

CITY CHIMES.

Geoffrey Cuthbert Strange in a bright article in *St. John Progress*, on the Halifax Saturday market and the public gardens, makes a suggestion about perambulators in the latter place, that we wish the city fathers would act upon. We have referred at sundry times and in divers places to the incongruity of mixing grown people and kid carriages so promiscuously on band afternoons in the gardens, to the great inconvenience of the grown ups with no corresponding advantage to the kids. "Geoffrey" suggests that every second Saturday be made a close day for perambulators, but we think the adult visitors to the gardens would be satisfied if one of the walks be kept sacred to the infants and impediments. A pleasant walk might be selected and named in honor of the distinguished capacity in which it is intended to be employed, and on Saturday afternoons this could be made the exclusive resort of the rising generation, so that the vicinity of the band stand would be available as a safe promenade for adults. It is not fair for the "kids" to monopolize all the good things going, especially when they are unable to appreciate their privileges.

Our musicians are tuning up for the season, and the various clubs have been calling in their scattered members and making preparations for work. The Orpheus Club had a meeting on Monday evening, and the Haydn Quintette Club has been re-organized and the officers for the ensuing year elected, with W. H. Huggins as President. This club has given much pleasure and satisfaction in years gone by, and we are glad they are to again favor Halifax music-lovers with their services. One thing our city can surely boast of is the musical talent it contains and the delightful entertainment afforded the citizens during the winter season. Miss Homer, who has succeeded Miss Laine in the Ladies' College, is said to possess a remarkably sweet and well-cultivated voice, and no doubt this lady will be a valuable acquisition to our musical circle.

The question, "where shall we go on Saturday afternoon," seemed answered last week by the majority in favor of the sports at the Wanderers' Grounds. A very large crowd of spectators filled the grand stand, and quite a number of carriages lined the avenue leading from the gate. There were a few striking costumes and many very pretty ones worn by the ladies present, and the whole scene was very attractive. The programme was well arranged, and all the events were closely contested. The daily papers gave full particulars, so that those who were not present, but are interested, have a fair idea of the results of each race. The Wanderers' Sports are always looked forward to by all lovers of athletic exercises, and they never fail to have a large gathering of onlookers.

Increased social activity is as good a sign that "summer's gone and over," or nearly gone, as is the increasing chilliness of the air and the occasional fluttering to the ground of withered leaves from the trees. The hastening on of autumn warns those who have picnicing intentions that they must not long delay, and the few pet September days are being made the best use of in this way. Truly "the melancholy days have come," for no matter how lovely the weather, how yellow the golden rod, how red and velvety the sumach, there is a presage of death in the air, and we know that before long the snows of winter will lie thickly where now the flowers of autumn are blooming. We cannot but remember Hood's lines:

"So September endeth—
Cold, and most perverse,—
But the month that follows
Sure will pinch us worse!"

The "russet tinges" are already visible, and trees are wearing, like Joseph, a coat of many colors. The cool evenings are delightful for dancing, and many people, recognizing the fact, are having pleasant little parties for this purpose. The autumn is a delightful season for all active, energetic folk who like cross-country walks and are not afraid of bracing, health-giving exercise, but for the laquid we must admit there is no time like the summer.

The Annual Championship Games of the Maritime Provinces Amateur Athletic Association will take place on the Wanderers' Grounds on October 2nd, at 2.30 p. m. Entries close on September 28th. Wm. Lithgow, Hon Secretary, P. O. Box 270, Halifax, will furnish information to intending contestants.

The Garrison Rifle Club held the first of their organized series of meetings on Saturday afternoon, and notwithstanding the many other attractions the club turned out in good force. In the match between picked teams of ladies and gentlemen, the ladies came off victorious, winning by fifteen points. The weather was charming, and this pleasant afternoon was but the first of many similar gatherings planned for this most delightful season of outdoor jollifications.

The managers of the steamer *Blue Hill* announce that she will run on the Harbor, Basin and North west Arm during Exhibition week, and until then will make daily excursion trips to Bedford every afternoon. This is certainly a commendable idea, as no visitor to Halifax should fail to enjoy the beauties of our magnificent Harbor, and the *Blue Hill* is admirably fitted for the purpose to which she is being put. We want to make our list of attractions for Exhibition week as large as possible, and we trust all who have it in their power to further the success of the Fair will make every effort toward that end.

The handicap race of the R. N. S. Yacht Squadron on Saturday last was

not very well attended. The *Etienne* won first prize \$10.00, and the *Psycho* second, \$5 00. There were only two other competitors, *Lenore* and *Mentor*. The interest in these races appear to be dying out as other sports come on, and the season for yachting is about over for this year.

