

CITY CHIMES.

Storm and sunshine have been pretty equally proportioned in the weather allotted to us this week. Sunday and Monday were charming days followed by glorious moonlit nights, but on Tuesday we had fore-warnings of a storm, which broke with great fury on our city during the evening and raged until Wednesday morning. The wind blew at a terrific rate and a good deal of rain fell, but we must expect some storms at the beginning of winter, and as we only get the remnants of the terrible gales that blow on the shores of less fortunate lands, we should indeed be grateful.

The first Orpheus Club concert of the season was held in Orpheus Hall last evening, when Miss Homer, the worthy successor of Miss Louise Laine, made her first appearance with the Club. The orchestra has been greatly strengthened since last season, and the music-lovers of Halifax have without doubt a treat in store in the programme which the Orpheus Club have prepared for the coming season. We regret that it is impossible for us to give our readers an account of the entertainment last evening, but as we have often explained, if concerts are held on Thursday evenings the weekly journals which make their bow before the public on Friday morning can do little in the way of comment. However, if it is not too late we will give our impressions in our next issue. Halifaxians are deeply indebted to the amateur talent of the city for the musical evenings enjoyed throughout each winter, and we wish the Orpheus Club every success in the season they are now entering upon.

On the streets, in hotel corridors and around the reading tables of the clubs, as well as in home circles, this week the prevailing topic of conversation has been football. We think everyone must be tired of the subject, excepting of course those devotees of the sport who, in the words of the song, "never grow weary," but are ready for discussion of this topic whenever and wherever it may be introduced. The cause of all this discussion is the football match which took place on Thanksgiving Day between the Wanderers and the Dalhousians, and was intended to decide the championship and awarding of the trophy. Young and old turned out to witness this game, thus evidencing the interest taken by all, and notwithstanding the disagreeable state of the weather, between two and three thousand people gathered on the Wanderers' Grounds, and excitement ran high. The match was a good one, both teams being very strong and each bent on victory, but after a hard struggle the Wanderers came off victors with a score standing 4 to 2, and of course felt very good. But the end was not yet. On the following morning the wearers of the red and black discovered that through some misunderstanding on Thursday their team had numbered sixteen men instead of the regulation number, fifteen. They at once notified the Captain of the College team, and in forfeiting the game proposed that another be played on Saturday last. This, however, did not meet the approval of the Dalhousians, who, we understand, claim the trophy without further play, and have appealed to the Maritime Provinces Union League for advice. Meanwhile matters are still unsettled, and the football enthusiasts of Halifax, whose interest in the race for the championship has been steadily growing as the season progressed, are eagerly awaiting a final decision. Opinions differ as to whether the presence of the sixteenth Wanderer was purely a mistake, many of the Dalhousians' friends firmly believing that the Wanderers were not honorably inclined. This is surely an unreasonable view to take of the matter, for even if our city boys could be guilty of such small and despicable conduct the risk would be too great to run, and in this case honesty would clearly prove to be the best policy. Friends of both of these teams of athletes cannot but regret the occurrence of this misunderstanding, but we hope to hear of an amicable settlement being arrived at before many days. The game to-morrow afternoon on the Royal Blue Grounds between Dalhousie's first fifteen and the team from Acadia College, Wolfville, promises to be very exciting and will no doubt be largely attended. The visitors are a sturdy crew, and the Dalhousians will have to put on their boldest front to meet them. We hear rumors of a reception to be given in honor of the Acadians on Tuesday evening at Dalhousie University, but cannot make any positive statement.

This is the last week of the Grau Opera Company's engagement at the Academy, and much regret will be felt at their departure by those who have frequented the theatre during the four weeks the Company has been playing in our city. Miss Edith Mason, the pretty little prima donna of the Company, has become a great favorite with the theatre-goers and will long be remembered. Her bright and winning manner accompanying a sweet, well-trained voice has gained her a host of admirers, as was evidenced at her complimentary benefit on Wednesday evening, when, at the request of a large number of citizens, "The Brigands" was put on. Several special features were introduced, and the costumes worn were exceedingly beautiful. The Company gave that pretty old opera, "The Bohemian Girl," on Monday and Tuesday evenings of this week, but did not maintain their reputation, as the piece was very badly rendered and showed great lack of study. The solos were weak and the choruses very much out of time, and taken as a whole this presentation of "The Bohemian Girl" might be counted a failure. Last evening and to-night the "Red Hussar" is on, and as this is an entirely new opera for Halifax, it will no doubt be well attended.

