

The Concert at the Church of England Institute on Tuesday drew a crowded room in spite of the beastly weather. We missed Mr. Sobieski's name from the programme, which was cast as follows:—

PROGRAMME.

- 1.—Quartette
Mr. Wiswell, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Norman, Mr. Blois.
- 2.—Song. "What Will You do Without Me,".....*Tito Mattei*
Mr. Hutchins.
- 3....."Bolero, Merce diletti amiche,"..... *Verdi*
(I Vespri Sicilliani)
Miss Louise Laine.
- 4.—Song. "The Diver," *Loder*
Mr. Norman.
- 5.—Violin Solo. "Barcarole," *Spohr*
Miss G. Tremaine.
- 6.—Duet. "I feel thy Angel Spirit," *Graben-Hoffman*
Miss Laine and Mrs. Taylor.
- 7.—Piano Solo. "La Sylphe," *Pachmann*
Miss Morrow.
- 8.—Song. "'Tis better so," *Watson*
Mr. Gillis.
- 9.—Song. "My Lady's Bower," *Hope Temple*
Mrs. Taylor.
- 10.—Song. "The Rose Song," *Smart*
(From King Rene's Daughter),
Miss Louise Laine.
- 11.—Song. "The Distant Shore," *Sir A. Sullivan*
Mr. Hutchins.
- 12.—Quartette
Mr. Wiswell, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Norman, Mr. Blois.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

In collecting our reminiscences, we feel inclined to start off with Miss Morrow and Mr. Hutchins;—Miss Morrow, because hers was one of the most successful piano solos we remember hearing at a mixed concert.—a good selection, perfectly played. Why Mr. Hutchins comes second it is more difficult to explain, except, perhaps, that we had already some impression of the other performers while we had none whatever of Mr. Hutchins, and went for the express purpose of getting one. And we got it:—Mr. Hutchins has, and deserves, a high place in our musical world, for he is a fine organist, and we welcome him cordially. But considered impartially as a Tenor, we do not think Mr. Hutchins deserves two numbers in a C. E. I. Concert programme, and we are not at all sure that he deserves one. At any rate, it is hardly judicious to include two tenors of such different grades, as Mr. Hutchins and Mr. Gillis in the same programme.

Probably this is the last time we shall hear Miss Laine sing this season, but we shall not forget her, even though it be many seasons before she comes again.

Such musical impressions as are gained in a small city like Halifax are as a rule weak enough, and easily effaced; but we venture to think that Miss Laine's rendering of the selection from Verdi and 'O Hush thee, my babe, (given as an encore to *The Rose Song*), will remain long in the recollections of those who remain in Halifax. We are already wondering when our favourite will visit us again, and hoping she will keep Tuesday's programme and give us the same old songs again as a *souvenir*.

Mr. Norman has a very good voice,—very good; in fact, one of our best bass voices, but wanting in style. A couple of months with a first-class teacher would place him in a different class altogether. Mrs. Taylor sang "My Lady's Bower" admirably, and did her part well in the duet with Miss Laine.

Miss Gladys Tremaine, too, played a very important part in the evening's entertainment, both as soloist and accompanist. The Quartette is good, but we would suggest that the performers would do well to increase their number, and make themselves the nucleus of a regular male voice choir. A strong men's choir with one or two good falsettos can produce effects quite out of the reach of mixed choruses, and would be very popular if once organized.

The Halifax girls are not the only Nova Scotians who carry off naval officers as husbands. We have just received an announcement of the marriage of Miss Harriette Blanchard, youngest daughter of the late Mr. J. F. Blanchard of Truro, to Captain J. G. Jones, R. N., of H. M. S. Malabar. The wedding took place at St. Mary's, Alverstoke, the Hon. and Rev. Allan Brodrick officiating.

The closing exercises of the School for the Blind took place on Monday afternoon and drew a large and influential meeting, in spite of the many other holiday attractions. It tells remarkably well for Halifax that such Institutions as the School for the Blind are never neglected. Among those on the platform on Monday were Mr. W. C. Silver, Principal Anderson (of the Prince of Wales' College, Charlottetown), Rev. Dr. Partridge and Rev. Mr. Adams. The class exercises were very interesting, and gave clear evidence of good work and excellent discipline. The prizes given were as follows:—

Literary Department:

- 1st prize—James Upham, of Prosser Brook, N. B.
- 2nd prize—Freela Kaulback, of New Germany, N. S.

Junior Division:

- 1st prize—Martha Robinson, of Glengary, N. S.
- 2nd prize—George Steele, of Stewiacke.

Musical Department.

- 1st prize—Stephen J. Harivall.
- 2nd prize—Isabella Durham, of Springhill.

After the distribution, Mr. Silver presented Mr. Montague Warren with a handsome cornet, the gift of the pupils and officers of the Institution. Mr. Warren is a graduate of the School, and is now doing well as a piano tuner; his career throughout has reflected great credit on the School that trained him, and the present pupils in that school are not behind hand in recognizing his ability and perseverance.

After several speeches from the visitors, and a farewell chorus from the choir, the assembly dispersed to inspect the buildings, and all agreed that they had spent a pleasant and instructive afternoon.

The *Canadian Queen's* latest competition is proving highly interesting to readers as well as to competitors. The prize is for the best dinner menu, whole cost for six persons not to exceed \$1 50. We would like to point out one great flaw in the conditions of the competition;—no allowance whatever is made for the fact that the prices of luxuries vary greatly in different parts of this continent. For instance, a Haligonian house-keeper can't attempt anything much in the way of desert, while a Californian can put down such items as fresh peaches and apricots 10 cts., white and red grapes 12 cents, etc.

Looking over the menus published so far, we cannot help feeling that if as much skill were shown in cooking the dinners as is shown in cooking the prices, any one of them would serve well enough. For instance, one housekeeper puts down chicken (for six people, mind you) 25cts., cream 5cts., bananas 15cts., 6 eggs 5cts., and so on. Now, our cookery editor, who knows something about these matters, says he could eat all the chickens, cream, bananas and eggs that can be bought in Halifax for 50 cents single-handed, and would be ready to do a beefsteak on top. Of course, the menu in question is not sent from Halifax, but we contend that it is unfair to expect Halifax to compete with places (if there be any) where such prices as the above hold good. The adjudicators will need to be pretty clever men to make allowances for the various conditions of plenty in different parts of the American continent.

Mrs. Frank Doull gave two parties this week, one on Monday for the young folks, and one for children on Tuesday; both thoroughly successful in every way.

The Wanderers have arranged a match with the Regiment for to-morrow, and will in all probability send a team up to Truro on July 1st.