

UNGAR'S NEW LAUNDRY.

Ungar's newly completed building on Barrington St., Nos 66 to 70, is a handsome and substantial addition to the locality. It is of brick, three stories high, with a roomy basement. Large shops with plate glass windows occupy the front of the ground floor, behind which, taking up the whole width of the building, is the wash-room, with engine and boiler room in the rear.

The south shop is fitted up with counters and shelves partitioned off into compartments, and is the main office and delivery room of Ungar's Laundry and dye works. The whole building, with the exception of the other shops, which are for rent, is fitted up with the latest improved laundry machinery, necessary to handle the immense business in this line so rapidly built up by Mr. Ungar.

Mr. Wm. Schon, the obliging manager of the laundry, is always willing to show visitors over the building, and under his guidance we inspected the premises on Tuesday last.

Passing through the main office we entered the wash-room, which is fitted up with 2 large rotary washers made by the Crawford Laundry Machine Co., of Boston, each machine having a capacity of 300 shirts in two hours. There is also a collar and cuff washer of smaller size. The clothes are dried in centrifugal wringers, of which there are two, the large machine being driven at the rate of 1700 revolutions per minute, and drying the clothes with amazing rapidity. From the wringer the shirts are taken to a starching machine with a capacity of 60 shirts per hour. An elevator connects with the different floors, and the clothes are expeditiously passed from one department to another. The waste water from the washing machines and wringer is discharged on the floor, which is constructed for the purpose with an incline to the centre, where a large pipe conducts the water direct to the sewer. Flannels are handled with care and are washed by hand in stationary tubs, a row of them being placed in the centre of the room.

The boiler and engine room is large and airy, and here a 45 horse power boiler and 35 horse power engine supply the power that drives the machinery. The boiler is of steel, made by E. Leonard & Son, and the foundation of the engine is built from bed rock, and is unattached to the building. On the floor above is the dry room and a large place for sorting the clothes provided with counters and pigeon holes. The dry room is the best we have ever seen, and is so ingeniously arranged that the wet clothes are placed on what might be called iron travelling horses. These in pairs are pulled out of the dry room, the clothes hung along them and pushed back. Through this arrangement the operatives do their work clear of the intense heat of the dry room. In one corner of this flat the manager has had partitioned off a comfortable bedroom, and night and day is on the premises.

The whole of the upper flat, a very large room with numerous windows in front and rear, is devoted to the ironing department. A very large steam mangle for sheets and other articles stands on the north west side of the room, and the way it turns out perfectly ironed articles would delight the heart of any housekeeper. Near by is a machine for ironing and polishing shirt fronts, and the expert operator polishes them off at the rate of one in 55 seconds. The cuffs of the shirts and the neck bands are polished on two adjoining machines, while collars and cuffs are ironed on a fourth machine. After being ironed the collars and cuffs are given the necessary curve by being passed through a curler.

Hand ironing gives employment to a number of girls, and each has her separate ironing board, with gas and air attachment for heating the irons. From top to bottom the establishment is scrupulously clean, is light and well ventilated, and is of such great capacity that all the business offering may be pushed through in the minimum of time.

CITY CHIMES.

It being a little early for holiday festivities, and the opera company having packed up bag and baggage, sung its farewell and departed from our city, there seems to be a dearth of public amusements, and with the exception of a few private dances, whist parties, five o'clocks and such like, there is really nothing going on. The shops are beginning to assume a gay appearance, and Christmas shoppers will in a few days have a full stock from which to make their selections. Some of the novelties in various lines of goods are very attractive, and will probably make glad many hearts when the presentation day arrives.

Some time ago a movement was made to secure a more satisfactory method of teaching the art of penmanship in our public schools, and a committee was appointed to look into the matter and report thereon. On Friday evening of last week the teachers of the city and Dartmouth schools met to consider the committee's report, which was read and explained by Principal Miller, of Dartmouth. Mr. Symons, Chairman of the School Board, addressed the meeting, giving as his experience as a bank director that young men applying for positions as clerks, although in every other respect acceptable, had frequently been rejected on account of bad writing. After questions put by interested teachers seeking information had been satisfactorily answered, and the opinions of several had been given, the following propositions were endorsed by the majority of the teachers present:—"1. Instead of slates pupils should use exercise books. They would be noiseless—the work would remain for inspection or reference,—being permanent more care would be exercised, and the cost would not be much, if any, exceeding that of slates. 2. Pupils when writing would sit in the 'right central position,' both arms on the desk at an angle of 45 degrees with the front of the desk, writing lines parallel to the front of the

