

CITY CHIMES.

TEMPUS FUGIT.—Another month nearly gone. We are having very fine weather for the season. True this week has not had many pleasant days although it began most auspiciously. Our Indian summer is yet to come, so the wise folk say, so that even dull November has its bright spot, and we may yet have more warm days ere the winter sets in.

HOW TO DRESS WELL.—People like to be deceived," so an old saying goes. Well perhaps they do, but I think we all rather enjoy being undecieved sometimes. It may not be pleasant when you have just congratulated yourself, my lady friend, upon having secured "an awfully stylish gown," to be told that you have made a mistake in imagining that you are going to look your best when you array yourself therein, but if you gain some healthy ideas on the important subject of how to dress becomingly you will surely feel the bitter pill was worth swallowing. As I told you last week I was promised by Mrs. Henrietta Russell that I might this week have some few of her ideas on art in dress for the benefit of my readers. Mrs. Russell firmly believes that with a knowledge of color every woman could dress as well as she now does on half the money that she now expends, and at the same time look twice as well. This is a sweeping statement, and if it be proven true is worthy the consideration of every woman who would make the most of her dress allowance and set off her personal charms to the best advantage. Mrs. Russell also declares that no woman, young or old, should wear black, it deepens the shadows in the face and, oh horrible thought! makes one look old. Now it appears to me that a large number of people have an idea that black is universally becoming. Mrs. Russell opines that it is popular with many because it so effectually conceals the dirt. Of course in Halifax we have to have some clothes that will not immediately show traces of the soot and smoke with which we must more or less come in contact, but if we take Mrs. Russell's advice we will not wear black.

One of the best rules, says Mrs. Russell, is to match the color of the hair for street gowns, of the eyes for house dresses and tea gowns, and of the skin for evening dresses. For instance a woman with a yellow skin cannot afford to wear blue, but will find herself becomingly dressed if she selects some of the yellow whites or yellow pinks. Any color one has is heightened by adding more of that color, blue eyes are better if the owner be dressed in blue, only the dress must not be bluer than the eyes, which should form the brightest point in the whole effect. Those who are the fortunate possessors of beautiful teeth do well to wear white, but not purer white than the color of the teeth. There are but three primary colors, red, blue and yellow, and no one should wear color that is brighter than the red, blue or yellow tones that nature has given her. Says Mrs. Russell, "never wear a color you can give a name to—or match in a shop." A color to which you can give a name is too near a primary color. Mrs. Russell approves of soft, light, pretty house dresses, and also considers them economical since they can be made of inexpensive material and save the street dresses. She considers dresses formed of contrasting colors vulgar, since the taste which selects decided contrast in colors is crude indeed. In general she thinks purples and greens very trying and should be avoided by almost everyone. Green can be worn by stout women with plenty of color, or by women with green eyes. (How many will acknowledge that there is green in their eyes.)

While Mrs. Russell was giving me the foregoing information, which I have given to you in almost her own words, the idea was developing in my mind that one would find it anything but easy to select becoming colors in Halifax; but Mrs. Russell's remark just at this point set at rest this disturbing thought. "Halifax women are well up to the latest styles but have simply no art in their dress, yet suitable and artistic goods can be obtained in every store of any consequence in your city." "If they only knew," said I, "proper colors when they see them." "Just the point, they have not a knowledge of color."

Of course underneath this study of color, for study it is, lies fundamental principles, perhaps foremost among which is the law of parallelism.

Mrs. Russell's drawing room class, composed of ladies who move in the upper society circle of the city, is progressing very favorably. Several young ladies are taking private lessons in physical culture etc., and it seems that Delsartism is now well founded in Halifax.

Next week I hope to have some valuable suggestions in artistic decoration of the home which may be acceptable to the home makers among my readers.

THE CLOSE OF THE OPERA.—The opera season has all but ended. Excellent performances and large audiences have prevailed throughout the three weeks in which the Grau Opera Company has played in the Academy of Music. Miss Edith Mason has won much well merited praise, and her charming appearance and clear sweet voice will long be remembered with pleasure. Miss Alice Carro too has taken splendidly, and her finely cultivated voice has found many admirers among our theatre goers. Miss Bessie Fairbairn is undoubtedly one of the most valuable members of the Company, her voice is good, and her impersonation of the characters she assumes almost perfect. Miss Ada Bernard, the bright-faced, poet maiden, no matter what her roll may be always pleases. Among the men folk of the Company Mr. T. H. Persse unquestionably takes first place as a singer. His beautiful tenor has been heard to advantage in the operas which have been put on, and has afforded great delight to all music lovers among his audiences. Mr. Herman Waldo has also won favor. The inimitable Stanley Felch has furnished a large amount of fun, and has taken his various parts most creditably. In his fun making he has been ably supported by Mr. Bell. The other members of the company have each and all done their full share towards securing the success which has been

