

CITY CHIMES.

THE FIRST ORPHEUS.—The first Orpheus concert, to be given on the evening of the 19th, promises to be something good. The club, its auxiliary and orchestra have been working hard and their portion of the programme will without doubt be well rendered. The soloists of the evening are all favorites with the club's strains and a delightful entertainment is looked for.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY.—Christmas is coming, did you know? and it is but ten days off, do you take that in? The cold weather has made it easier to realize that the Christmas season is upon us, and the preparations for the festival are going on with more apparent vigor. The merchants find business rushing, and the streets are filled with eager shoppers, while in our homes the mystery which usually pervades the Christmas atmosphere is distinctly felt. Of course this is all very delightful, but in the superabundance of our liberality towards the dear ones of our households and our friends, don't let us forget the family of children that lives around the corner upon whom Santa Claus will in all probability forget to call and to whom a hamper of good things on Christmas Eve will bring unutterable joy; and let us remember that a warm shawl or a like comfort would brighten the heart of some one of the many working women who find few Christmas joys falling to their share. The youth who carries your newspaper to your door will be the better boy for a practical assurance of your goodwill in the form of a warm pair of mittens or a jack-knife, and the maid in the kitchen will appreciate highly some token of your kindly feeling towards her. There are little things but they count, and depend upon it only by taking advantage of the opportunities afforded us to do charitable work and by exercising practical goodwill to those less favored with this world's goods than ourselves will we carry out the true spirit of Christmas. If the work calls for self-sacrifice the greater satisfaction will go with the giving, and our Christmas dinner will be more enjoyed if we can know that some table usually bare of luxuries is bountifully spread by our generosity, and that those surrounding it think of us with heartfelt gratitude.

Keep the blood pure by taking Hood's Sarsaparilla. If you decide to buy Hood's Sarsaparilla, do not be persuaded to take any other.

NO BALL.—The Red Cap Snowshoe Club at its annual meeting this week decided to celebrate its twentieth anniversary on January 18th by holding a club dinner. The lady friends of the red caps don't like to call the club unkind names, but many of them had vainly hoped to hear of a repetition this winter of the ball held three years ago, which was such an enjoyable affair.

SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.—The annual meeting of the School for the Blind was held on Monday evening, and considering the wild, cold weather, was well attended. The Superintendent's report showed the school to be doing grand work and to be well up to the times. The work which is being accomplished in the various departments is in every respect satisfactory, and the graduates are bringing credit to their teachers in their different vocations. To one not familiar with the ingenuity and adaptability of those deprived of sight what is being done at this educational institution is a source of great and constant surprise. In the study of vocal and instrumental music the lack of sight appears to be a small disadvantage; the tuners of musical instruments find no difficulty in obtaining employment; and a large number of the pupils have mastered the art of making willow baskets and of seating chairs with cane. One young man who graduated in 1892, was mentioned specially by the Superintendent on Monday evening. For years he has been an eager student of electricity, and without the aid of any one with sight has constructed several electrical appliances. He is now engaged in instructing a class of twenty pupils of the school, and is confident that the blind can be taught to set up and repair telephones, put in electric bells, etc., in short to find profitable employment in electrical work. This enterprising young man should have the best wishes (and I trust the practical assistance, if necessary) of all who are interested in the education of the blind. The work that is being done by the girls in their workroom is also wonderful. By crocheting, knitting and sewing they manage to earn quite a large amount of pocket money, and are thus given a comfortable feeling of independence. To quote the board of managers in their report:—Never before in the history of the Institution has the school been in such a thorough state of efficiency.

It is certainly the duty of every citizen, worthy the name, to take an interest in the philanthropic institutions with which Halifax is well supplied, and such interest cannot fail to be fully appreciated.

To-morrow afternoon the public is invited to attend an exhibition and sale of the work of the pupils of the School for the Blind and it is to be hoped a large number will be present. I understand that tea will be served, and that the exhibition is under distinguished patronage, since General and Mrs. Montgomery Moore have promised to be present. The General and his good lady are becoming well known for the kindly interest they are taking in every good work in Halifax and their example will undoubtedly count for much.

A SATISFACTORY WORK.—Apropos of the work of the School for the Blind, it will no doubt be heard with gratification by the large number of ladies who assisted in the Dolls' Carnival held here last May, and in many other places during the summer, that the sum of \$3,653.11 was realised to establish a home-teaching fund for those who lose their sight in middle life or old age.

Every mother should have Johnson's Anodyne Liniment for cuts, burns and bruises.

THE MASQUE OF MONTHS.—For some weeks there has been a good deal of talk about the entertainment to be given in aid of the Sailors' Home, and that the advertising thus given was not without effect was evidenced by the rush made for seats when the box office opened on Monday morning. People hardly know just what to expect as the idea of the programme was entirely new in Halifax, but every one anticipated an unusually interesting evening. It is needless to add that no one who witnessed the pageant could have been disappointed, for from beginning to end the entertainment was thoroughly enjoyable, and the excellent rendering of the programme reflects credit on every performer and shows what Halifax amateurs can do.

