

CITY CHIMES.

St. Patrick's bazaar was opened at the Drill Shed on Monday evening by His Grace Archbishop O'Brien. A very handsome display is made, and it is probable that the amount required to clear off the remaining debt on St. Patrick's Church and Glebe House will be raised. The bazaar will remain open until to-morrow evening.

This is the fourth and last week of the Japs. They have been an unprecedented success in Halifax, and deservedly so. To-morrow evening the management intend presenting an elegant solid oak chamber suite of seven pieces to the holder of the lucky number. No doubt there will be a large attendance.

The vagaries of fashion are strange, but sometimes we cannot but approve of the changes brought about by this fickle goddess. One of the most to be commended of late years is the doing away with earrings. Such a barbarous practice as it is—boring holes in the pretty little lobes to hang jewels in! But very few earrings are seen now, those who possess them take them to their jewellers, like sensible women, and have them reset as pendants, or in brooches. A very pretty way in which to utilize these obsolete ornaments is to have them attached to pins and connected by a little chain. Every woman wants a number of them for pinning her collar or fastening in flowers. Old-fashioned earrings are particularly unique used in this way.

Take care of your furs and other winter clothes now, for the moths are increasing and multiplying on the face of the earth, and will prove no respectors of your seal skin jacket or your best tailor-made gown. A contemporary remarked that it might relieve the anxiety of those who regard with dismay the appearance of moths on the wing to know that these insects are harmless as they fly about. The eggs are deposited before the moths take to themselves wings, after which all danger is over. If there is any comfort in knowing that the mischief is done, and that there is no necessity to make any exertion to kill the pests when they are flying about, we commend it to our readers. The best plan is to shake out all furs and garments at intervals during the summer, unless you have them done up in moth-proof boxes before they are put away.

Alexander Salvini has scored a great success in Halifax. In "The Three Guardsmen" last week he gave every satisfaction; and as Cirillo in "A Child of Naples," he left nothing to be desired. It is evident that Mr. Salvini is well acquainted with the character he portrayed so naturally. Mr. Elmar Delamater as the Baron Della Rocca succeeded in making him self properly detested, as the villain ought to be. His acting at times was powerful, and held the audience breathless. Miss Belle Archer as Lucia, the Baronetta, was pleasing. She looked well, and there were some bits of really fine acting in her part. Her weeping, however, on two occasions in the last act, where she was discovered by Cirillo in the grounds of her husband's villa, and in the death scene of Cirillo, verged on bathos, and gave a ridiculous aspect to the whole affair, spoiling the effect of the really powerful acting of Mr. Salvini. With this exception Miss Archer's acting was good. Mr. Lucius Henderson as Count Saut' Elmo was poor. The part required strong acting, and as played by Mr. Henderson was very unsatisfactory. Miss Bertha Creighton as Annette made a charmingly pretty little waiting maid, and acted naturally. Mr. Ben. Johnson as Marisco was excellent, making his part as amusing as possible. Messrs. Carl Ahrendt and Benjamin Horning as Judge Martilli and Dr. Bellotti respectively were good. The story is rather pathetic, but ends in an unsatisfactory manner. The audience is left in doubt as to whether the widowed Baronetta will adhere to her stern resolve to enter a convent, or change her mind and marry her lover, the Count. After all the trouble gone to on her account it would seem more fitting for things to end happily. Last night "The Duke's Motto" was given, and will be repeated to-night and to-morrow. The play for next week will be "Don Caesar de Bazan."

We are now well into the holiday or vacation season. All the schools have closed and the students are off to the country for a change. Tired clerks are enjoying or looking forward to their fortnight's freedom from corroding care; and tourists from the sun-baked parts of Uncle Sam's dominion flock to our shores in search of cool weather. But these thoughts bring to mind those who are left in the city. Are they not having a good time? Of course they are. But if possible all school girls and boys should go away to the country for a few weeks and cast books to the winds. So much can be learnt from nature, and it is a branch of education somewhat neglected. Let the country boys and girls come to the city, and *vice versa*. They will learn from each other in a few weeks more than could be instilled into their heads by a school master in a year. The country boy or girl will be able to tell the city visitors the names of trees and plants, and show them where the birds make their nests. These and many other things will be learnt almost spontaneously, and do almost as much good as the pure air and healthful exercise. When the country cousins come to them there is no end of useful knowledge only waiting for an opportunity to be imparted at the tip of the citizen's tongue. What a vast mutual improvement society we would be if we all did our duty.

COMMERCIAL.

The features of general trade are unchanged since our last review, and the remarks that we made a week ago are still in point. A quiet movement is in progress, and, as a rule, dealers appear satisfied with the conditions of affairs as they are now progressing.

Payments have been fairly satisfactory. The crop prospects continue to improve, so that the hopeful feeling noted in most branches is sustained, as the influence is felt. The city retail trade has been good, so that the conditions point generally to a better state of things to come.

