

CITY CHIMES.

A DEAD CALM.—That social affairs, both private and public, are in *statu quo* just at present every one knows only too well. There have been a few parties organized for a snow shoe tramp through the park, followed by an informal supper and dance. During the past week or so the rink has been well patronized and sleigh-driving has been very generally enjoyed. Outside of these mild forms of amusement, with an occasional card party thrown in, there is absolutely nothing going on.

THE SNOWSHOEISTS.—The Red Cap snowshoeists had a fine tramp to Bedford, via Dartmouth, on Saturday last. About twenty-five of the boys in blankets participated in the sport, and on arriving at Bedford were heartily greeted by a gathering of friends who had gone up by train. After dinner a merry time was spent and the tramp voted a thoroughly enjoyable affair.

ANOTHER CARNIVAL.—A children's prize carnival is to be held at the rink on Tuesday, the 14th of this month, provided the winter weather lasts until then. Prizes are offered for the most original as well as the handsomest costumes, and the boys and girls who intend trying their luck at winning must needs put on their thinking caps and get up something new and pretty.

Hood's Pills cure constipation by restoring the peristaltic action of the alimentary canal. They are the best family cathartic.

COMING EVENTS CAST A SHADOW.—The ladies are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the new goods, for the sister who complains that "one does get so tired of one's winter outfit before the weather permits the donning of new and lighter materials," but echoes the general sentiment of her sex. Oh fickle woman! with what feelings of satisfaction and pardonable pride you but a few months ago arrayed yourself in those same now-despised garments, and with the sweet consciousness of being becomingly and fashionably dressed, appeared in the drawing-room of your most critical friend or promenaded Barrington and Granville Streets. Such is life! If the representatives of the various dry goods establishments who have "gone home" for the spring and summer stock but realized with what intense interest their movements are watched, and their home-coming looked for by the fair ones of Halifax, they would be in a fair way to be overcome by a sense of self-importance. Luckily, however, their minds are so absorbed by the desire to procure saleable and profitable articles that their vanity has no room to rise. It is now but four weeks until Easter, when every one of the women-folk positively must have a new bonnet and jacket, to say nothing of gowns and furbelows, and the latter days of the Lenten season will doubtless be fully occupied in the rush of sewing and shopping. Confections of the milliner's art, suggestive of the glad springtime, and similar attractions, will soon be displayed by our dealers, and with warm sunshine overhead, and mud and slush underfoot, animated groups of matrons and maidens doing town, the sweet music of the hand-organ, etc., it will not be hard to realize that the back of old winter is broken.

THE DOERING-BRAUER CONCERT.—I understand that the Doering-Brauer Conservatory concert, at which the Dalhousie Glee Club is to make its *debut*, is to be a most enjoyable affair. One thing is certain, the clever Herr Doering and his energetic Frau will spare no trouble to ensure success, and with the talent at their disposal and the experience they have had in arranging for such affairs, will no doubt give the musical public a grand treat at the coming concert. Next Tuesday week, the 14th inst., is the date fixed for the entertainment, and I feel sure there will be a rush for tickets. Such an attraction, after such a dearth of entertainment, cannot fail to prove irresistible.

A NEW MONTH.—The new month entered very softly, and in view of the severe treatment we have received from that despot, the weather, during the past three months, it is fervently hoped that March will not be characteristic of itself, cold, blustery and altogether wild, but will allow the sun to swiftly melt the snow and ice, and let us have an early spring.

Johnson's Anodyne Liniment, used externally, cures rheumatism; not in a minute, however.

BEWARE OF THE FOOL MAKER.—"Lady Jane," the popular weekly correspondent of the *Acadian Recorder*, gives a leaf out of her book of experience as a warning to the unwary. She says—"There is an advertisement to be seen at the present time in which you are told that if you send a dollar to a certain address you will receive a handsome engraving of Christopher Columbus and party as they were landing in America in the year 1492. In return for my dollar I received a two cent Columbian stamp. Of course I have no redress, as I certainly got an engraving, but I am a poorer and a wiser woman through the transaction, and yet I know that all the scamps are not dead yet, and when I look at that stamp I have to admit, though reluctantly, that no more are the fools dead! At the same time I confess to a deep, though unbroken, admiration of the sharp-witted fellow who took me in, and deplore that he has not turned his brains and talents to a different end." The sharp-witted fellow would, no doubt, have more appreciated Lady Jane's admiration if it had taken a different form of expression, but her warning may serve some over-trusting reader who will heartily thank the *Recorder's* correspondent for giving away the scheme. This is but one of the many fraudulent advertisements which are now to be met with in our papers, and the sooner the frauds are exposed the better. I would like to know how many of our citizens or provincialists have been cheated out of their "hard-earned shekels" through

