hear. He also explained that it was exactly the same way with the phonograph, and that inside the box was a tiny drum which assisted by the air and electricity and the cylinders upon which the sounds were written in the form of strokes, produced the wonderful sounds they had been hearing. This, he said, was not by any means the full explanation of the working of the instrument, but was merely the track leading to it. After this brief, but concise description, another selection was given and then Mr. Carter came to the front and announced the afternoon's entertainment to be over. By the applause that followed it was easily seen that every one was fully satisfied, and as the audience filed out of the building one urchin was heard to declare that—"PROGRESS was the bulliest paper goin'." and there was not a child around who did not fully endorse the small boy's opinion.

7 Elliot row. ETHEL H. JARVIS.

Third Prize Composition.

DEAR PROGRESS: I went to the new opera house with Aunt Mary and when I saw the porch it looked something like the market house, the halls and the flowers looked beautiful. The door was small but the room was big, the chairs were a pretty velvet and they were convenient because they had a place for the gentlemen to put their coats and hats. There was a shelve, it had an iron railing around it. The boys made such a noise you would think that they would come through. The curtain had a funny picture on it, rocks with smoke coming out of them. There were boxes each side of the stage. First they brought a small table and put in front of the curtain, then they brought a big horn which they called a phonograph. It looked something like a cow's horn only much bigger. A man put a cylinder in and then turned a small knob. It played what a man sang in New York. Then it played what another man sang in New York, then two men came out and played on their bugles. Then he took out and brushed the wax off the cylinder and put it in again. Then it played the same tune. It sounds like a baby crying, only that it has more tune to it Then Mr. Bruce came out and said that it took him away from his work very inconveniently. He said his little girl wanted to know whether there was a man behind the curtain, or whether the man sang that made it go. But there was not a man behind the curtain, or the man that man made it go did not sing. It had been in New York and it had copied the tune itself. Then a gentleman came out and said that children must write what they thought about it. I have done the best I could. Mamma told me how to spell the hard words, for I am only seven and a half years old.

Your friend,
WINNIE FAIRWEATHER.

243 Charlotte street.

On Saturday the thirteenth of February, a large crowd assembled at the new Opera house on Union street to see the phonograph concert given, free of charge, by PROGRESS. At two o'clock sharp the doors were opened, and the crowd rushed to the room, which was almost filled in a few minutes. The boys were seated in the galleries, while the girls were in nicely furnished chairs below. Those who wished to see the concert had nothing to do but cut the coupon out of PROGRESS and present it at the door. On entering the Opera house the first thing that attracted my attention was a view of the city of Naples, nicely painted on canvas. For about fifteen minutes or more there was nothing heard but incessant noise, such as clapping of hands, cheering, etc., such was the delight of the scholars. Mr. Ewing, the manager of the concert, kindly addressed the audience, after which the entertainment began. On a table about two feet high and one and a half wide was placed a box which contained the phonograph, and this was connected with a box on the floor holding the galvanic battery by means of a tube. A large horn tapering from almost a point to about eight inches or more in diameter, and about two feet long was attached to the box on the table by a tube about four inches long. The entertainment commenced with a love song entitled "Katie Connor," and sung by Mr. G. A. Gaston of New York, which was highly applauded and it was well worth praising; every word was heard distinctly, and the tune was beautiful. Then followed a piece of music played by the New York band, which sounded splendid and was worth repeating; the next was "A song to his dad" by Mr. Gaston which was not altogether as loud as his former, but sounded beautiful. A tune on the cornet given by Mr. Williams and his son was exceedingly grand; but that was not the best of it; for it was then repeated by the phonograph to the amazement of all. Whilst the two gentlemen played on the cornet, the phonograph took the music down through the horn which was in front of the players to a blank cylinder which was placed in the box on the table. When Mr. Williams and his son finished the manager took out the cylinder which was covered with a thin coating of wax, as all saw, this coating was made by the movements of the machinery. This wax was brushed off and the music was written on the cylinder.

Rev. Dr. Bruce gave a brief description of this wonderful invention in a few minutes. He said as the ear contained a drum on the inside, so this box contained the same inside. As the sea is composed of waves of the water, so the air is composed of waves of sound which are transmitted to the drum of the ear, this drum in the box also caught the waves of sound which the gentlemen were playing.