We note that Montreal hay exporters have lost heavily in sending that article to Great Britain. It is contended by the trade generally that, in consequence of the crop in that Province being below the average quality, it should not have been forwarded, as it has had the effect of giving a bad name to Canadian hay on the other side. A letter from Glasgow states that a lot of coarse timothy was received there in such bad condition that the draft upon it was refused. It was characterized as "the veriest trash, and unfit to be placed in a horse's manger." It is feared that there will be quite a loss upon it, if not a reclamation. Another lot of pretty fair hay shipped to Glasgow was offered for sale, and the best bid was 65s. per ton of 2,240 lbs., which is equal to only \$6 per ton in Canada. Last year the shipments of Canadian hay to the other side gave great satisfaction, simply because the hay was good. It is surprising that shippers should have fallen into the error of exporting inferior hay where nothing but the best is wanted.

Breadstuffs report of the week's failures:—

	Week	Prev.	Weeks corresponding to			Failures for the year to date.			
	July 11.	week.	July 11			1890	1889	1888	1887
	1890	1890	1889	1888	1887				
United States	131	102	218	152	116	5702	9255	5553	5389
Canada.....	32	13	16	27	26	905	909	951	684

DRY GOODS.—A more favorable feeling is noticeable, and a fair sorting trade is reported. Still, on the whole, merchants report very quiet. There is, however, a fair enquiry for both white and grey cottons, stocks of which have been reduced at the mills to a more healthy compass. Prices are steady. In prints and other colored goods the mills are now getting out their spring samples, which are more varied in patterns than ever, and compare favorably with those of English make. Our wholesale merchants do not expect to do a rushing trade in woollens, owing to the large quantities of goods held over by the retailers from last winter. The wholesale trade may therefore be regarded as a dull one in all woollen fabrics. In flannel underwear considerable cutting is stated to have been done between some houses, and it is said that a large quantity of these goods have been placed at prices which show no living profit.

IRON, HARDWARE AND METALS.—The pig iron market has been characterized by more activity. While there has been no change in any material feature, the feeling of steadiness noted last week is more pronounced, if anything, than formerly, and the opinion that prices will not go lower is now general. A more hopeful feeling has developed in Great Britain, and recent cable advices note an advance in Scotch warrants, and some improvement in the English markets in legitimate trade, as well as a larger speculative interest. Locally a fair, quiet trade has been doing. Copper has advanced rapidly in outside markets, and this is generally attributed to constantly increasing consumption and a comparatively small output, which, it is claimed, is insufficient to meet the demand. In England copper has a very strong market, and stocks continue to decrease. Heavy sales have lately been made there, largely for future delivery, and prices have advanced nearly £5 per ton during the past thirty days. Tin has fluctuated, but at this writing it is firm at an advance of about £1 per ton. Lead has also advanced a little and is very firm.

BREADSTUFFS.—The local flour market presents no striking features. In Montreal some dealers still claim that they are buying strong bakers' flour below \$5 25, while millers as strongly insist that they are not. The truth of the matter is, probably, that some old lots have been let go at that figure, but that it does not represent the general market. Beerholm's cable reports wheat strong; corn firm. Weather in England fine. French country markets strong. The demand for wheat in France is strong. In Chicago wheat has been quiet and steady, though with a rather easier tendency. Oats and corn were again very strong there, advancing sharply on news of continued hot weather and drought through the greater part of the corn belt. In St. Louis there was an advance of ½c. to ¾c. in the later options of wheat.

PROVISIONS.—Nothing new can be said concerning the local provision market, as all lines are moving slowly at firm prices. The Liverpool market continues unchanged. In Chicago the hog market has ruled easy, and the cattle market slow.

BUTTER.—Nothing is to be noted in butter except the ordinary daily trade. For everything except choice selections prices rule in buyers' favor, and even on the very best there is considerable discussion as to quality and value. Stocks in receivers' hands show an accumulation, but not exceptional so far.

CHEESE.—Matters are rather quiet in the cheese markets, and there was not much doing. The tone on the whole continues about the same. Buyers still talk down values, and there appears more inclination now to meet them than there was formerly.

FRUIT.—Considerable activity has been noticed during the past week in some lines of green fruit, the market following the lines to which we referred in our last report. This is usual at this season, however, so there is nothing special to mention concerning it. In dried fruit there has been no new feature since our report of a week ago. Raisins, as we noted, continue firm with some jobbing business doing. Currants show no change here, but New York advices cite an easy feeling there.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES.—A fair, steady business has been doing in sugar during the week. Low grade yellows were slightly easier but prices were, on the whole, well maintained. Refiners are anticipated a brisk trade in the next few weeks, owing to the fact that the fruit preserving season is at hand, and country dealers have not the stocks on hand to meet the probable demand. The advance in raws will also have an effect in stimulating trade. Molasses is firmly held but no large transactions are reported.