

CITY CHIMES.

The glimpse the ladies got of the new quarters of the City Club last week was the cause of many serious reflections on the subject of clubs in general versus the home in particular. There seems to be a tendency just now in several widely separated quarters to talk and write up the home and how to make it beautiful and attractive, and as a matter of course the business of home-making is supposed to belong solely to the tender sex, and there appears to be no idea abroad that husbands and brothers have a right to do with the matter. This is a great mistake, and there are few men who will admit when they really consider it that they are not important factors in the home life. Many ladies, after inspecting the luxurious "home" of the Club, came to the conclusion that men who talk so much of the beauties of home and the necessity for having it attractive are easily satisfied if they can forsake their families very frequently for the empty luxury of this masculine meeting-place. True, there is every provision for bodily comfort, and good-fellowship between the members makes it very sociable; but how is it that men can forego the *love* at home for the *luxury* of the club? Perhaps after all the idea of affectionateness on the part of the male sex is an error, and that the true state of affairs is that some of them experience sentimental periods during their youth, which when once got over, like the measles, do not usually occur again. Or perhaps the wives and sisters do not prove successful in their efforts to make home the best place on earth, and the club is a necessity for the sterner sex on this account; or it may be that men do not see the point of filling their homes with the costly articles with which the club is furnished; or mayhap they prefer lunching or dining with a trained waiter's obsequious attention rather than at home, where the one "help" has too much to do to be thoroughly neat when she appears in the dining-room to assist at meals. Whatever it is, there seems to be something—some little rift in the lute,—which makes the club somewhat out of harmony with the ideas of the ladies, who however are so kind in their comments that they hide the slightly hurt feeling over the fact that their men could like any place better than home, and say they are so glad the boys have a comfortable place to go to in town, where they will be out of mischief; and it is so convenient for those who live out of town and must go somewhere for lunch—in fine that the club house is a creditable addition to the institutions of Halifax, and they wish the members all enjoyment in it. Where such kindly and unselfish feelings are expressed, it would be well for the clubites to spare an occasional evening at home so that the ladies will not have cause to reverse their words.

The Kickapoo Indian Company has been holding its entertainments and sale of Indian medicines in St. Patrick's Hall for some weeks and reports business flourishing. The Kickapoos are going to remain in the city for another week and offer great inducements in the way of concerts and general fun-creating to all who attend their novel show. The members of the company present a very formidable appearance as they stroll through the streets of our city in full war paint, but we believe they are fair-dealing fellows and give their patrons full worth of their money.

The entertainment of the Y. M. C. A. course which was announced to come off this week has been indefinitely postponed, and the friends of the Association will be treated to a medical talk by Dr. M. Chisholm on Tuesday evening next. The subject chosen by Dr. Chisholm is "Know Thyself," a very appropriate topic in this season of universal sickness. Perchance did we know ourselves a little more intimately we might take better care of ourselves and thus prevent many of the numerous ills which now meet us at every turn.

"Everything comes to those who wait," so they say, and accordingly the many pleasure seekers who have been awaiting a bountiful fall of snow have been rewarded this week with good sleighing and charming weather for their annual outings. Among the numerous large parties which have betaken themselves from the din of the busy city to the quiet of the suburbs was a merry crowd from the establishment of Muddock's Nephews, on Saturday. Leaving at one o'clock in one of Robinson's four horse teams the party arrived at Bedford about half past two, and adjourning to Wilson's Hotel passed the time in various ways until six o'clock when they sat down to one of the sumptuous dinners for which host Wilson is noted, and after speeches, songs etc. had helped to speed a pleasant evening the company started for home in high spirits, having thoroughly enjoyed the day. The Non-Commissioned Officers of the H. G. A. on Tuesday started for Bedford in first-class style, the procession being headed by a team carrying the band which discoursed sweet strains. The "boys" looked very gay in their bright uniform and all went merrily, the drive proving but a repetition of former delightful gatherings of these "hail follows well met." On Wednesday the messenger boys of the Western Union, the boys of the Provincial House, a merry party of bank clerks, a large number of the 63rd Rifles, and several other parties took advantage of the good sleighing. On Thursday the Union Protection Company took its annual sleigh drive to Bedford. The typical winter days have been duly appreciated by several private parties as well, who have eagerly seized the opportunity for a "jolly time," and the merry sleigh-bells mingled with the music of happy voices have made the city appear quite gay.

