

CITY CHIMES.

The Recital given last Friday evening in Orpheus Hall by Miss Kathleen Magee was one of the most successful of the season, and notwithstanding the numerous attractions that evening the hall was well filled with a fashionable and appreciative audience. We had not the pleasure of being present ourselves, but we believe Miss Magee delighted her hearers with her selections. The ladies and gentlemen who assisted the talented young elocutionist on this occasion are favorably known in musical circles and a good programme of vocal and instrumental music was rendered, adding not a little to the success of the entertainment. Miss Magee leaves Nova Scotia early in the New Year to pursue her studies in New York.

Hi Henry's Minstrel Troupe at the Academy of Music last week furnished excellent entertainments and were well-received by good houses. The company is a first-rate one and, while unlike the usual performances of minstrel troupes, their entertainment includes a large variety of amusing features, not least among which are the antics of Professor Wormwood's wonderful troupe of trained dogs. These animals show wonderful sagacity and the feats accomplished by them were almost beyond credence. Mr. P. C. Cummings gave a very interesting exhibition of his skill in feats of equipoise, although his hat act needs quite a deal more practice before he can call it perfect. Hi Henry has a marvelous contortionist, who apparently has no bones in his composition, although after his most wonderful performance he stands before his audience a finely formed young man. Verily this man is fearfully and wonderfully made. Hi Henry himself is a fine cornet player and greatly pleased the music lovers among his audience with his well rendered selections. To our mind, one of the most interesting features of this company's entertainments is the famous musket drill of Serg't. Cummings who manipulates a fixed bayonet with the greatest accuracy, skill and rapidity. All in all, the Hi Henry Minstrel Show was well worth attending, and was much enjoyed by those who took it in.

The "private afternoon" people have made arrangements with Mr. Clark for the hire of the rink, and propose if sufficient support is received—which of course will be—having it open on Tuesday and Friday afternoons, and Wednesday morning and evening, from January 5th to March 31st, 1891, and also to have these agreeable and almost necessary accompaniments, a band and tea in the afternoons and evenings. The rates for season tickets may be considered reasonable, but the circular sent out by the committee also states that an admission fee of 25 cents will be charged each evening, which we understand is in addition to the price of the season tickets. Capt. Peacock and Mr. J. F. Kenny are Hon. Secretaries, and the other members of the committee are Colonel Clerke, Capt. Trotman and Lieut. Marsh, R. A. It is gratifying to think that the very mecca of our society people will not, after all the forebodings, be desecrated by the storage of dry, hard, unfeeling furniture within the walls where the glassy surface (this is merely a figure of speech, for the surface of rink ice does not remain glassy for long) was wont in season to be thronged by the youth and beauty of the town, and where we are so often assured, Don Cupid sped many a shaft to its mark. The young people, and others who are not young in years, but are still so in their capacity for enjoyment, will be rejoiced at the prospect of repeating the pastime which they consider necessary to make life go during the winter, and we hope that a rink ticket will be found in many a stocking—or on the breakfast plate, if it be preferred—this joyous Christmas morning.

The little Anglican Church at Three Mile House, now Fairview, is celebrating its Jubilee to-day, and a special service is to be held this afternoon in commemoration of the opening on Christmas day fifty years ago. A special service will also be held on Sunday next which will doubtless prove very interesting, especially to the fathers and mothers of the present generation who remember this church in its more flourishing state. Rev. N. LeMoine is the present pastor of the congregation that worships in this quaint old church, and very interesting services are held on Sunday afternoons.

We are still enjoying remarkably mild weather, and it is hard to realize that the shortest day of the year, formerly supposed to be the beginning of winter, is past. We have had only a few of those days when "the plumber rejoices and the coal dealer throws up his hat," but Stanford's and other ponds and the Dartmouth Lakes have been frozen over and many skaters have taken advantage of the opportunity offered to participate in this delightful sport. It is amusing to observe the variety of opinion expressed with reference to the weather. One complains that it is too warm, very unreasonable, etc., and he longs for genuine old-fashioned Christmas weather, with snow heaped high and air sharp and frosty, while his next door neighbor is rejoicing that old Father Winter is postponing his visit, and trusts the mild weather will continue for many days to come. Truly, "many men, many minds," and it is well ordered that we mortals can only talk weather and not make it; we certainly do our part in talking it. After all it does not make much difference in the cheer of this holiday season whether the weather be mild or severe, and we join in the many merry greetings our friends and subscribers are receiving this Christmas morning and wish one and all a happy day.