Mr. Fuller, in his character of Father Time, did full justice to the remorseless old gentleman. The twelve ladies who represented the months of the year were, without exception, effectively attired. Of course opinions differ, but if any special notice is to be made of the impersonations, to my mind Mrs. A. Jones, Miss Waddell and Miss Harvey should be given the palm. The tableaux were all excellent, "midsummer night's dream" being exceedingly pretty. The special days of the months were well represented. The Irish song for St. Patrick's day was most acceptably rendered by Mr. Bailey. Mr. Duffus played well his rather trying part of the April Fool, and Mr. Norman's song for St. George's Day was beautifully sung. The May Day pastoral was one of the most pleasing features of the evening, while the singing of our National Anthem as representative of the Queen's Birthday took the audience by storm and was very effective. Dominion Day was well performed by Miss Harrington, whose address to John Bull was bright and to the point. Independence Day (July 4th), ushered in by crackers, cappers, and a multitude of various noises, was ably represented by Mr. Ad Johnson. One of the best of the special days' numbers was Miss Nora MacKay's recitation on the re-opening of school, (Sept. 15th). Guy Fawkes' Day was a ludicrous, noisy representation but was well put on, Master Knight meriting special commendation for his vigorous clapping. St. Andrew's Day had appropriate bagpipe accompaniment. The Christmas march was well performed and the young ladies deserve credit. The New Year tableau was very pleasing, as was also that of St. Valentine's Day. Mrs. Geof. Morrow's recitation "Tabitha's Birthday" (February 29th) was amusing and was well given.

The music of the evening was of the highest character. Mrs. Arthur Troop's spring song, Miss Homer's summer song, Mrs. Kennedy-Campbell's "Coming thro' the rye" and Miss Copeland's winter song were all most pleasingly rendered. The month of August, taken charge of by the staff of the Doering-Brauer Conservatory, was a musical treat. The singing of Miss Doyle and Herr Karl Doering, with Frau Doering's pianoforte playing and Herr Ernst Doering's cello performance could not fail to please every musical soul in the audience, and although the number did not elicit the applause that might have been expected, yet I think the only fault that could be found was that, in consideration of the length of the programme, it took up perhaps a little more time than was fitting. The band music on both evenings was delightful.

I find I have taken up a large amount of my space, and yet feel that I have done small justice to the entertainment of the season, and have given those of my readers who were not among the audiences at the Academy on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings but a very faint idea of the excellence of the programme carried out. Success is the best reward that workers in a good cause can obtain, and the ladies and gentlemen who have devoted their talent and valuable time to this charitable project will feel well repaid by the success that has accompanied their efforts. The Sailor's Home is a grand institution, and all contributions towards its work are given wisely.

Hood's Pills do not purge, pain or gripe, but act promptly, easily and efficiently. 25c.

BUSINESS GIVES PLACE TO PLEASURE.—Cards have been sent out by Mr. Whiston and the teachers of the Halifax Commercial College inviting their friends to partake of their hospitality at Chalmer's Hall on Tuesday evening next. An interesting programme has been prepared and judging from former occasions an enjoyable evening is assured.

THE MOST EXCELLENT REMEDY.

DEAR SIR:—I have suffered greatly from constipation and indigestion, but by the use of B. B. B. I am now restored to health. I cannot praise Burdock Blood Bitters too highly; it is the most excellent remedy I ever used. MISS AGNES J. LAFONN, Hagersville, Ont.

WINTER IS HERE.—Whew! How does this strike you for winter weather, was the universal greeting as our citizens met and hurried on to their places of business on Tuesday morning. Such a change in the weather programme took Halifaxians by surprise. On Monday morning there was little change from the mild weather which has been with us for some time, but long before the shades of evening began to fall a decidedly cold snap had set in, and since then we have had our first taste of genuine winter. The snow which fell on Tuesday gave a seasonable appearance to the city, and the merry jingle of the sleighbells makes pleasant music. CHIPS.

The friends of the Ladies' College at Sackville are invited to view an exhibition of art works by the pupils of the Owens Art School, in connection with the college, to-day and to-morrow.

HOW TO GET A "SUNLIGHT" PICTURE.

Send 25 "Sunlight" Soap wrappers (wrapper bearing the words "Why Does a Woman Look Old Sooner Than a Man") to Lever Bros., Ltd., 43 Scott St., Toronto, and you will receive by post a pretty picture, free from advertisement, and well worth framing. This is an easy way to decorate your home. The soap is the best in the market and it will only cost 1c. postage to send in the wrappers, if you leave the ends open. Write your address carefully.