

## CITY CHIMES.

**A COMING ATTRACTION.**—The Academy of Music stage is to be occupied for two weeks, beginning on Monday next, by James F. Crossen's Company. "The Banker's Daughter," "A Celebrated Case" and "Lost in London" are to be played the first week, and an equally good programme is promised for the week to follow.

**LAST NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.**—Two good concerts were announced for last evening, the Academy Cadets at Orpheus Hall, and the Concert at the Church of England Institute; but, alas, "copy" is ordered in too early to allow me to make any comments thereon. However, having seen the programmes to be performed, I feel sure the patrons of both spent an exceedingly pleasant evening.

**A VALUABLE BOOK.**—"Men of Canada" is the title of a new book which is just now attracting attention. The book is made up of engravings and biographies of the prominent men of Canada, and should therefore be of interest to all Canadians. One volume of this "album" has been issued and has been well received; two additional volumes are to follow, in one of which men of note in the Maritime Provinces are to be given prominence. Mr. T. M. Flourney, acting as agent for this work, has been in Halifax interviewing some of our leading citizens, with a view to having their photos and a short sketch of their lives included among the celebrities of Eastern Canada. It is not difficult to imagine the familiar faces that will appear in this volume, the happy, smiling countenance of our Attorney General, the manly face of the Premier, the pleasing features of His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, etc., etc. Nova Scotians should be well represented, and if it is there is no doubt the work, when published, will find a good sale in our Province. The idea of collecting and preserving memoirs of Canada's foremost men is a good one, and the promoters of the scheme are apparently going into the work with commendable vigor. Volume I of the Canadian Album is a credit to Canada, and the coming books promise to be quite as well gotten up.

**THAT EXHIBITION.**—A few weeks ago THE CRITIC made the suggestion that we have in Halifax next year a display of the exhibits sent from Nova Scotia to the World's Fair at Chicago. The idea has struck many Halifaxians as good, and favorable opinions of the project have been freely expressed. It now remains for some few leading men to take up the scheme and carry it out. The number of Nova Scotians who can be present at Chicago is comparatively small, but there are few public-spirited men and women in the Province who would not be interested in Nova Scotia's exhibit, and who would not make a special effort to visit Halifax if the show referred to was held.

**GOOD FRIDAY.**—Typical Good Friday weather this year, as usual. Rain and snow, mud and mire combined to render the day about as unpleasant as possible. One always has more or less of the feeling on a public holiday that he must go somewhere or at least do something a little exciting and out of the ordinary, and when the weather will not agree to be propitious for the carrying out of well-made plans, it seems a little hard. However, a day spent quietly at home is not an unwelcome change for the busy man or woman, and on this as on all similar occasions there was nothing for the would-be holiday takers to do but to make the best of a bad matter. The devout of course spent part of the day at church services, although these were not very well attended on account of the decidedly unfavorable weather.

**CRINOLINE.**—It is reported that on Saturday last the crinoline was formally introduced into Halifax by a club of eleven young women who had vowed a vow to don the much talked-of article and, leaving their respective homes at a certain hour, to wend their way to Barrington street, there to be gazed upon with wondering eyes by all passers by. This event may really have occurred, I did not chance to meet any of the wearers of the strange garment nor have I met anyone who did behold the marvellous sight, but if as is hinted the date for the appearance was chosen on account of its being particularly appropriate, I would like to ask who was the victim of the joke, or in other words the April fool, the startled citizens or the startling crinolinists.

**THE JUBILEE SINGERS.**—The Fiske Jubilee Singers at the Academy of Music on Monday evening had a grand house, every seat upstairs and down being occupied. Needless to say the entertainment fully realized the most sanguine expectations of the audience. The programme opened with the sweet melody which the Fiske singers have in their travels made well known, "Steal Away to Jesus," which was followed by the Lord's Prayer, chanted with appropriate solemnity. Mr. J. N. Caldwell, the genial "haeso," delighted his hearers with his fine rendering of the song "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep," and kindly responded to an enthusiastic encore with "Old Back Joe." Mrs. Jennie Jackson Dollart's solo was also encored loudly. Mr. Dollart is one of the best known of the original Fiske singers, and her sweet voice never fails to please. Mr. C. W. Payne, tenor, sang most acceptably, but his selections were to my mind not well adapted to his voice. The melodious voices of these dusky children of the South are particularly suited to the jubilee songs, which they sing with characteristic pathos. The male quartette gave a good number. The remainder of the programme consisted of a part song, a melody and choruses, all of which were sung as only the Fiske singers can sing. It is but rarely that a Halifax audience shows so much enthusiasm as that displayed on Monday evening, and the Jubilee singers have added a large number to their already long list of admirers in this city. The towns throughout the Province which they intend visiting have a treat in store, and no one, young or old, who can possibly do so should miss an opportunity of attending their concerts. They merit success, and are meeting it abundantly.

**THE DOLLS' CARNIVAL.**—That Halifax people may always be depended upon to help along a good cause is being proven once more in the willing and practical assistance that is being given the promoters of the dolls' carnival, which is to be held in the Assembly Hall of the School for the Blind on the twenty-fourth of May. It is expected to have about one hundred dolls dressed in fancy costumes representing various nationalities, fairy-tale characters, etc., on exhibition. The children of the city are to be invited to put their best dollies in the show, and a vote will be taken for the prettiest, the most sensibly dressed and the ugliest doll, which will add much to the entertainment of the small girls. In connection with the carnival I understand that a bazaar is to be held, for which contributions of dolls, dolls' clothing, toys and, later on, refreshments are being solicited. Several of the leading Halifax ladies have promised to assist in the work, and success seems almost assured. Arrangements have also been made by which the male benevolent men, women and children, with all their numerous belongings, are to be packed up and sent to a score or more of the principal towns of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, where local committees have been formed to take the matter in hand. In addition to this series of bazaars, over one hundred local entertainments of different kinds are being planned for in the smaller villages, where the leading young ladies of each place are giving their time and attention to the movement. The undertaking has involved an almost incomputable amount of time and thought, and the object, one may be sure, is worthy. It is that money may be raised for the establishment of a home-teaching fund for the adult blind of the Maritime Provinces, an object commendable from every point of view. The School for the Blind in this city is doing a grand work for the toys and girls who have been deprived of the inestimable blessing of sight, training their minds and giving them such instruction as will enable them when men and women to take their places in the world side by side with their fellows who can see, and to thus be independent and happy in their life's work. But what of the men and women who, after having reached maturity or middle age, by sickness or accident lose their sight. Sad indeed their lot, but, thanks to the efforts of philanthropic minds and loving hearts, not hopeless. For such cases is the Home Teaching Society destined to provide help by supplying books and teaching them to read the raised print, and by enabling them to carry on as far as possible the work in which they were engaged previous to their misfortune. Who does not agree with me that the object of the Society is well worth the effort that is being put forth, and is deserving of the practical sympathy and encouragement of every lover of humanity. CHRS.

That cure of Geo. W. Turner of Galway, N. Y., of scrofula, by Hood's Sarsaparilla, was one of the most remarkable on record.

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