

judge by the specimen presented, the enterprise will meet with the greatest possible encouragement.—*Liverpool Times*.

### CITY CHIMES.

The moonlight excursion on the S.S. *Halifax* on Monday evening last was a great success. Nearly a thousand excursionists were on board, and many more who wished to go had to stay behind because the captain refused to carry a greater number. The band of the 63rd Rifles discoursed sweet music, and when it took a rest now and then the Italian harper and violinist took up the running. Jock Patterson was also there with his pipes. Altogether a very pleasant evening was spent by those who availed themselves of this opportunity of having an outing on a splendid ocean steamship. Next Monday she makes an excursion to Bridgewater, on the beautiful LaHave River, where there are so many places of historic interest to attract those who are familiar with the early history of the Province. The scenery also is beautiful, and no one in search of a way of spending a day pleasantly and profitably should miss this opportunity. The *Halifax* is such a model of good behavior that no one need fear that great onrmy to pleasure on the sea, *mal-de-mer*, but may enjoy the fresh ocean breeze in perfect comfort. A number of distinguished citizens have announced their intention of "excursioning" and taking their friends with them. The tickets are moderate in price, and only a limited number will be sold, so although there is no doubt of a full boat, no one need fear being crowded. It would be just as well for those who are thinking of going to secure their tickets at once, or in all probability they will find they are too late.

His Grace Archbishop O'Brien gave a select dinner party at the globe house on Monday evening. Among the guests were Admiral Watson, Lieut. Governor McLellan, Mayor McPherson, Dr. McDowall, Dr. Farrell, Rev. Father Ellis, Rev. Canon Carmody, Rev. Canon Madden, Hon. W. S. Fielding, Chief Justice McDonald, and several others. A sumptuous repast was provided and a very pleasant evening soon passed away. Before departing a handsome bouquet of roses was presented to each guest.

Mr. W. H. 'Teas' attractive ice-cream parlor on Hollis street has been beautified by the addition of two plate glass mirrors, each 8 by 5 feet, which are hung either side of the arched entrance. The ice-cream supplied there is always delicious, and the cool, pretty room adds much to the enjoyment of this refreshment, which is to most people the most pleasant way of being "cooled off" in hot weather.

The Carnival is almost here, and preparations for its carrying out on a grand scale have been made. The torchlight procession will be a very pretty sight, and will be taken part in by a large number of clubs and societies. Mr. George E. Boak has consented to act as grand marshal of the procession, and he can do it well. An interesting event to lovers of manly exercise will be the prize competition in the exhibition building on the first day of the Carnival (August 5th) by Mr. McKay and the members of his gymnasium. The competition is open to all, and many good athletes will take part in it. Numerous sports, excursions, etc., will take place during Carnival week. There will be something to suit each one going on, and if there are persons who wish to be quiet, they can be just as quiet if they take the right way to do it as if there was no such a thing as a Carnival. The city will be decked in all the bunting that can be procured, and all good citizens will illuminate their places of business and their residences at night. The cheap excursion rates on all the trains and boats will facilitate the attendance of visitors from the country towns and elsewhere.

The public gardens are looking exceeding pretty now and crowds of people visit them on concert days and Sundays. To see the way in which the seats are occupied by men, young, old and middle aged, one would be justified in supposing them to be the weaker sex, and when a seat does become vacant many ladies do not care to sit where they are constantly annoyed by tobacco smoke, and so they walk far away from the band stand, before they can find a seat where they will be undisturbed by this nuisance. We are far from thinking that men should not smoke at all in the gardens, but a little consideration of the feelings of others could hurt no one, and would certainly remove an obstacle to the pleasure of some. The perambulators, which the band stand seems to be a centre of attraction for, are also somewhat of a bore. Surely the babies in these carriages would be just as well pleased if they were wheeled in some other part of the gardens, where they would not be in everybody's way. Presumably it is the nurse-maids who take their charges there who are to blame. If they could be persuaded to keep away a little further it would be vastly more comfortable for all concerned.

The garden party at Admiralty House on Friday last was a grand success. The weather was rather cool for an outdoor gathering, and those who wore thin fabrics must have felt exceedingly chilly. The tennis ground with its close shaven grass was in perfect condition. The flower garden looked very bright and pretty, although it looked sad to see our autumnal flowers, such as dahlias, asters and zinnias blooming so early in July. The band of H. M. S. *Bellerophon* played some sad plaintive selections, which sounded very sweet to the ear. Those long slow waltzes are so tempting, some of the pretty girls (indeed there were a great many there, Halifaxians and visitors from St. John, Montreal, Baltimore, etc.) must have been longing to dance, but, alas, partners were not forthcoming, garden parties are evidently not attractive to gentlemen. The ladies' costumes were varied, owing doubtless to the various weather prophets, those who inclined to the sunny side wearing light costumes, and those who saw a distant shower appearing in more sober

colors. Mrs. Watson wore a figured blue China silk, Miss Watson white embroidered muslin, Mrs. Lemoine, Miss Seeton and Miss Goldie also wore dainty white dresses, Mrs. and Miss Duffus wore black with white flowers. Mrs. F. Jones wore an exquisite dress of lavender silk with trimmings of silver cord, white silk vest and bouquet to correspond. Miss Fairbanks, of Montreal, wore a directoire costume of old rose pongee silk.

