

CITY CHIMES.

Our Society will no longer greet us weekly,—it is to become a monthly, and the first issue as such will appear as an exhibition number. The editor says the paper will be “possibly the first monthly that Halifax has produced.” A writer in one of the daily papers referred to the *Provincial or Halifax Monthly*, thus showing that the new monthly had at least one forerunner, but on investigation we find that Halifax in the olden days did more than this. As far back as 1790 we find the *Nova Scotia Magazine*; from 1826 to 1828 the *Acadian Magazine*; from 1830 to 1833 the *Halifax Monthly Magazine*; then in 1852 and 1853 the *Provincial or Halifax Monthly Magazine*; and last of all the *Maritime Monthly*, published in 1873. This is quite a list of literary achievements, and some magazines were of a standard that would not shame the present day. The *Provincial or Halifax Monthly Magazine* was edited by the late Mrs. Lawson whose initials, M. J. K. L., are well known to the reading public, and was the best of the magazines above named. We wish *Our Society* success in its new role.

The Park and Gardens are well patronized by large crowds of citizens and visitors on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. It is a long walk around the Point, but not too long for our healthy, energetic young people, and the refreshing, invigorating air which greets one on the shore road and up through the leafy, shady walk is undoubtedly the best cure for ennui or lassitude. The Gardens just now are at the height of their glory, and whatever Louis C. Elson, Esq., the musical critic of the *Boston Advertiser*, who has very unjustly, and we think very unnecessarily, cut Halifax to pieces, may have to say derogatory to our city, he certainly could not have visited our Gardens or Park, or his tune would have had just a few notes that were not utterly discordant. The beauties of our city are many, let us make the most of them.

Such a large number of festivities were planned for last Saturday (this last day of the week seems to be the weekly gala day of Halifax,) that when the morning came with its cloudy doubtful sky, many were the expressions of disappointment and impatience. The rain, thunder and lightning of the forenoon certainly did not give much encouragement, but about three o'clock the sun shone through the clouds, and many of the numerous excursions and sports were successfully carried out, though a few were necessarily postponed. The club house of the Royal Nova Scotia Yacht Squadron was well patronized; of course, it being ladies' day, the fair sex was exceedingly well represented, and as the race neared completion excitement waxed high. The *Youta* came home ahead, closely followed by *Lenore*. Each of the competing yachts had one or more ladies as members of her crew, and therefore the interest was more than usual, and the afternoon was much enjoyed by competitors and spectators.

St. Paul's Church was well filled on Tuesday evening, and an excellent programme carried out. Mr. Hutchins, the new organist of the church, delighted the audience by his excellent rendering of the numbers selected, and Mrs. Percy Lear gave two solos, which were highly appreciated by an enthusiastic audience. Mr. Wilson, tenor, and Mr. Dodwell, bass, appeared to good advantage, and the recital was all in all very enjoyable indeed.

The Studley Quoit Club's hodge podge, postponed from Saturday afternoon, was held on Monday at the grounds of the club, and was largely attended by a select and fashionable audience, who went home delighted with the afternoon's entertainment.

We are glad to see that the Halifax Ladies' College is to be in running order again by September 9th, when it will open with a complete staff of teachers. It was with great regret that we saw this admirable educational institution closed early in the summer on account of a visitation of the dread disease diphtheria, and we trust that the thorough overhauling the building has received may have thoroughly eradicated all traces of it.

Every one who has occasion to cross the harbor now comments on the improved appearance of the ferry boats *Halifax* and *Dartmouth*. They have been painted a pleasing yellow and olive green with black funnels. The upper decks of these boats afford a splendid position from which to view the harbor, and are thoroughly appreciated by all lovers of beautiful views. The natural beauties of Dartmouth, or rather the surroundings of Dartmouth, are not as well known as they should be. In no place we can think of are there so many pretty walks and drives near by. In Halifax one must needs walk a long distance to get anything besides the park and other well-known and loved walks, but on the other side of the wetness that divide us from our sister city we find very charming spots not more than twenty minutes walk from the ferry. The lakes are particularly beautiful from either side, and present a greater variety of scenery to the eye than is obtainable at the North-west Arm. We advise our pedestrianizing friends to explore for themselves. They will not have cause to regret it.

Picnics in galore; societies, Sunday schools and private parties are all hard at work trying to enjoy life in this midsummer weather. It is too bad that our enemy, the fog, sees fit to arise every evening, as it certainly dampens the ardor of enthusiastic picnickers, takes the curl out of the fair ones' bangs, and altogether proves very unpleasant. We hope for clearer evenings next week, so that the August moon may be enjoyed to the full, and our pleasure parties not end in obscurity and fog. Park St. Sunday School advertise their annual picnic at Hosterman's for Thursday next, which, if the weather proves favorable, will in all probability be a success,

as very few excursions have been made this summer to these grounds, which in former years were so very popular, and which are really the most delightful retreat for these gatherings that the city affords.