When the tune was to be played the cylinder was put in backwards so the sound would come out the way it was received; at the end of the drum there was an instrument which kept the cylinder moving and the sound coming out After this there was a duet by the piccolo and piano, the piccolo I heard distinctly, but the piano not quite so loud; the selection was a very fine one. There was then a cornet solo, "One Hundred miles from Edinburg," played by Mr. Bayning, which was beautiful. Mr. Williams then played a cornet solo which was highly applauded to, having been repeated by the phonograph The concert was a grand success, and I think the managers must have felt pleased.

BERTHA LOGUE.

No. 60 Paradise Row.

DEAR PROGRESS: Through your kindness we were all asked up to the Opera house to hear a phonographic concert this afternoon. I had often heard of a phonograph but never saw or heard one before. Mr. Ewing, the gentleman who was to show us the phonograph, first placed the instrument on a stand, then joined it to a large box by a wire, which held what we were afterwards told was a "battery;" then he placed a large funnel in front of the phonograph and connected them by a small tube. He then took from a box on the floor a small black cylinder, which he brushed before putting in the phonograph, and then he set it going and the sound came out just as clear and distinct as though we were listening to a gentleman singing. We could even hear a voice introducing the singer and say, Mr. George Gaskin will now sing, "Only a letter to Dad," and first we heard the piano playing, then the voice clear and distinct sing the piece; it was lovely; I was sure it must be some one in behind the curtain.

After we had heard several pieces, Prof. Williams and his son played a piece into the phonograph. Mr. Ewing took a perfect cylinder, it was black and shining, and after he placed it in the phonograph he placed the funnel so that the instruments were just in front of it. After they finished playing Mr. Ewing took the cylinder out and it looked as though it was covered with frost. He brushed what looked like frost off, and placed the cylinder in the phonograph again and set it in motion; it played perfectly just the same piece Mr. Williams played. Rev. Mr. Bruce then came on the platform and explained the working of the phonograph. to us. He said that sound passes through the air like waves of the sea and inside of the phonograph was a drum such as we have in our ears, and near the drum was a little needle hung in the centre, one end of it touched the drum and the other touched the cylinder, and when sounds reached it it set the needle going and it made deep scratches and small ones in the cylinder just as the sound came to it, until the cylinder was full and then the cylinder was taken out and brushed again, and what looked like frost was that the needle had scratched off the cylinder as it moved round and the needle touched it. He then explained how when the cylinder was put back and when the phonograph going the sharp point of the needle touched the cylinder and set the needle in motion and it touched the little drum and it sent out the sound to us just as it heard them. Now dear PROGRESS thanking you very much for the pleasant afternoon we all spent and which I will never forget. Yours truly,

IRENE BROOKS.

The free phonographic concert given by PROGRESS to the school children of the city on last Saturday afternoon was a great success and was largely attended. I think it was a success because I have been to a great many other concerts and sociables and never saw or heard anything to equal this.

It was really something wonderful and surprising to see an instrument composed of wax, steel, iron, brass, and other materials, recording the words, speeches, songs, etc., of man. Songs were given with the distinctness and effect of the original songster; band marches were rendered with realistic power; a cornet duet played into the "machine that talks" was simply great; then a piccolo solo was given with an accuracy that our great soloist Mr. Hammond would envy. The familiar strains of a violin were then heard floating through the hall, and, in this solo the "unseen power" of this great and crowning invention of Edison's was felt; and as the ever-inspiring melody of "Home, sweet Home" came to our ears we greeted it with rapturous applause.

I heard one little girl a schoolmate and friend of mine say "don't you speak, or the machine will tell what we are talking about."

The following is the programme that was rendered by the phonograph as near as I could catch it.

Song; "Sweet Kate O'Connor," by G. J. Gaskin, comedian, of New York; Military band of New York city plays; "Grand March," and "Annie Laurie," Song; "A Letter to his Bride," by G. J. Gaskin of New York; Cornet duet by Prof. Williams and son, this duet was played on the stage in the presence of the audience into the phonograph, and, in a few minutes, was rendered with wonderful effect; Cornet solo; Explanation by the Rev. Mr. Bruce, who referred to the phonograph from the rude beginning of this matchless invention to the perfect result attained by it today He also told us in detail of the many intricacies connected with this great achievement of man's. The lecture was really an introductory chapter of science and an explanation of the simple and great uses of electricity. The next was a picolo solo, very fine; cornet solo, "Within a mile of Edinboro' town," splendid; cornet solo, "Home sweet home;" cornet solo, Prof. Williams; this solo, like the duet, was played into the phonograph in our presence, and was instantly repeated by the phonograph.

