

Our correspondent "Musieus" adopts what is decidedly a new strain in the dramatic criticism if may be so called of Halifax. The only objection we have to raise is that it comes rather rough on the Grau Company to make them the scape-goats, so to speak, as they are certainly quite as good as—if not better than—the average company that visits us. We quite agree with our correspondent, however, in thinking that things would go better, both for the public and for the management of the Academy, if something like fair criticism could be revived again, but at the same time we do not think that Halifax is either large enough or wealthy enough to support a first-class company more than once every few years, and we do not see that this fact is in any way discreditable to our city; as there is not, to our knowledge, any town of the same size in Canada, England, or the States, that can afford to invite first-class companies any more frequently. Mr. Clark and the Grau Company have at least the satisfaction of knowing that while two or three may complain that they were led to expect a first-class company, and were disappointed, some thousands have spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening at the Academy during the past fortnight, and have been completely satisfied.

A special meeting of the Wanderers was held at the Halifax hotel last night, when it was unanimously passed that any Haligonian in the Imperial service shall be eligible for membership.

The Hon. J. W. Longley's article in last month's *Fortnightly* has excited a great deal of comment and even his political opponents must grant that it is cleverly written and by no means bigoted. The paragraph that strikes us most forcibly is the following:—

"The people of Great Britain can view with complacency the creation of an effective navy by the United States as well as Canada. Blood is thicker than water, and whatever little family jars may now and then occur between those English-speaking people, if the day should ever come when British interest and honour were in real peril, owing to European combinations, depend upon it the star-spangled banner, floating proudly from the masts of American warships, would be found floating beside the glorious old Union Jack. This, perhaps, sounds too pretty, but it is not Utopian."

No, we do not think it is Utopian; it is simply human-nature,—where do you find fiercer intestine battles than among a family of growing boys? and where do you find closer alliance against the attacks of outsiders than those same brothers in later life? "Let brotherly love continue," saith the Scripture, and it *does* continue to the world's end, but not without a little internal friction occasionally.

Invitations are out for the wedding of Miss Isabella Nicholson of St. John to Mr. F. W. Black Barnes, R. N. The ceremony takes place in Trinity Church on the 22nd inst., and a reception will be held afterwards at the residence of Mrs. Murray MacLaren, a sister of the bride. Mr. Barnes came to Halifax in the Oregon on Saturday, and left for St. John on Tuesday morning.

A quiet but pretty little ceremony took place at St. Luke's Cathedral on Thursday morning, when Mr. John Brown and Miss Annie Marvin, daughter of the late Mr. Nelson Marvin, were united in happy wedlock, Mr. Fred. R. Brown was best man, and Miss Mary Marvin, bridesmaid, and the ceremony was performed by the Rev. W. B. King. The bride, who wore a travelling dress of brown cloth, was given away by her brother, Captain Arthur Marvin. Mr. and Mrs. Brown drove out to Bedford immediately after the service, whence they took the train for the west.

The Attorney-General has cards out for an official dinner on Monday the 20th. Mrs. Longley is looking much better since her return from St. Margaret's Hall, though she is not yet equal to task of entertaining.

The Rev. W. B. King will preach at St. Luke's Cathedral on Sunday morning. The evening preacher will probably be one of the Cathedral staff. The anthem at Evensong, will be St. Peter's, *They have taken away my Lord.*

Lord Gifford, who was well-known in Halifax, when his father, the Earl of Clanwilliam, was at Admiralty House, has been promoted lieutenant, and is appointed to the *Victoria*.

Prince Victor Dhuleep Singh, late aide-de-camp to Sir John Ross, visited the Queen during her visit to Grasse, and did "homage" to Her Majesty as Empress of India.

Rev. Mr. Slipper, who for three years past has been Rector of Eastern Passage, expects soon to return permanently to England.

The Mother Superior of the great Order of St. Margaret, commonly called the East Grinstead Sisterhood, is spending a short time in Halifax, visiting the Sisters who are doing such good work at the Church Hospital.

The Chebucto Lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen is giving a Social in the C. E. Institute, on Tuesday next.

A ridiculous report has got abroad that Miss Laurens is to take Miss Laine's place in Halifax. Those who make it their business to start these tales will no doubt hit the right nail on the head some day; this is the second shot during the last month. While giving Miss Laurens full credit for her beautiful voice, and her power to "bring the house down" in an opera, we do not think that as an all-round singer she would compare favorably with our old favorite, while it is extremely improbable that she would ever take Miss Laine's place as an "educator"—to borrow an Americanism.

On Monday Mrs. Jim Morrow and Mrs. J. F. Kenny, were at home to a large number of fashionables, who came to say fare-well to these two charming Halifax hostesses. The day being fine there were many smart toilets worn.

Tuesday being the first really spring day, drew all the smart world out to the arm region, added to the fact that Mrs. Kenny of Thornvale had a small tea.

Wednesday being such a dismal, dreary and somewhat stormy day, prevented most people from venturing out to attend the tea given by Mrs. Wm. Duffus, as a farewell to her daughter Mr. Middlemass. But still there were a goodly number present, for the same reason prevented those who were there from wearing their new spring bonnets and new spring gowns. In spite of all this, it was one of the most enjoyable functions that have been given for a long time.

On Thursday all the gay world turned up in force at Mr. Duffus', Kent St., for an afternoon tea likewise. This time it was to welcome the arrival of Capt. Duffus, R. A. Many bright spring gowns were worn, and the fashionable hats bedecked with flowers of many hues, made the scene a particularly bright one. In spite of the crowd, people seemed to enjoy themselves, if one can judge by the chatter and noise. It would be impossible to particularize about the dresses worn, when there were so many that ought to be noticed.

This afternoon (Friday) Mrs. Geoffrey Morrow had a small and smart tea.

Mr. and Miss Baker of Yarmouth are at the Halifax Hotel being in town for the session of the Legislative Council.

Among the passengers to Bermuda in the "Alpha" were: His Grace the Archbishop, Father Murphy and Mrs. Russell Twining and child.

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