earned by the Company during its short season in our city. This evening and to-morrow afternoon "Ship Ahoy" is on the programme, and to-morrow evening "Boccaccio" is to be presented. "Ship Ahoy" has had a good reception so far this week, and there will probably be large houses to-night and to-morrow. It having been announced at the first of the week that "Pinafore" would likely be given as a closing performance, there were many expressions of disappointment when it was found that this fine old opera was not to be sung. However no doubt the powers that rule the Company have good reason to decide as they have. The Grau Company may feel assured of a welcome in Halifax at any future date.

THE POPULAR SPORT.—The football games of the season are proving quite as interesting as anticipated, and have been witnessed by large crowds of spectators. So far the teams of the United Service have not been in luck the seniors having been defeated by both Wanderers and Dalhousians and the juniors not yet having borne off the palms. However the one is not yet and the play from now on will be watched if possible with increased interest.

THE MILITARY TOURNAMENT.—For some weeks preparations for the Military tournament have been in progress, and no effort has been considered too great or time too precious to be spent in making perfect the plans arranged for this event. The soldiers have been thoroughly interested in the work and under the guidance of Col. Isaacson, who has had much experience in managing the London tournaments, and of Capt. Lange, an able gymnast, have accomplished wonders. The first part of the tournament came off at the Exhibition Building last evening and was largely attended. This evening another exhibition of skill at arms, tug of war, and other competitions, will be given. In this garrison city, where the military hold such an important position, such entertainments as these should find a large number of interested and enthusiastic spectators.

TOO LATE.—The time is past when every paper one picks up advises him to go to the Fair if he can possibly beg, borrow or get the money in any way at all. It is now too late to go to the Fair. Those who have been fortunate enough to have witnessed the host of sights to be seen, and who have breathed for a time the unique atmosphere of excitement in and surrounding Jackson Park are to be congratulated. They have had an experience ripe with enjoyment and knowledge which in all probability will not fall to their lot again. We who have been compelled to stay at home and keep things running are not sorry that it is over. We are getting tired, at least a good many of us are, of hearing of all we are missing, and as our numerous friends who have been more favored than we delight in telling us, in season and out of season, of what they saw in Chicago, we have a fair idea that we have missed a great deal and want to forget what unucky mortals we are. A goodly representation of Halifaxians have registered at the Canadian Pavilion and are now returning full of enthusiasm over the greatest show on earth.

A PITY.—A charity which has been taken up in Boston is the furnishing of street car tickets to poor invalids for rides in the suburbs of the city. This idea has nothing especially brilliant in it, but it has certainly been the means of doing much good. Could not some philanthropic citizen, or citizens, of Halifax, take a hint from our Boston friends, and in a very simple way furnish a great degree of pleasure to some lives that are a most strangers to enjoyment. To be sure our cars do not run into the suburbs, but the outing would be a pleasant change for some shut ins. Any charitable society, or the young people's societies of our churches, would be glad to furnish the names and addresses of such invalids as would appreciate a tram ride, and although the season is late yet these autumnal days are very enjoyable. Perhaps as Halifaxians are proverbially slow, nothing will be done in this line this year, but would it not be well to make a note on it, à la Captain Cuttle, and in the spring time put it into effect. To give a score of poor, tired women, aged invalids or sickly little ones a pleasant afternoon's outing would not cost at the outside more than a couple of dollars, and would certainly be a wise investment of the money, what do you think?

CHAS.

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SEALED TENDERS addressed to the undersigned, and endorsed "Tenders for Post Office Fittings, &c." will be received at this office until Thursday, 9th November, 1893, for the several works mentioned in the creation of Post Office Fittings, &c., Dartmouth, N. S.
Specifications can be seen at the Department of Public Works, Ottawa and at the office of C. F. W. Hodwell, Resident Engineer, old Market Building, Halifax, on and after Wednesday, 18th October, and tenders will not be considered unless made on form supplied, and signed with the actual signatures of tenderers.
An accepted bank cheque, payable to the order of the Minister of Public Works, equal to five per cent of the amount of tender, must accompany each tender. This cheque will be forfeited if the party declines the contract or fails to complete the work contracted for, and will be returned in case of non-acceptance of tender.
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, 4th October, 1893.