The society people of Dartmouth have formed a club, with the object of worshipping at the Shrine of Terpsichore one evening every fortnight. The first meeting of the season is to be held at Mrs. Douglas Dixon's this evening, where the youth, beauty and fashion of the city over the way will doubtless enjoy a right pleasant time. Such organizations as this enliven the long winter months, and it is surprising how quickly the weeks, or rather

fortnights, go by, when one evening in the period brings a settled entertainment. The Dartmouth people some years ago had another club, the Euterpean, which included not a little talent among its members. Dramatic performances, musical evenings and literary evenings—they published a paper, the *Mirror*—varied the programme of the season's meetings, with the never-failing "light fantastic too" getting its due share of attention. After the disbandment of this talented company there was a pause, but in a year or two the latent energy of our neighbors was once more manifested. They organized the "Fortnightly Club," very much on the lines of the "Euterpean," and met at the houses of various members as frequently as the name of the club indicated. The members of the St. George's Lawn Tennis Club were the first to start the "Fortnightly," but it rapidly extended until all the going-out people of the place were included. This club came to an end in the spring of 1878 with a large dance in the Reform Club Hall, and since then Dartmouth has not had any social organization until a few weeks ago, by the exertions of some of the leading society ladies, the present club was formed. The members are looking forward with pleasurable anticipation to the series of meetings, young and old alike joining with zest in the torpid, borean art. Our Dartmouth friends have a hospitable habit of including quite a number of Halifaxians in almost everything they undertake, which is duly appreciated on this side of the water. The citizens of Halifax and Dartmouth have many interests in common, and there are none more general than the social interests. Nearly everyone living in Dartmouth has as many relations and friends on this side as on the other side of the harbor, and were it not that the ferryboat ceased to ply at a quarter before twelve p.m., we would scarcely be aware of the excessive wetness lying between us and them. As it is, the social life of the two places is intimately connected, and so we feel assured that our readers will not think a few Dartmouth items out of place in City Chimes.

The season for summer outdoor sports is over, and that for toboggans, snowshoes and skates has not yet come. It is between whites, and pleasure-loving people are turning their attention indoors during the interval. Many entertainments are promised from now until Christmas, which is not so very far distant—only five weeks from to-day—and there will be no lack of bazaars with a plenitude of useful and fancy work offered for sale. These functions, presided over by the fair sex, may sometimes outnumber their willing patrons, but they appear to be firmly established institutions, and as such take a prominent place in the consideration of the ladies.

The "Past and Present" supper and bazaar, given by the ladies of Christ's Church, Dartmouth, on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, was a great success. Some beautiful work was offered for sale, including a good deal of hand-painting and other art work done by that clever artist, Miss Lillian Collins. The fancy tables were under the charge of Mrs. Collins, Miss Collins, Mrs. Milsom, Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. Mellor, and other ladies, with a bevy of assistants, who did their best as sales-ladies for the nonce. The proceeds of the bazaar are intended for the cemetery fund, which the ladies have been working for during the past year or two. The supper was a separate department, under the able management of Mesdames Foster and Ellis, assisted by a corps of charming waitresses. The "past" supper was composed of comestibles of an old-fashioned kind, such as baked beans, which were prime—we never having tasted better even in the city of beans and culture itself—twisted doughnuts, etc., and all very good. The most attractive feature, however, was the pretty old-time costumes of the ladies-in-waiting. Powdered hair and patches are vastly becoming, and heighten the effect of bright eyes and rosy cheeks. The "present" supper was composed of all the good things of the day, served by young ladies with coque-tish little caps on their heads and attired in various becoming costumes of the latest mode. The proceeds of this unique supper are to be devoted to the organ fund, which we think would be largely added to by the results of the ladies' well-directed energies. In our last week's issue, we regret that Thursday, instead of Tuesday, was printed as the day for the bazaar, but we hope no one was led astray by it. Accidents will happen in the best regulated families, and mistakes of this sort sometimes occur in the hurry of getting out a paper.

Zera Semon is coming again and will take up his old quarters at the Lyceum, there to attract the usual crowd with his wonderful and mysterious workings. Zera always does well in Halifax, as elsewhere, and the old Lyceum will without any doubt be the scene of much merriment and amusement throughout the season to be opened on Monday. The *St. John Telegraph* has the following to say of Prof. Zera's wonderful performance:—"The renowned Zera Semon and his clever novelty company opened a week's engagement in the Institute last night by thoroughly delighting the senses and highly gratifying the acquisitive instincts of a large audience. It is safe to assert that no one left the building dissatisfied on either of these scores, while every second or third person carried home some handsome and useful memento of the performance. The enjoyment commenced when Zera and his little son appeared in the best series of legerdemain acts ever executed on a St. John stage. The most wonderful and puzzling creations in the line of magic were gone through with by the professor and his tiny coadjutor, each of whom amused the spectators by addressing and treating the other as though a perfect equality in age and everything else existed between them. The second feature was the world-famed Nelton in his difficulty jugglery, and here it may be stated that no one of all the clever jugglers who ever visited Canada could be compared with Nelton, either in variety of entertainment or in accuracy of execution. It is worth going miles to see the lamp act, wherein a large lighted table-lamp is placed on a stick, and the stick on a string, the combination being balanced by the operator's hands at each end."