

CITY CHIMES.

The pictures, "H. M. S. Calliope" and "Suffing is Good for Geese," on exhibition in the south window of M. S. Brown & Co., are attracting much attention and will doubtless prove a successful advertisement of the Art Union of London, of which organization W. L. Brown, assistant city collector, has lately been appointed agent at Halifax. A subscription to the Union of one guinea entitles the subscriber to his choice of one of two pictures similar to those displayed in the window of M. S. Brown & Co.; or if a member wishes he may select instead of the work of the year one of a large number of works of former years. The subscription also affords a chance for one of a large number of other artistic works. It is said that prizes to the value of £2,000 were distributed last spring, and the Union apparently offers good security to patrons who appreciate art.

The next Orpheus concert will take place on Tuesday evening, 29th inst., and a treat is promised all who appreciate high-class music. "An evening with Mendelssohn" is the attractive title chosen for the coming concert, and the members of the Club, Auxiliary and Orchestra are putting forth every effort to perfect themselves in the selections chosen for this occasion. There have been two full rehearsals this week, and another will be held on Monday next. This concert will, as usual, begin at 8.15 o'clock, and we would remind our readers that the doors will be open at 7.30, so that the rush for seats may be avoided to some extent.

The members of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society have been called to meet this afternoon in the basement of St. Matthew's Church to bid farewell to their retiring President, Mrs. R. F. Burns, who with her husband and family will leave for Scotland next month. The meeting will doubtless be largely attended, and while the regret that is felt by all at Mrs. Burns' departure can be but inadequately expressed, her many friends and fellow-workers will gladly avail themselves of this opportunity to wish her Godspeed, and happiness and prosperity in her home in the old country. The missionary and charitable work in Halifax will lose a faithful and energetic leader in Mrs. Burns, and her place in social and religious circles will not be readily filled.

The sacred concert given last Sunday afternoon in St. George's Church attracted a very large audience, every available seat being occupied. Miss Mary G. Brown, of Acadia Seminary, Wolfville, gave two solos, charming her hearers with the sweetness of her highly-cultivated voice and winning many admirers among the music-loving people of Halifax. Mr. W. J. Hutchins also delighted the audience with his masterly rendition of the organ selections. Mr. T. A. Cummings and Mr. C. Dodwell sang well, and the recital was in every respect a success.

The "Maennerchor Concert" (which being interpreted is "a chorus of men") given on Tuesday evening in the lecture room of Brunswick St. Methodist Church attracted a large and appreciative audience. The programme was excellent, Herr Klingensfeld's violin solos being especially enjoyable, and his interpretation of "Hungarian Airs" called forth an enthusiastic encore to which he responded with another exhibition of perfect violin execution. His rendition of the "Scottish Fantasia," his own arrangement of three Scottish airs, delighted all hearers, and in response to a hearty encore the audience were favored with "Bonnie Doon," beautifully played. Mr. W. H. Huggins, always a favorite with musical Halifaxians, gave a flute solo, of which the audience expressed its appreciation by vigorous applause. Mr. Huggins responded with "When the War is O'er," and again well sustained his enviable reputation. The quartette by Messrs. Phillips, Wiswell, Blois and Norman, was rendered most acceptably and received an encore, as did also the solos of Mr. Phillips and Master Banfield, Captain R. W. Monteith and Mr. F. C. Congdon were the accompanists, the latter gentlemen also playing a piano solo. The entertainment was one of the most pleasing of the season, and the gentlemen who so ably carried out the well arranged programme are to be congratulated. The proceeds of this concert will be devoted towards the funds of the Sunday School of the Brunswick St. Church.

The lecture given in Orpheus Hall on Tuesday evening by Basilio Stuart did not have the audience it deserved, but those who were present enjoyed an evening long to be pleasantly remembered. Mr. Stuart is a thorough Scotchman, possessing a rich vein of the characteristic humor of his countrymen. He is a fluent speaker and excellent mimic and held the close attention of his listeners from the beginning to the close of his lecture. The poetry and pathos of highland literature was sketched in a pleasing manner and Mr. Stuart's fund of Scottish anecdotes and humorous stories seemed inexhaustible. The Highland War Song completely won the hearts of the Scots among the audience. Mr. A. H. MacKay, Superintendent of Education, presided on this occasion. Mr. Stuart is ex-Bailie of the city of Inverness, Scotland, and is in this country investigating the condition of the highland settlers with a view to reporting to his fellow countrymen on his return to his native land. It is much to be regretted that many of our Scottish citizens missed this opportunity of hearing this gifted lecturer.