yielding to the temptation to risk a little for the chance of being one of the "first five" or "last ten" to send in a correct solution of a problem that any bright child of three or four years of age could solve without difficulty. Cases where persons have been notified by the advertisers that they have won prizes which would be forwarded on receipt of a dollar or more, as the case may be, to pay for packing, etc., and have had their faith in mankind rudely shattered by receiving no acknowledgement whatever of money sent in answer to this demand, have come to my notice time and again, and I have arrived at the conclusion that it is the duty of every man or woman (strange to say, it is more frequently the women who are the victims,) who thus proves the deceitful, trickish nature of these affairs, to follow up the matter and expose the promoters of the money making business without delay. That our papers will consent to publish such advertisements is to my mind a fact to be much deplored, and the rapid growth of the practice seems to call for a firm stand to be taken by the public against this and all like dishonorable methods of obtaining money under false pretences. Of course this is but the humble opinion of, yours truly,
CURRS.

Mr. Henry Theakston, Secretary Y. M. C. A., Halifax, says. "I have used *Putters Emulsion* for simple and obstinate cough and general debility. In every case it has given the utmost satisfaction. I recommend it as a family medicine."

A CASE OF PIG.

A Washington lawyer of considerable prominence relates an amusing story incidental to the first criminal case in which he was retained by the defense. He was then practicing in a small town not far from Washington, and the case was that of a local character who had purloined a fat porker, the property of his neighbor.

At first matters looked bad for the accused during the trial, but Mr. L., the lawyer, was most eloquent in his defense. His speech abounded in rhetorical flowers and figures. At times he was even pathetic to such a degree tears dimmed the eyes of the jury, while the prisoner wept most copiously. The final outburst of his eloquence brought everything around to a climax, the jury delivering the verdict of not guilty without leaving their seats, although the evidence of the prosecution tended to show a most conclusive guilt.

The released man was most profuse in his words of gratitude, calling Mr. L. his preserver, the champion of his honor, his liberty and all that he held dear to him.

Mr. L. acknowledged with becoming modesty his flood of thanks, but at last, seeing no end in sight of these extravagances, began to hint that a financial acknowledgment would be more in order.

"To be sure, to be sure," exclaimed the client, eagerly. "I won't forget about that, and pay you handsomely, too. Say, Mr. L., you be in your office to night at 12 o'clock, and I'll come around and fix things all right."

"Twelve o'clock!" said the lawyer in astonishment. "Bless me! Why do you set that late hour?"

"Never you mind, sir," retorted he, "never you mind; I mean to pay you, and pay you well. Don't forget, 12 o'clock, sure."

Lawyer and client departed their respective ways. That night Mr. L. was in his small office awaiting the coming of the man whose reputation he had cleared. There was a hushed commotion in the rear of his establishment promptly at midnight, then a muffled knock at the door. Mr. L. answered it.

"Sh!" whispered the client, hoarsely, "here I am."

"But why do you make such a secret of it?" asked the lawyer.

"Not too loud," was the answer. "Didn't I say I'd pay you handsomely?"

"You did indeed."

"Well, I mean to keep my word. Mr. L., here it is. I brought you the pig!"

And there, in the grimness of the midnight's weird shadows stood several hundred pounds of stolen bacon, calmly awaiting the transfer of ownership.

HINTS TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

It is astonishing in these days of decoration that so little is known of stains. The subject is not complicated. If you wish to stain your floors get raw sienna, Prussian blue, burnt sienna or anything of that sort, and dilute it with turpentine till it gets to the consistency of water. Burnt sienna makes almost a mahogany finish. Raw umber makes an excellent stain, if greatly diluted, and very thin Vandike brown on a Georgia pine flooring has a good effect; on white pine it is better still.

Perhaps you have among your household possessions a table whose top has become scratched or stained so that it is no longer a pretty ornament for the house. If you have such a table do not despair of its beauty, for it can be made quite "as good as new."

To do this boil together forty parts of nutgalls and five parts each of rasped logwood, sulphate of iron and verdigris with water. This produces a beautiful ebony stain.

Apply while warm, and then give the table three coats of acetate of iron, made by dissolving ten parts of iron filings in seventy-five parts of vinegar. Of all the ebony stains known this gives the best results. Try it.

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