

CITY CHIMES.

OUR CHRISTMAS WISHES.

Joyous memories, hopes the brightest,
Purses heavy, bills the lightest.

Friends all kindness, hearts all gladness,
Lack of nothing save of sadness.

Love to light up all your meetings—
These to you our Christmas greetings.

Halifax merchants have this year made a highly creditable display, and "the man that siller has to spare" will not find it hard to make a profitable investment therefor, the dividends being the pleasure and gratitude that is expressed by the recipients of appropriate gifts.

"I am convinced of the merit of Hood's Sarsaparilla, after having taken but a few doses"—this is what many people say.

If you haven't any money in your inside pocket wherewith to purchase Christmas gifts, or if it be that you are one so utterly desolate that you have no friends for whom to purchase Christmas gifts, you can yet get not a little fun out of your dreary life by simply watching the crowds of people that fill our central streets these days. If you are not afraid of being arrested as a suspicious character, or of being told by the polite proprietor in courteous tones to move on, it would be a good scheme to find a small corner in some one of our principal shops, and there in solitude watch the varying throng and meditate on the variety of people that it takes to make a world, even the little world of Halifax. Surely a smile would appear on your woe begone countenance as you watched the expectant, happy child select a suitable present for papa or mama, and with pride fairly beaming from the little face hand over the much prized "saved-up monies." Your interest would be aroused in the fair lady whose anxious face and multiplicity of purchases at once stamp her as the woman with a large circle of relatives and friends, but your risible faculties would surely rise beyond control, even while your heart would go out in pity, as you witness the man of little experience attempting to buy one or more appropriate gifts for those to whom he wishes to convey his good wishes in a practical manner. If you are a woman, as you watch this bewildered specimen of mankind, you will long to give him a little helpful advice, and if you are a man you will surely wish to suggest to your brother in distress that he call upon some kind lady friend to assist him in his difficult task. The bustle of preparation and the air of expectancy which prevails in our fair city this week is very enjoyable, and if the weather prove propitious on the long looked-for day, both indoor and outdoor pleasures will, no doubt, be fully enjoyed by both old and young.

We should as soon go without matches in the house, as Johnson's Anodyne Liniment, it's wonderful.

Christmas has come once more. Let me add my greeting to the many good wishes my readers are receiving, and wish one and all not only a merry Christmas but a genuinely happy day. Sad memories are apt to fill our minds as we prepare to celebrate the joyous festival again, even though present pleasures are many and the day has every prospect of brightness, but let each one strive to banish all shadow and join heartily in the good cheer and joy of those about us. Christmas is particularly the children's day, and it is worth almost any sacrifice on the part of the "grown-ups" to make the enjoyment of the little folks as perfect as possible. We never forget the Christmases of our childhood, and when we realize that in a few short years the little men and women who are to-day eagerly counting the hours until the eventful morning arrives must take up the burdens which fall more or less heavily on us all, we would do well to put forth every effort to make the coming Christmas day memorable for its happiness and brightness. Again, to all, a happy Christmas.

Hang up the holly and the mistletoe,
Build up the fires and let them redly glow,
Set out good cheer in all your happy homes,
For this is why the Christmas yearly comes.

Renew old friendships, and forgive all wrongs,
For loving kindness to the time belongs;
Be generous to the poor and needy ones,
For this is why the blessed Christmas comes.

If you are at all curious to try something new, write Percy J. A. Lear, Atlantic Cigar Manufacturing Association, 221 Barrington St., Halifax, for particulars.

There have been good houses at the Lyceum this week and an excellent programme has been presented. Powell is a first class magician, and his feats have completely puzzled even the most clever among his audiences. His cabinet trick, in which he enters the huge box with hands tied, and with marvellous rapidity dons a coat he has borrowed from a man on the stage in exchange for his own, and apparently without loosening his hands from their sealed shackles, is a marvellous piece of work. M'le Vera in her part of the programme is also very good, and Hilton is a splendid juggler. Altogether this is one of the most satisfactory shows Professor Semon has yet given to his many patrons in Halifax, and it will, no doubt, take well during the holiday season.

There now being ice at the Exhibition Rink skaters have every prospect of having this favorite rendezvous open on the 26th, when it is proposed to have the 66th band present at afternoon and evening sessions.

Captain John R. Hira, of schooner "Lillian," says: "I was suffering with inflammation of the chest, brought on by exposure at sea. Took a good supply of Puttner's Emulsion, which perfectly cured me. It has given me a new set of lungs."

The committee who managed the concert given last evening at the Academy of Music in aid of the poor had prepared an excellent programme, and as pleasure and duty were so happily combined in attending this entertainment, I have no doubt it was in every way a success, and that the object for which the promoters have been working was materially aided.

Invitations are out for the Commercial Travellers' Ball, which is to be held at the Halifax Hotel on Tuesday evening next. The committee in charge is doing everything in its power to provide for the accommodation and entertainment of the guests of the association, and there seems to be no chance of aught but abundant success rewarding their efforts.

Every mother should have Johnson's Anodyne Liniment for cuts, burns and bruises.

The Dalhousie College boys had their annual "break-up" on Wednesday evening. After an entertainment at the college a large deputation of hilarious students paraded the street, making the air ring with their sweet voices and the doubtful music of an impromptu band. The college football team gave an oyster supper in honor of their forward, George Gordon, at Guerin's restaurant on Wednesday evening.

The Halifax Commercial College is to have a vacation of nearly two weeks this Christmas season, closing on the 22nd inst. and re-opening on January 3rd. The annual "At Home" was held last evening in the spacious college rooms. Invitations had been issued to a large number of the friends of the Institution, and a good programme of music, addresses, etc., was successfully carried out. Refreshments were served, and teachers, students and guests spent a very pleasant evening. The piano used on this occasion was a Karn from Miller Bros. warerooms.

The Halifax Business College also held a reception last evening preparatory to closing for the holidays. After an enjoyable evening the company separated with many expressions of good-will for the season. These interesting gatherings serve to promote social intercourse among the students and their teachers, and are long remembered when college days are over.

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