desk. 3. Vertical script is better than slant, being more legible, more easily learned, better adapted to secure the hygienic position. It is the most used in the English schools, in nine-tenths of them and in many schools on the continent. It is recommended by German experts. 4. In normally shaped hands pens should be held as recommended by Gage in his system of penmanship. 5. Pupils when writing should be required to be always in correct position and to hold their penholders or pencils correctly. Writing exercises should not be so long as to become tiresome. 6. Writing should be taught chiefly from the black board and by the use of exercise paper and movable head lines. 7. No haste to get through with much work should cause the teacher to tolerate any written exercise which is not in good form." The subject is one that cannot fail to be of interest to a large number of our citizens, both in business and professional circles, and if the present movement be efficacious in turning out clear, legible and practical writers from our public schools, pupils and those interested in their welfare, as well as the general public, will have reason to rejoice. Many of our teachers, having to a large extent educated themselves in the art of writing, receiving little or no systematic instruction in early years, will find it far from easy to strictly carry out the schedule given above for the instruction of their scholars, but it is to be hoped that all will feel their responsibility in this matter and do their best to secure satisfactory results.

"Eleven little girls of New York, whose ages range from 5 to 14, have formed 'The Little Girls' Club,' and on Saturday they will hold a fair to raise money to provide a Christmas dinner for the poor. It is to be hoped that this eleven will make a big score in their Christmas game." The foregoing paragraph I clipped from an exchange, and have re-published in the hope that meeting the eyes of some of my young readers it might prove an inspiration to eleven or more little girls of Halifax to "go and do likewise." We constantly hear of our young friends devoting their time and energies to bazaars, concerts, etc., the proceeds of which go to swell the foreign mission funds, and I for one have nothing but commendation for such work; but I would ask, why are not the sympathies of our children enlisted to a greater extent in home mission work? Surely the pitiful lives of many boys and girls in our own fair city would appeal to the tender hearts of the little missionary workers, and opportunities for great and little services in this work are never lacking. The time between now and Christmas Day is short, but much might be accomplished by willing hands and hearts.

That "Sho" is coming everyone in town who has eyes to see must be aware. Professor Semon opens at the Lyceum on Thursday of next week with a new show. In the language of the handbill Zera's patrons are to have the "inimitable prestidigitateur and illusionist, Powell, in an original programme of fantastic creations, realizing the acme of perfect manipulation, assisted by Mlle Vera, in conjunction with the original M. Jilton, grotesque fantacist." The programme for this novel and, if we may form an opinion from the above quotation, wonderful show is divided into five parts. In the fourth "Mystery," the weird spectacle suggested by the cave scene in Rider Haggard's novel "Sho" will be presented, and, to again quote from Mr. Powell, "a living being will be buried to ashes in full view of the audience." Professor Semon's numerous friends and patrons in Halifax will no doubt find much to interest and amuse in this popular showman's latest importation.

CHIPS.

THE CAUSE OF RHEUMATISM.

An acid which exists in sour milk and cider, called lactic acid, is believed by physicians to be the cause of rheumatism. Accumulating in the blood, it attacks the fibrous tissues in the joints, and causes agonizing pains. What is needed is a remedy to neutralize the acid, and to so invigorate the kidneys and liver that all waste will be carried off. Hood's Sarsaparilla is heartily recommended by many whom it has cured of rheumatism. It possesses just the desired qualities, and so thoroughly purifies the blood as to prevent occurrence of rheumatic attacks. We suggest a trial of Hood's Sarsaparilla by all who suffer from rheumatism.

CHARACTERISTIC.

It is characteristic of the House to have only the very best, and never deal in what is known in the trade as cheap instruments.

It is characteristic of the House never to ask fancy prices (as some dealers do, and come down if they have to). Every instrument is marked in plain figures at actual selling price, which is always the lowest, consistent with quality and a fair living profit.

By these, and other strict commercial methods, I have built up one of the largest, if not the largest, retail Piano and Organ trades in the Dominion.

I was awarded a special diploma at the late Provincial Exhibition for the best exhibit of Pianos, consisting of CHICKERING, KNABF, BELL, DOMINION, MASON & RISCH, and NEWCOMBE, which means the diploma of the exhibition in the Piano line.

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