St. Patrick's bazaar which closed on Saturday evening last was a most successful affair, over \$800 being netted. It was kept up the whole week, and the many handsome and useful articles were disposed of to advantage.

### COMMERCIAL.

The state of trade has been on the whole as satisfactory as could be reasonably expected at this time of the year. Payments have been fairly well met, and little complaint is made on this score. Requests for renewals are less now than they have been for some time. The first-cut of hay is progressing and will average fully 50 per cent over that of last year. Vegetables, fruit, etc., promise well, and a very full yield is anticipated in these lines from present indications. Some cereals do not look so well, and the future of potatoes, turnips and other root edibles seems doubtful at present. Farmers are chiefly occupied in looking after their growing and rapidly maturing crops, and in suppressing "pestilent weeds." In staple goods most principals and their clerks are either enjoying their regular summer vacations or preparing to do so. As soon as the "Summer Carnival" is over, the crops are harvested and marketed, and the heat of our short summer gives place to the more temperate weather that will succeed it, business will revive and we anticipate a largely increased volume of trade.

The following are the Assignments and Business Changes in this Province during the past week:—Wm. Casey, livery stable, Halifax, advertising business for sale; estate of Geo. W. Henderson, drugs, Liverpool, stock, &c., advertised for sale; Theakston, Angwin & Co., hardware, Halifax, stock sold out on private terms.

*Bradstreet's* report of the week's failures:—

	Week		Prev.		Weeks corresponding to		Failures for the year to date.			
	July 12, week.		July 12, week.		July 12, week.		1889	1888	1887	1886
United States.	218	162	152	146	189	189	6255	5553	5389	5777
Canada.....	16	13	27	26	11	909	951	684	575	

**DRY GOODS.**—Orders for fall goods seem to be rather increasing in volume, and supplying sorting-up requirements keeps the course of trade in this line in healthy movement. Cotton, woolen, and other textile fabrics are firmly held, much confidence being evidently felt in their future. The Manchester, Eng., *Guardian* says:—"The market is inanimate. Spinners strongly maintain prices for the best spinnings because of their engagements, but are easy for common sorts of wofts, owing to a full supply and a scarcity of buyers. Cloth is slow of sale. There is a good enquiry, but the offers are not acceptable. The Eastern demand is fair, but the offers are too poor. Sellers are doing little."

**IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.**—The demand for articles in this line in the local market has been regular, but not in any sense active. The quarterly meeting of iron manufacturers in Great Britain was held a few days since, when an advance of 10s. on manufactured iron was agreed upon. Warrants in Glasgow are cabled 2d. dearer, and No. 3 foundry iron in Middlesborough 3d. up. In London ingot tin is steady, Chili copper bars quiet, and soft Spanish lead unchanged. The entire Pennsylvania market is stronger in iron and steel. Dealings are larger, and deliveries are arranged for more distant dates. Prices for standard brands are steady, and buyers are placing orders liberally. Good reports are received from all parts of the state, and makers are not as desirous as they were sixty days ago of securing orders for delivery in ninety days. All the mills are in good working condition. Pig iron production is slowly increasing. Southern pig has advanced to new customers. The over-sold conditions of so many Southern furnaces is being reflected in stronger prices in the North, but unless northern forge and foundry consumers should decide to buy more largely no further improvement is probable. General prospects are favorable.

**BREADSTUFFS.**—The general tone of the flour market has exhibited an improvement—especially respecting some of the higher grades. Demand, however, has not been so good. Buyers appear to be holding off to some extent on account of stiffer prices, and the volume of business actually transacted has not been large. Beerholm's cable reports wheat quiet but firm; corn nil. Weather in England fair. In United States markets prices have fluctuated rapidly, and transactions have been very active at lower average figures. New wheat coming in in large quantities has discouraged the bull interest, and the bears are having it all their own way of late. Chicago, Toledo, New York, Detroit and Milwaukee all report wheat weaker and figures dropping. Washington reports of the prospects for this year's spring and winter crops show a probability of an aggregate yield of not less than 515,000,000 bushels of wheat as against 393,028,500 in 1888. Nothing short of some dire calamity to European crops would appear to justify present prices—not to mention any advance, and the sad experience of last season in bulling a short crop ought to be a sufficient warning against a repetition of those tactics with a full crop. The reported damage to Russia's crop, which has been so freely used as a reason for an increased demand upon our production from European consumers, has not effected much in that direction, if we can judge by experts from the seaboard, while, if those accounts are true, Russia's continuing to sell as freely as she has must be considered a case of slow suicide.

**PROVISIONS.**—No important change has transpired in the local provision market, prices being firm all round. The market was fairly active, and a good local business was transacted with a good demand for both pork and