The stereopticon entertainment given last Friday evening in Orpheus Hall under the auspices of the Church of England Institute was of a very interesting character. Mr. Samuel Naylor delivered a lecture on English scenery, which was abundantly illustrated by views of famous places in the mother country. Portraits of members of the royal family were shown and many scenes of great beauty and grandeur were clearly portrayed. Owing to the unpleasant weather the audience was not so large as had been anticipated.

There are some decidedly mean people in this world and it seems we have by far too many of this undesirable class in our city. The four men who entered the Pepper-pot Kitchen late last Saturday evening, and after giving extensive orders, which were accordingly filled by Professor Semon's obliging waiters, attempted to leave the establishment without paying for value received, afford an ample illustration of the utter lack of honor in some characters. Two of these rascals escaped and the others were induced to pay twenty-five cents each for the four good meals that had been served to the party. Zera gives good value for the prices asked and in his new business, as in his popular entertainments given in Halifax, has never been known to deal other than fair play; it goes without saying that he merits worthy patronage.

As blouses will not only continue but increase in favor, fancy belts will be in demand, and we trust for the sake of the happiness of a large proportion of the mothers, sisters and daughters of Halifax that our importers will not fail to bring out something in this line equally as novel and pretty as will be worn by the strangers who will visit us from the country over the border. We are loth to confess that our fashions are behind those of "the Boston States," but unless our merchants look out for the interests of their patrons we are powerless. Le Bon Marche leads the procession of "show days" and will to-day throw open to view the wonderful mysteries of the feminine headgear for spring and summer wear. Hats are still flat, flatter if possible than those of last season, and will be profusely covered with flowers.

The lecture delivered last Friday evening in the lecture room of St. Matthew's Church by Rev. Thomas Fowler on "Scotland: Reminiscences and Suggestions," was, notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, largely attended. The Reverend lecturer is an enthusiast on the beauties of Scotland, and starting at Glasgow carried his audience with him in imagination through numberless places of historical interest, resting at last at Edinburgh. Readers of Scott, Macaulay and other eminent historians enjoyed the graphic descriptions of the scenes of the lives of the heroes and heroines of many familiar tales. The lecture was exceedingly interesting, and all who were fortunate enough to be present must surely have felt they had added not a little to their store of knowledge. Mr. Fowler closed with an expression of a hope that none who could possibly visit the land of the highlands should fail to do so at their earliest opportunity.

Many of the new spring goods are opened and both ladies and gentlemen have an inviting array from which to select their new outfits. Dress goods, always of interest to the fair ones, show much variety, and all colors are found in different styles of material. Gray and fawn however are the predominating shades and our merchants are displaying some very pretty fabrics, while of course there are more to follow. Among the latest fads for the adornment of the ladies' summer costumes is the large bow to be worn at the throat. Silk ties and bows, chiffon bows and berthas, etc., etc. are to be the rage during the coming season, and dealers tell us that no young lady's outfit for the summer will be complete without an assortment of these bows.

The concert which is to be given in the Academy of Music in the near future under the auspices of the Mystic Lodge, I. O. O. F. will probably be worth "taking in." It is to be on an extensive scale and is under the management of Mr. Percy J. A. Lear, who is well known as a talented and energetic member of the Lodge, and who will leave no stone unturned to assure the success of the entertainment.

The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor in connection with Fort Massey Church are preparing for a first-class concert to be given on Tuesday evening of next week. Many favorite amateurs have engaged to render assistance in making up an attractive programme.

The lady members of the Church of England Institute are making extensive preparations for a rainbow festival to be held on the 20th and 21st of next month, in aid of the funds of the Institute.

H. Price Webber's Boston Comedy Company has been putting on a variety of first-class plays at the Lyceum Theatre this week, and Miss Grey, ably supported by the Company, has given some excellent renditions of the several characters impersonated. "The Lady of Lyons" on Monday evening, the "Little Detective" on Tuesday, and "The Octoroon or Life in Louisiana" on Wednesday evening, were each well performed and attracted good audiences. Last evening "The Lucky Horseshoe" was played for the first time in Halifax, and to-night the Company will appear in "Arrah na Pogue," an attractive title to all true sons of old Ireland. "Under the Gaslight" is the title of Saturday evening's performance, which will probably be largely attended. The stage settings, songs, dances and other specialties, of this Company are good, and are evidently appreciated by Mr. Webber's numerous patrons.

The sun has "crossed the line," and we have had the equinoctial, but the gentle springtime is evidently not yet. On Sunday last we were treated to a terrific gale of wind which proved anything but pleasant, but so far as we have heard caused no serious damage in the city. Monday and Tuesday were bright, sunshiny days, but on Wednesday all fond hopes of spring like weather were nipped by the arrival of a fall of snow, which in the natural order of things was soon transformed into slush, and at time of writing pedestrians are wading through several inches of this snow and water. March holds her own well and seems determined to relax none of her characteristic features.