The gentleman in charge of the phonograph before the beginning of each number told us what was going to be played, and his introduction to each number of the programme was eagerly awaited by the large audience present. I only wish there were some more of these concerts to be held, and I am sure we would all be glad to go again. I hope you may like my contribution, as it is the largest I ever wrote; of course we have to write compositions in school, but I never attempted anything like this before in my life. I am fifteen years of age and attend St. Joseph's school on Sydney street. Yours gratefully, for the concert.

MARY LORETTO HANLON.

78 Broad street.

I having visited the Opera house Saturday afternoon and enjoyed the entertainment given there, I thought I should like to be one of those who would try for one of the three prizes that were offered for the best description of the entertainment. I heard the phonograph once or twice before but I never heard it explained. The first time I heard it a gentleman sang a song into it, when he was finished he went off the stage, they said they would reproduce it and so they did, but I thought it was the man singing somewhere where we could not see him. Mr. Bruce explained the phonograph very plainly, I understood him very well, but there are some parts I have just forgotten, but I will try to do the best I can. The entertainment was opened by a song sung by a gentleman in New York which the boys and girls seemed to enjoy very much by clapping their hands after it was finished. The second was a piece played by a military band in New York. The third was a song. The fourth, a piece played on the cornet with a blank cylinder and afterwards reproduced and sounded exactly the same as when played by Mr. Williams. Mr. Bruce then talked about the phonograph, comparing it with our ears He said as he spoke to us his voice came in waves through the air till it reached our ears; just the same with it, the sound goes through the air till it touched a little barrel something like the drum of our ear. He also said if we threw a stone into a pond we would notice the water run in waves till it reaches the shore. When sounds are received into the phonograph they are carried to a wax cylinder; you can then tell what has been said, when the cylinder is taken out. There is something like dust on it; this is brushed off; under that there are lines; these lines are made by a steel needle. When the sound is easy the line is light; if it is loud the line is heavier and the needle marks with all the more force. When it is wanted to reproduce the voice they place the wax cylinder back in the phonograph and made to go around at a certain rate. The marks on the wax sets a needle in motion which carries the movement to a membrane which in its movement causes the vocal sounds After Mr. Bruce was through speaking the programme was continued by having a piccolo solo with piano, then a cornet solo, then a clarionet solo with piano. Mr. Williams played another cornet solo which was reproduced and was the last thing on the programme. The boys passed out first then the girls. I am sure they all enjoyed the programme, at least I did.

MAGGIE ROSS.

131 Leinster street.

On Saturday afternoon, Feb. 13, a free phonographic concert was given in the Opera house by Mr. P. S. Ewing through the kindness of Mr E. S Carter, editor of PROGRESS. A great many boys and girls had gathered at the Opera house at two o'clock, the time appointed for the opening of the doors. They were admitted by presenting a coupon which was published in PROGRESS. A phonograph is an instrument which sends forth a sound resembling the human voice. There was quite a commotion when Mr. Ewing appeared on the stage with the phonograph. It consists of a stand on which is placed a wooden box containing the works; another box is placed on the floor beside the stand containing a battery, which was connected to the works by a green cord. Another stand holds the horn which is fastened to the works at the smaller end by a rubber tube The first piece rendered was, 'Sweet Katie Connor," by a gentleman of New York, the words of which could be heard quite plainly. The next was a selection from a military band in New York. A song entitled, "A Letter to his Dad," was the next given, by George Gaspe. At this stage of the concert the programme was changed. Mr. Williams and his son played a cornet duet, when Mr. Ewing turned the horn so as to face the cornets. He then turned it to the audience and reproduced the selection which Mr. Williams and his son had rendered. Mr. Ewing then took the cylinder and showed the children that it was covered with a substance resembling frost, but explained that it was the wax which had been cut up. Mr. Bruce was unexpectedly called upon to explain the works of the phonograph. He said it was a great mystery to a great many people how the phonograph could reproduce the sound, and that his little daughter asked him if there was a hole in the curtain and a man singing through it. He explained that in the box which contained the works was placed a very small drum connecting which was a little thing resembling a pen. Every time that the cylinder turned around, this pen made either a mark or line until the cylinder is full. A cornet and piano were played together and a cornet solo by Mr. Dennis. Mr. Williams played a cornet solo which was reproduced. The last was a clarionet solo. The concert was brought to a close by a short address by Mr. E. S. Carter. All seemed highly delighted with the beautiful music they had heard.

