

CITY CHIMES

Those who planned for a good time on the holiday, Good Friday, last week, were doomed to disappointment as far as the enjoyment of outdoor sports was concerned. The weather was exceedingly unpleasant, a cold, raw wind, with snow squalls, rendering "home, sweet home," most desirable. Services of a solemn and appropriate character were held in the Roman Catholic and Episcopal Churches of the city and were largely attended. Sunday, the glad Easter day, was bright and clear and all nature seemed to rejoice. Special services were held in honor of the day, and in many of the churches the music was well worth hearing. The remainder of the week, we have been favored with a particularly balmy atmosphere, and the season is rapidly advancing.

The public gatherings on Sunday last were given a gay appearance by the grand array of spring hats, etc., worn by the ladies. Flowers and feathers, light hats and dark hats, chip hats and felt hats, mingled in strange confusion, but from a general survey we feel safe in saying that almost every fair one had her heart made glad by the possession of an Easter bonnet. The gentlemen contented themselves with new neckties or new gloves as a rule, but a few suits were noticed that bore a suspiciously unruffled appearance. Speaking of hats calls to mind a short article clipped from one of our dailies, which we beg leave to reprint.—"Get a black chip-hat suitable to the face, run a wreath of green roses round the crown, fashion a lace bow with wire to stand up straight in front, attach a pair of green ribbon velvet strings of one half inch width at the back, get a pair of little silver fleur de lis pins, and you will have all there is of a very stylish Paris 'creation.'" Of this we would only say to our girls—*don't!*

The Easter entertainments given on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings in St. Mary's Hall were attended by great numbers, and in the language of the advertisements "fun and laughter reigned supreme." The great and only Zera Semon gave as part of the programme an exhibition of his unrivalled feats of magic, and as of yore delighted his wondering audience. The second part of the programme consisted of songs, etc., by Messrs. Wilson and Bowler, a dance by Miss May Phelan, and performances by Mr. Phelan and two other dancers. Part three consisted of the royal Mariolette Minstrel performance, and was evidently enjoyed by all who were present. The proceeds of these successful entertainments go toward decreasing the debt on the building of St. Mary's Y. M. T. A. & B. Society.

On Monday evening next Professor Semon has a grand opening at the Lyceum Theatre, and promises his patrons, new and old, one of the best variety shows ever given in our city. Among other features of his long list of attractions is a contortionist who can perform all and more of the marvellous feats usually performed by these curiosities of humanity; Miss Pauline Alonzo, a popular singer; the Fulton brothers, acrobats; and Mr. Nash, champion trick bicycle-rider of America. There is no doubt that Zera will fulfil his promises, he always does, and there is also no doubt that he will be accorded a hearty welcome on his re-appearance at the Lyceum.

Bishop Courtney will preach next Sunday evening in the Garrison Church, and will, without a doubt, be greeted by a large congregation. There will be a full choral service, when the choir will be supplemented by the band of the Leicestershire Regiment. Many of those who were disappointed last Sunday evening on account of the organ breaking down will gladly avail themselves of this opportunity to enjoy the first-class music which will be furnished at this evening service.

The Academy of Music has been occupied this week by the Josie Mills Company. Monday and Tuesday evenings "Dad's Girl" was put on, and Wednesday and Thursday evenings the drama "The Galley Slave" was presented. The audiences have been fairly large.

The ladies of the Church of England Institute held a sale of useful and fancy articles in the Institute on Wednesday and yesterday afternoons and evenings. The display was elaborate, prices—well they were genuine bazaar prices, dainties tempting and waitresses charming. With all these and many other attractions it goes without saying that the fair was a success. Last evening Professor Semon gave a concert in one of the parlors, which was well attended. The building was tastefully decorated for the occasion. The ladies have worked faithfully and merit the success which has rewarded their efforts.

Little Annie Rooney has had her day, and will now probably retire from public life. The young lady who sings her own praises in not the most modest manner imaginable and winds up each verse of the eulogy with the seemingly senseless phrase, "Ta-ra-ra Boom De-ay" is now engaging the attention so long accorded to Joe's Sweetheart. Imported from America and popularized in England by Miss Lottie Collins, Miss Marie Loftus and other favorites of London music halls, the melody of Ta-ra-ra Boom De-ay, it is said, is simply an old German dance tune familiar to many natives of the Deutschman's land. This composition has been occupying the attention of the Chancery Division in the mother land, the question in dispute being one of copyright. Judge Stirling refused to recognize that the plaintiffs had made their title good to the song. Old or new this bright catching air has got a firm hold in our city, and is bound to be sung, whistled and "hummed" for days to come.

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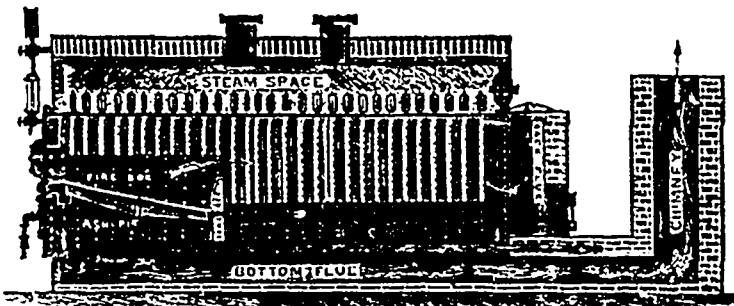
The meeting of the local union of Christian Endeavor held last Friday evening in Grafton St. Methodist Church was largely attended. Rev. E. B. Moore presided. After devotional exercises the speaker of the evening, Professor Andrews, of Sackville, N. B., was introduced to the audience, and in an earnest, practical and interesting address set forth the claims and objects of the Christian Endeavor movement. Two of these objects the speaker specified as fellowship and fidelity, fellowship with other denominations, other nations and with each other, fidelity to Christ and the church. Rev. D. M. Gordon, pastor of St. Andrew's Church, next addressed the assembly, fully endorsing Professor Andrews' remarks. The meeting was a good one, excellent singing being a marked feature.

A very successful entertainment was held in the lecture room of St. James' Church, Dartmouth, on Tuesday evening. A good literary and musical programme was furnished by the young people of the church. The silver collection which was taken during intermission materially added to the funds of the Young Men's Society, under whose auspices the concert was given.

A short time ago we noticed in one of our morning contemporaries a suggestion from a correspondent to "King's Daughters." It read as follows:—"It has occurred to me that a very sweet and womanly mission for our King's Daughters would be the preparing a little parcel of toys, books and cakes to take to the train and give the children of the immigrants when they land at Halifax. Agents do their work, but I am sure a kind word to the tired mothers and the little parcel for the children would be work that would bring its own reward. Young people, think over this hint." A few days later the sentiment of this article was forcibly brought to mind by the arrival of the *Mongolian*. Happening to be at North St. Station Saturday evening when the immigrants were boarding their train for the West, we could not but note the weary and jaded appearance of many of the travellers, and on entering into conversation with one young woman, who with her husband and three little ones were bound for Lillianette, a five days' journey, we were more than ever deeply impressed with the thought suggested in the foregoing "hint," and realized more fully than before the good that may be done by a friendly word. We urge upon those who have leisure to consider this matter, and if by a cheering word to a fellow creature even one sad and lonely heart may be gladdened, let the opportunity not slip by unheeded.

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