Peck & Fursman's Uncle Tom's Cabin Company will occupy the stage of the Academy of Music on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of next week with a matinee on Wednesday afternoon.

Despite the fact that some advance has been made, there is still no place in the city where ladies can get a really satisfactory luncheon at a moderate rate. At the W. C. T. U. lunch room, Granville Street, what they have is very good, but the selection is small, and promptness in serving people does not seem to be an object. We have always thought, and think so still, that there should be some place in the city where ladies could get as good a meal as Woolnough serves to gentlemen, for the same price. As it is, ladies have to put up with inferior accommodation. There is no reason why the W. C. T. U. lunch room should not fill this long felt want better than it does, and, in saying so, we mean no unfriendliness to the Union, but only wish to, if possible, benefit the public. If a gentlemen's restaurant can be made profitable by twenty-five cent luncheons of first-class quality, the same can be done for ladies and gentlemen—for of course gentlemen would not be excluded from such a place. Promptness is the great desideratum—few people who require a luncheon in town to save time can afford to have that time wasted by waiting ten or fifteen minutes before they are served. What is required is a good meal, by which we mean well cooked and served cleanly and promptly, for twenty-five cents. Such an arrangement, in addition to the W. C. T. U.'s present plan of charging for each item, would make it possible for any lady to suit her convenience in the matter.

The new close cars of the Halifax Street Railway Company are indeed beauties, and a great improvement on the old ones, being very much larger and comfortably seating about thirty persons. The outside is painted yellow and a light green, and inside the decorations are very neat; the seats are nicely upholstered and very comfortable. Each of these new cars carry a conductor who goes through the car and collects the fares, and as Halifaxians have become accustomed to depositing their money in the box at the front end of the closed cars, much amusement is afforded by each new comer making a bee line for the box, only to find it missing; a smile passes around the car and the unfortunate one meekly hands the five cent piece to the conductor who is waiting to register it. One of these experiences is enough to teach each passenger to look before he leaps, and the public will very soon "catch on." The transfer system has been adopted on the western extension, and everything has been arranged to make the service as satisfactory to the public as possible. The new extension is well patronized and evidently much appreciated, and Halifaxians have no reason to complain of the accommodation afforded by the Street Railway Company.

The moonlight excursions of the Steamer *Blue Hill* have been much enjoyed this week. The harvest moon has been revealing itself in all its beauty, and glorious evenings have followed delightful, invigorating days ever since the gale of last week. Truly we have been favored so far this month with choice September weather.

A very pleasant entertainment was enjoyed by the pupils of the School for the Blind on Tuesday evening, the occasion being a treat in the shape of a fruit feast given to the School by Mr. W. T. James of Bermuda, who with Mrs. James visited the Institution a few days before, and was much pleased with the way the work of educating the blind was being carried on. The school has lately been supplied by Messrs. Miller Bros. with eight new pianos to replace the old ones that have been in use for some time. When the school is full, some seven more new pianos will be supplied by the same firm. A five o'clock concert will be given daily during Exhibition week in the fine hall of the new wing of the Institution, and will afford an opportunity of visitors from the Maritime Provinces seeing the working of the different departments of the School.

The dry goods and millinery establishments of Halifax are advertising their show days for fall and winter goods, and the ladies are in their element as they go from shop to shop making their selections. The winter jackets and ulsters seem to be just about the same style as those of last year, except perhaps the addition of a long cape to the ulsters and the increased length of the jackets. "The mystery of fashion" is indeed an appropriate title for the influence that aways all nations, more or less, for it has never been solved why it is that fashion has such control over all. Things that a few years ago were pretty, graceful and becoming now appear decidedly undesirable; not because prettier articles of the same nature are now in vogue, but simply because the hat or gown, as the case may be, is "old-fashioned." We notice a style among the ladies which makes one feel weary to think of worn-out bindings and the collection of dust each fair one carries home after an outing. We refer to the gown that almost trails on the ground. Of course it has its advantages, almost every thing has, and the women who are not the happy possessors of pretty feet will perhaps welcome the return of the long dress, but while it is graceful and becoming in tea gowns and house dresses, it is certainly not neat or suitable for street costume.

The sporting season is now fairly commenced, and gunners are frequently to be seen going out with intent to kill. The game laws will now be profitable reading for all sportsmen who do not want to do those things which they ought not to do, by shooting birds or animals out of season.