98 Sydney street. IDA M. RUBINS.

The phonographic concert, so kindly given by the editor of PROGRESS, was a great success. The Opera house was well filled at the time appointed, and the boys showed their pleasure, and also their anxiety for the performance to begin, by shouts, whistles, stamping, etc., as only boys can. The concert opened with a song, which was very good, though I could not distinguish the words very well. Mr. Ewing selected the music with taste, and much is due to him for the pleasure of the afternoon. The piece by a celebrated New York band was extremely pretty, and was fully appreciated by the audience. it one can judge by the noise the boys made. We all enjoyed a cornet duet by Mr. Williams and his son, which was very pretty, except that it came to an abrupt close in a particularly pretty part.

The Rev. Mr. Bruce described the phonograph, telling us that it consisted of a drum, or a very sensitive membrane, and resting against this is a small metal stick balanced on a pivot. On the end *not* resting on the membrane is a sharp point, and this again rests on a cylinder covered with wax. When the sound wave strikes the membrane it vibrates and sets in motion the little stick the point of which goes into the wax in proportion to the force of the vibration. When a strong or loud note is sung or played the point makes a deep mark, and it a low, soft note a slight mark. After the tune, or whatever it may be, is finished the cylinder is naturally covered with shavings of wax which have been scatched up by the point, and these have to be brushed off with a fine brush before the piece can be reproduced. The cylinder is moved by electricity and moves round and round. To give the sound out the cylinder is again set in motion, and the points goes into the marks or scratches that is made before, this makes the little stick to move up and down as before, and this again vibrates the membrane, and the membrane gives out the sound as it was taken in.

I think the greatest success was a piccolo solo, which could be heard distinctly throughout the whole building, and one could imagine that the players were before you The thought of the little girl, that somebody was behind the curtain doing it all was very natural, as it did seem so. The performance ended by a cornet solo by Mr. Williams, which was reproduced by the phonograph.

VIOLET K. STREET.

The phonograph concert given by PROGRESS in the Opera House, on Saturday last was much appreciated. The performance commenced at 2.30 o'clock to a crowded house. As soon as the shouting and stamping of feet of the small boy was quieted, the phonograph produced a song sung by a gentleman in New York, which was loudly applauded. Next, a selection from a New York band was given, and then another song. The professor now arranged the machine so as to take in a duet played on the cornet, and this was reproduced by the photograph in almost as clear a note.

This being finished the Rev. Mr. Bruce came forward and explained the structure of the machine. It consists of a large horn, through which the sound comes when it is being reproduced, and into which the vibrations of the air, caused by the sound, go. These vibrations cause a little drum, to which is attached a small lever working on a hinge, to move, and the drum moving causes the lever to move, which at every different vibration makes a different impression on a small cylinder, covered with wax. This goes on till the wax cylinder is full of impressions, or the song is finished. The cylinder is kept turning around by electricity from a small electric motor contained in a small box near by; as the cylinder turns the end of the before mentioned lever fits into each of these impressions, thus making the minute drum at the other end move which produces similar vibrations to those which were taken in thus producing the same sounds which were heard from the large horn before mentioned. The inventor of this wonderful phonograph was Thomas A Edison who resides in New York and is the most noted electrician in the world. After a few more selections of a similar nature the concert was concluded and we all went home I am sure perfectly satisfied with having spent an enjoyable and beneficial afternoon.

PROGRESS deserves to be thanked for having placed such an agreeable entertainment within the reach of so many of us.

NICHOLSON JOHNSTONE.

14 Elliott Row.

We were very kindly provided by PROGRESS with a musical treat on Saturday afternoon, at 2 30 o'clock, much to our delight. We had a chance of seeing the Opera house, as well as hearing and learning about the phonograph. It is an instrument on a stand composed of many small parts, with a sugar-loaf shaped mouth.

When the entertainment commenced we were quite puzzled to know how we could hear Mr. Gaskin singing in New York; and then we heard the New York military band and wondered still more how the music could come so far; but when we heard Prof. Williams and his son play on the cornets and let the sound pass into the instruments, we understood that the sound was registered there. When the gentlemen had finished playing Mr. Ewing, who had moved the instrument so that the players could stand in front of it, put it back in its place and removed a wax cylinder which was covered with froth, this he brushed off and put in its place, and put the phonograph in motion; it had registered their voices, so we heard the same music again. The piccolo solo and Home Sweet Home pleased us very much. Professor Williams' cornet solo was lovely, and we heard it again from the phonograph. Mr. Ewing told us that we could learn a practical lesson from this instrument. If we laughed into it we got a laugh back; if we cried into it we got a cry back; if we scold into it we get a scold in return. If we meet a person with a scold we get a scold in return; if we meet a person with a laugh, we get a laugh in return.