The President and officers of the Maritime Commercial Travellers Association have issued invitations for a ball to be held in Masonic Hall on Monday, 28th inst., and their many friends are looking forward to a merry evening to be spent in the ever-favorite pastime of tripping the light fantastic, and in pleasant converse friend with friend. We have not had many

opportunities of airing our dancing pumps of late and this entertainment comes most opportunely at this festive season when "the heart is gay" and merry greetings are echoing from every side. "The boys" are putting forth every effort to make this coming ball one to be thoroughly enjoyed by all who accept of their hospitality, and the preparations that are being made give every indication of a delightful reception.

The Kickapoo Indian Concert Company are still holding forth in Orpheus Hall, and their novel entertainment proves a great attraction to the multitude. Their songs and representations of life in the far west are very good and decidedly mirth-provoking and they have had a crowded house every evening this week. They have an assortment of medicines for sale and have disposed of a large amount of those wonderful cure-alls to their numerous patrons. The admission fee is so small that all can take advantage of the attractions offered by the Kickapoos and an immense amount of fun is to be obtained from their interesting concerts.

In all probability our subscribers will have before this decided what they are going to give their friends for Christmas, but there is still time for us to offer a suggestion for the New Year. What could be more pleasing or profitable to a friend at home or abroad than to receive a year's subscription to THE CRITIC, which is the best all-round family paper published in the province. Send in at once the names and addresses of the friends you wish to remember, with the price of a year's subscription for each one, and during 1892 they will receive a weekly reminder of your good-will. This is one way to make a dollar-and-a-half last a year.

The closing exercises of the Halifax Commercial College were held on Tuesday evening in the college rooms, Barrington Street. The guests and pupils numbered about one hundred and fifty, and an excellent musical and literary programme was rendered. Addresses were made by Rev. Dr. Lathern, J. C. Mackintosh and J. F. L. Parsons in which the growth of the college was noted, and Mr. Whiston congratulated on the high standing and continued usefulness of this educational institution. Not least among the pleasant features of the evening were the presentations and addresses to the teachers of the college. Mr. Whiston received, with best wishes of the pupils, a handsome silver ice service, with a complimentary address; Miss Miller, Mr. W. E. Thompson and Mr. Edwards, Mr. Whiston's efficient assistants were also the recipients of handsome gifts accompanied with expressions of kindly feeling. After the pupils had been cordially thanked for their kind remembrance and the assemblage had partaken of refreshments provided in bountiful and dainty style, the pupils and friends parted with hearty expressions of the good-will of the season, carrying with them pleasant recollections of a delightful evening.

The first concert of the Church of England Institute course was held in the Hall of the Institute on Tuesday evening, and was one of the most successful entertainments of the week. The Hall was crowded and the programme prepared was very interesting and admirably carried out. Mr. Henry and Mr. Norman were unfortunately unable to be present, but otherwise the concert fully came up to the usual high standard of this Association's entertainments. The next event on the programme of the series is the reception to be given on January 7th, by the President and Professors of Kings College.

The "jolly good fellows" of Dalhousie held their annual jollification previous to the Christmas vacation when laying aside books and work they take their departure to their respective homes. The affair came off on Tuesday evening and the students with their friends enjoyed a very merry entertainment, replete with wholesome fun and wit.

The sale of fancy articles and Christmas toys, which has been held in St. Mary's Young Men's Hall this week has been extensively patronized, and the ladies in charge who have so faithfully devoted time and means to further the advancement of a good cause, are to be congratulated on the success which has attended their efforts.

Not least among the many entertainments offered for this week was the series of recitals by the pupils of Frau Doering-Brauer, at the residence of that lady on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. A large number of the parents and friends of the pupils were present on both occasions, and were more than pleased with the work of the young musicians. The good training that has been received was evidenced, and the progress and efficiency of Mrs. Doering's classes of young ladies must assuredly be gratifying to all concerned. In the Spring, Mr. and Mrs. Doering propose opening a school of music, to be entitled "the Doering-Brauer Conservatory."

Zara Semon's Company at the Lyceum Theatre has been drawing this week, if possible, larger crowds than usual and the hall has been filled to overflowing every evening. Georgie Melnotte's Jockey Minstrels have been giving good performances and the musical comedy "The Quakers' Reception" has afforded much amusement. The comedian Ed Kelley in his original specialty, "Professor Semon Outdone," furnished no end of fun and called forth rounds of applause at each appearance. The Boston Ideal Comedy Company will commence their engagement at this popular resort on Monday evening and Professor Semon's show will no doubt continue to draw the usual large audiences next week.

"An ounce of prevention, &c." Do not neglect that cough! One bottle of Futtner's Emulsion (the cough medicine par excellence) taken now, may save you weeks of illness, and a long doctor's bill. Large bottle, only 50 cents.