The two days' cricket match between the Wanderers and the Leicester-shire clubs, which was begun on Friday and finished on Saturday afternoon resulted, as the boys say, in “a walk over” for the Wanderers. We are proud of our Halifax boys, the red and blacks having no need to fear competition with any cricket teams, and they have done well this season.

Excursions were very much in order last Saturday afternoon, and notwithstanding the frown of Dame Nature at their starting, the pleasure-seekers were favored with a delightful afternoon. The North British Society and their friends had the steamer *City of St. John* and enjoyed their sail around the Harbor and Basin very much. Refreshments were bountifully provided, and the whole affair was voted one big success.

The Union Protection Company had their annual hodge podge at MacNab's Island on Saturday afternoon, the steamer *Highland Mary* taking down about fifty members and their guests. A very enjoyable affair was the verdict of all present.

Not long ago a visitor in our city made a remark which set us thinking; it was to the effect that while many, very many bright happy faces are to be seen every day on our streets, in the cars, etc., yet a great number of our Halifax ladies, even young girls, constantly wear an expression of thorough discontent. Now this ought not to be. We would not, don't for a moment think we would, have them wear a perpetual smile or a forced expression of happiness, but if they will only take off the frown and look as though they found life worth living, we warrant they will feel ten per cent. happier. Of course every one has some things to worry about, “Into each life some rain must fall, some days be dark and dreary, etc.,” but undoubtedly it is our duty to ourselves as well as to others to be cheerful. Nature surely intended us to be fountain springs of brightness and social life, and not travelling monuments of melancholy. Life is worth living, and if we in Halifax are not contented with our lot we should be, so, as it is much in habit, let us cultivate bright, contented expressions and note how it will make the pretty girls prettier and the plain ones much more attractive, to say nothing of the good it would do others. Someone has well said that a cheerful friend is like a sunny day, which sheds its brightness all around.

While coming from the north end of the city one day this week, the idea struck us that many who live in the south end and rarely have occasion to pass through Gottingen St. have really no idea of the flourishing state of trade on that one street. Of course all through the north end are numerous “grocery corners,” occasional small thread and needle shops, etc., but when one comes to Gottingen St. he must necessarily stop and wonder at the growth of business there within the last few years. North-ends need not now go “to town” for any of the necessaries of life unless they wish, for surely every thing is provided for their accommodation on this busy street. There we find three or four good drug establishments. Close by is the People's Photographic Studio, which we learn is doing a good business in reproducing the bright and attractive faces of our enterprising north end friends. Before passing south we must not forget to speak of a well stocked stationery store, where the latest papers, magazines, books and other like articles may always be obtained. The good market and first-class grocery establishment is a credit to the street, and the crowd to be found there on every evening, Saturday especially, recalls to mind a line of Byron—“All human history attests that happiness for man—the hungry sinner—since Eve ate apples, must depend on dinner.” The numerous dry goods, millinery, boot and shoe, grocery, china and glass, gentlemen's furnishing and variety stores which meet the eye, very many sporting fine plate glass fronts, make one feel assured that a great deal of the money of the north-end citizens must change hands on Gottingen St., and the fact that the north-end branch of the People's Bank has been doing a flourishing business ever since its establishment early last spring, goes to prove this assurance. But we have not even yet enumerated all the branches of trade that are located and carried on in this one street of the north end of our so-called slow city. We find painters, paper-hangers, picture-framers, tonsorial artists, pork dealers, bakers, shoemakers, tea dealers, jewellers, tinsmiths and plumbers, each carrying on a thriving business, and giving satisfaction to their large circle of customers. Sad to say, we have to note the sign, “Licensed to sell, etc.,” among the others in this busy mart, and doubtless the proprietors are contributing their usual amount of work towards piling up misery in many homes while filling their own treasuries. The fruiterers of Gottingen St. deserve more than a passing glance, for in season and out their windows display a most tempting array of deliciously fresh and well assorted fruits. Now at this season especially do they invite the weary passer-by to taste and see, and the sound of the cool soda fountains, the thought of ice cream and the delicious profusion of good things, lure many to the counters of these well-kept places of business. Indeed we would like all to appreciate the fact that not only Granville, Hollis, Barrington and Argyle Streets are to be termed the principal business streets of our city, but that Gottingen must certainly have its place as one of the most successful centres of trade. The north end also has a newspaper all its own, *The Northern Light*, which, though mainly an advertising medium, gives many newsy items in its columns. Now that the Street Railway Company is extending its lines through Gottingen Street to the north-western portion of the city, our north-end citizens will soon have almost everything that man or woman could desire in the way of accommodation and convenience.