The Rev. Mr. Bruce, who had listened to the performance went on the platform to explain this wonderful instrument. He told us when we spoke the air went in waves the same as the water did when we threw a pebble into it, and these waves struck the drum of your ear and shook it, then you heard what was said; so in like manner the waves of the air shook the drum of the phonorgraph (and he shook the curtain with his cane to give an illustration.) When the drum of the phonograph shook it moved an instrument which struck a wax cylinder. The cylinder became covered with marks and dots, some deep and some not deep. ELLA M. JORDAN.

Simonds, St John Co,

Many boys and girls were present at the phonograph concert given by PROGRESS on Saturday, and to judge from the applause after each piece, all seemed to be well pleased with the entertainment.

The concert was commenced with some songs, among which was one entitled "Sweet Kate O'Connor," and also entitled to the loud applause it got. These songs were rendered so well, that a few persons thought that a man was singing behind the curtains, but after music was taken in on a black cylinder, and then reproduced by the phonograph, these doubts were dispelled. Mr. Williams and his son played a cornet solo into a cylinder, and when the cylinder had been replaced in the phonograph, the sounds were reproduced. Mr. Bruce explained the working of the machine to the audience, and after this a military air and piccolo were played by the phonograph. Mr. Williams then kindly played another cornet solo into a cylinder, and this reproduced as well as the first had been. After a few more songs, one of them entitled "Letter to his Daddy," and a few words respecting the competition from Mr. Carter, the people dispersed to their homes. Every piece was loudly applauded, and also every person who appeared on the stage, and from this fact it seems that all who were present were highly pleased.

121 Union st. THOMAS SWEENY.

Any person passing along Union street between the hours of one and two must have noticed the immense crowd of children assembled in front of the new Opera house. The cause of their being there is easily explained. Mr. Ed. S. Carter, editor of PROGRESS, had invited all the school children to a phonographic concert, under the management of Mr. Ewing, the owner of this wonderful invention. At two o'clock the doors were opened and soon both the hall and galleries were filled with a crowd of excited juveniles. For a short time a loud hum of voices could be heard, but when the manager appeared on the stage a deep silence fell upon the audience. Mr. Ewing placed the phonograph in posi-

(Continued on fourth page.)

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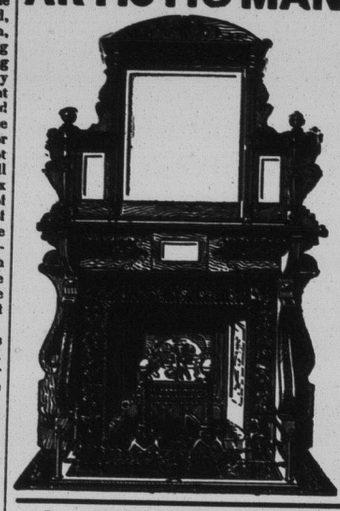

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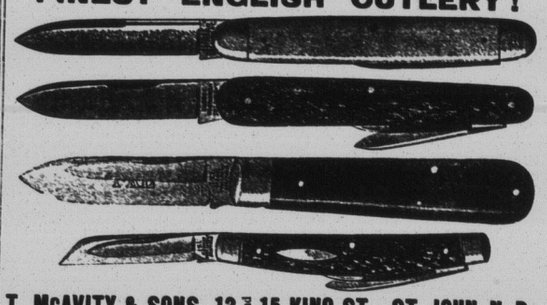

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ALFRED ROBINSON, M.B., M.R.C.S., Eng., Etc.

CITY ANALYST'S LABORATORY,
138 BATH STREET,
GLASGOW, 30th, Sept. 1880.

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(Signed) JOHN CLARK, Ph.D., F.I.C., F.C.S.,
Lecturer on Chemistry at the Royal Infirmary School of Medicine, and Public Analyst for the City of Glasgow, etc.

IMPORT ORDERS SOLICITED BY
T. WM. BELL, St. John, N. B.
SOLE AGENT FOR NEW BRUNSWICK,