justly proud of its Band.

The Public Gardens in themselves have great attractions, yet how many who profess to be fond of flowers, never go inside them. Just now they are in full beauty: the designs of some of the beds being most elaborate and tastefully carried out, the plants themselves doing full justice to the manager. The paths and grass so well kept, and ample accommodation of seats for those who prefer to sit and admire the different aspects. Instead of it being the principal resort for the "Upper Ten" of Halifax daily, it is a rare occasion for any of them to be seen there. Impossible to realize how such beauties of nature have no interest for those people who are content to be in ignorance of their existence—though many are living within a few yards of them.

As the ladies of Halifax take part in so many active pastimes, how is it a Ladies' Cricket Club has not been started? Hunting has been styled the "sport of Kings," surely the noble game of Cricket might be justly termed the "Sport of Queens" in this instance. They are equal to Paper Chases, Regattas, Rounders, and Tennis Tournaments, and added to these, the idea of the Rifle Association finds great favour, which we hope will shortly be started, therefore why not Cricket. A contemporary tells us Lady Harris is the Captain of a Mixed Team of which her husband is a member. In a recent match curiously enough, their respective totals were the same, 28 runs each. An Indian Governor and his wife playing together in a Cricket Match in India, is surely unique in official experiences, and encouraging to those in other positions in society.

Mr. J. E. Dicketts came off first in the W. A. A. C. Bowling competition on Saturday, the first ten in order being

	Points.
1. J. E. Dicketts.....	18
2. W. F. Meynell.....	17
3. A. D. Tremaine.....	16
4. S. Howe.....	14
5. C. Cook, C. H. Mackinlay, E. Stavert.....	13
8. C. McLaughlin, E. P. Allison.....	11
10. A. E. Harrington.....	10

There was an unusually large attendance at Studley, on Saturday, when the competition for the Dufferin medal took place. Mr. J. R. Henderson was the winner, Mr. L. R. Kaye coming second, and Mr. J. E. Albro third. For some reason or other not explained, the averages were much poorer than usual all round, though all contained within a smaller range.

The speechifying that fill the order of the day at Studley on these occasions are of the most charmingly informal description. Mr. Longley fairly eclipsed himself on the occasion of somebody else—Mr. Chisholm to wit—winning the wooden spoon. The Hon. gentleman's speech, like his appearance on the field in club hat and pipe, was a gem in its way, and we regret the shortness of our memory in being unable to record it in toto.

Mrs. Massey, Montreal, is visiting Mrs. W. B. Reynolds, Inglis Street.

The Academy of Music is now occupied by the New York Bijou Opera Company. On Monday evening Offenbach's Princess of Trebizonde was played to a large house, Miss Adelaide Randall taking the part of Prince Raphell. Her voice has not lost any of its power or its sweetness. We were charmed with her rendering of "The last Rose of Summer." The singing of the whole of the principals was first rate. The operetta itself was of a slight character, and had a less talented company had the rendition in its hands, could not have been so successfully interpreted.

Sir Arthur Haliburton the newly appointed Under Secretary of State at the War office, is the youngest son of that famous old Nova Scotian Judge Thomas Chandler Haliburton, whose sayings under the pseudonym of "Sam Slick" have amused more than