Extensive preparations are being made to ensure the success of the carnival to be given at the Exhibition Rink on Tuesday evening, 16th inst., under the auspices of the Private Afternoon Parties. One of the many attractions offered is the grand *Competition*, which will be danced by forty ladies and gentlemen in fancy costumes. This dance consists of three figures, the first with ribbons gives a very pretty effect, after many graceful

manoeuvres in winding and unwinding the ribbons, the whole at one time forms a ribbon arch across the rink under which part of the dancers pass and then all break into the mazas of the waltz which lasts for a few bars. Figure two is with whip and reins and is novel and pretty. The third and last figure is called the Japanese, at the beginning of which the dancers pass over to the Master of Cotillion the whips and reins of the previous figure and receive instead Japanese fans and parasols which they manipulate with the most charming ease, and later on each couple exchanges these for Chinese lanterns on sticks and thus armed the dance is finished. This merry dance bids fair to rival the minuet which was so generally admired at the skating carnival of last year. Our young people are eagerly looking forward to this event of the rink season, and if the cold weather continues there is little doubt of abundant success rewarding the efforts that are being put forth to render the first carnival of the winter a truly enjoyable affair.

We are glad to notice that St. Patrick's Minstrels are to give another performance with a slight change of programme, at the Academy of Music on Monday evening, February 15th. There is no doubt of the liberal patronage of Halifaxians being extended to this entertainment, as the excellent performances given by the Company last week warrant anticipations of an enjoyable evening when the bright and original members of the organization again appear on the Academy stage. The proceeds of this entertainment will be devoted to the building fund of St. Mary's new Globe house, Barrington Street, which is now rapidly nearing completion and presents a most attractive appearance.

Professor Zera Semon, the popular showman, gave a good entertainment last evening and will again appear this evening at the Academy of Music. These entertainments are under the auspices of the Wanderers Amateur Athletic Association and will doubtless be highly appreciated by the many friends of the Club in the city. The programme includes most marvellous sleight of hand performances, magical tricks, amusing feats of ventriloquism, etc. etc. The Royal Marionettes form one of the many attractions of an excellent programme, and we feel sure that many who have never been present at the shows presented by the inimitable Professor Semon will gladly avail themselves of this opportunity to see for themselves the wonders whereof they have oftentimes heard.

The dates of the Leicestershire concerts to be given at the Academy of Music have been changed from 11th and 12th to the 12th and 13th of February on account of Thursday, 11th inst., being the day appointed for our worthy citizens to cast their votes, for which event all social engagements must be put aside.

Whispers of the good time coming in the sweet by and by when the Grand National Fair to be given by the Wanderers A. A. Club materializes are gladly heard by the pleasure loving portion of the community. This popular organization has wisely called its lady friends into council, and many bright and original plans will no doubt be devised and ably carried out. Pleasant recollections of the World's Fair and the Nautical warrant us in entertaining great expectations.

The Christ Church Young Men's Society of Dartmouth gave a successful entertainment in Dartmouth last evening, the proceeds from which will go to swell the building fund of the Society.

The second lecture of the Church of England Institute winter course which was announced to take place last evening in the Institute Hall, was unavoidably postponed owing to the serious illness of Professor Robert's brother. The subject of this lecture was "Notes on the Threshold." Much curiosity has been felt among those who have not heard this lecture as to what these "Notes on the Threshold" might be. One of our friends aptly suggested that possibly the plaintive refrain of Tennyson's song *Too Late that ruts the ly,* "On let us in, On let us in," might be suited to the occasion. We regret that this event has been postponed, but we hope that we may ere long have the opportunity of listening to Professor Roberts' address on this subject.

Tobogganing parties are the order of the day and much genuine and exhilarating fun has been derived from this enjoyable sport during the past week. Collins' field is a favorite resort for those who enjoy the coasting, and the excellent toboggan slide here afforded has been fully appreciated. The citadel hill also has been utilized by the young people for this purpose, but we think the "grown ups" would wisely leave this slope for the small boys, as the danger, while it may add zest to the sport, is too imminent for young ladies to brave, and several serious accidents as well as sundry hair breadth escapes have occurred to coasters on the hill this week. The boys while coming down the hill at break-neck speed avoid all danger of running into the fence by simply tumbling off their sleds into the snow, but this mode of procedure is not so easy for dignified young ladies and gentlemen.

The Christian Endeavor Societies of the city have this week been celebrating the eleventh anniversary of the founding of the Christian Endeavor movement. The first Society was founded in Portland, Maine, by Dr. Clarke, now of Boston, in 1881, and to day there are 18,500 Societies with a membership of 1,160,000. The growth has been marvellously rapid and all churches that have in connection a society of this order testify loudly to the service it has done. The members of the Y. P. S. C. E. of St. John's Church are holding a social this evening to which they have extended invitations to the sister societies in the city and Dartmouth.