

THE DAILY EXAMINER. DECEMBER 24, 1889.

"Again at Christmas did we weave The holy round the Christmas hearth; The silent snow possessed the earth."

WHERE shall we get a fresh sprig of holly with which to decorate our pages to-day? Let us try to look back through the centuries and bring before our mind's eye an image of Him the festival of whose birth we commemorate to-morrow.

Twelve years have passed, and an eager, inquisitive boy forgets that the time has come to return home, as He listens hour after hour to the teachers of His nation, as He plies them with questions to which we may well believe they did not find easy answers.

After about twenty years had passed, we find the Lord, now grown a man, setting aside some of those teachings, putting new constructions upon others, filling most with a new spirit, and speaking with such a conviction of the truth of what He said that they who heard were struck with astonishment.

Nor was He only a chief preacher. He was known as the lover of little children; the comforter of the mourner; the healer of the sick; the warm friend, the devoted son He shared in the joy of the wedding feast.

He whose great heart was filled with pity for his careworn friends and who so gently and beautifully taught them the lesson of their father's care for them, from the lilies of the field and the fowls of the air; who had no word of condemnation for the woman discovered in her sin, - could utter the bitterest denunciation of the Pharisee who devoured widow's houses and for a pretence made long prayers.

Can we, then, think that our lives, no matter how high our aims or how pure our purposes, can fulfil the end for which they were given us, unless we feel that we are members of the great family of men; that the warm, rushing tide of life throbs in our hearts; that every man we meet is a brother and every woman a sister.

THE COUNTY COURT.—The County Court opened here to-day with some 90 suits on the docket. A number of these suits have been already heard and disposed of.

Christmas At Home.

ONCE again all, high and low, rich and poor, happy and sorrowful, are preparing to keep the festival of Christmas. Churches are being decorated for to-morrow's services of adoration and thanksgiving, and gifts are being made ready for the no less acceptable service of love for one another, of which the church is home and the priest and priestess father and mother.

There is, no doubt, some conventional giving, if we may be allowed the expression, but we are mistaken if even the gifts made in this way are not among the outward and visible signs of the spirit of love and good will which is abroad in the world.

We are so busy working for our dear ones in this hard, every-day world that we are far too apt to forget, and to let them forget, that love from which our actions spring. Nay, how seldom does the heart swell and the eye moisten as we give that touch which will, through all the after-life, be remembered as a benediction.

And now, to one and all, we would give the old, hearty greeting—

A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS!

"O Melancholy Plight":

HEAR the voice of the Patriot's complaining: "The Government has not sent us a copy of the evidence given, and we do not think it is any part of our business to incur the heavy expense of employing a reporter to take down testimony, the chief object of which seems to be to incriminate the dead, and whitewash the living."

The Patriot is certainly in a melancholy plight. No reporter; dependent upon the Government for "copy of the evidence"; "the Government has not sent (sic) the Patriot a copy of the evidence;" therefore its readers are left in the dark as to the truth about the defalcations!

To take "copy" from an "incriminated" Government—readers of the Patriot will, no doubt, be shocked at the bare idea of such a thing!

But the Patriot pleads that the chief object of the testimony "seems to be to incriminate the dead and whitewash the living." The Patriot's readers might, we think, be left to judge about that point; and they cannot possibly do so unless they have the "testimony" before them!

Now, seeing that the Patriot is in a strait, not having been able to employ a reporter and not having had "copy" sent by the Government, - we offer it freely the report of the "testimony" as it has appeared in THE EXAMINER. If it should not accept this offer, and so enlighten its readers, its article of yesterday may be interpreted according to the heading thereof, as "A Senseless Whine."

Personal.

Mr. and Mrs. Berlinguet, of Three Rivers, Que., are registered at the Hotel Davies. Mr. H. W. Anderson, of the railway mechanical department, was a passenger on the Stanley to-day, on return from Montreal.

For the Weak and Languid.—Campbell's Beef, Iron and Wine is one of the best tonics possessing many nutritive and strengthening qualities. Is recommended by the leading medical men. If you are weak and languid a bottle will give instant relief. See that you ask for and get Campbell's Beef, Iron and Wine.

Something new—I have received a nice lot of ladies' pure gum American Rubbers. Each pair is put up in a handsome plush bag, and makes a nice Christmas present. Call and see them.—R. K. Jost, dealer in boots and shoes, North side Queen Square, Dec 22

Christmas.

Welcome! sweet season of the year To every Christian nation dear, Let every voice loud carols sing, To Christ, the Universal King, And celebrate his wondrous birth, Who came to bless this sinful earth.

O let his name be echoed round, Where'er a Christian voice is found, Whether Prince Edward's favored shore, Or where Old Christmas reigned of yore, In rounds of beef, plum pudding rare,— Old England's hospitable fare.

Parents and children then would meet, And all partake the annual treat; Nor were the Children of the poor Turned empty from the rich man's door; But old and young, and rich and poor, Echoed old Christmas' praise along.

The holly hung from every wall, The cottage or the castle hall, The kiss was snatched in sporting glee Beneath the bush and yielded free; And Christmas boxes, Christmas cheer, Proclaimed the swiftly passing year.

But years fly fast and each will seem, When gone, but as a vanished dream; Dear youth, then spend this season so That memory never cause thee woe! And join with me in the good old cheer—"A merry Christmas and a happy Year."

WELCOME.

Lower Montague, Dec. 20, 1889.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Another Critic Criticised.

SIR,—I have read the criticism of your correspondent on Mr. L. H. Davies' lecture at Summerside, which appeared in your issue of Saturday.

Now in justice to Mr. Davies I cannot but think that the strictures of your correspondent are uncalled for, apart altogether from the results of the lecture itself. Mr. Davies and a few other gentlemen in this province frequently respond to the invitations of societies, clubs, etc., to lecture, and this they do without fee or reward. Now, under such circumstances, it seems unfair and ungenerous, to say the least, to criticise the efforts of the lecturers too severely. I have no doubt Mr. Davies lectured in Summerside, on Thursday evening last, not only without being paid for his services, but, most probably, at loss, trouble and inconvenience to himself. And there is no doubt but his lecture was interesting and instructive to his audience. If there were defects in his reading, is it necessary to find fault with him in the press about it? Would that there were more men in our community who would gratuitously assist in promoting improvement and the development of intellectual taste among our people!

The above remarks will apply with equal force to our amateur singers and musicians, of whom we have much reason to be proud. Now and then the citizens of Charlottetown are favored with concerts for which the performers prepare with much care and labor, given without pay. What good end can be gained by too severe a criticism in such cases? None whatever. On the contrary, much pain may be caused and persons of promising talent discouraged altogether.

FAIRPLAY.

Our Critic Defends Himself.

SIR,—In Saturday's issue of THE EXAMINER I observe two communications, one signed "Another Lover of Music," and the other "One who knows what he is writing about," both written in reply to my letter published on the previous day. The first-mentioned writer does not question the accuracy of my remarks, but takes the ground that adverse criticism of concerts is not desirable,—that if one cannot speak in terms of praise of the singers he should remain silent. In other words, he intimates that some of those who assist at concerts are open to receive any amount of flattery, no matter whether they deserve it or not, but they cannot bear to be told that their singing is not so good as it might be. The childishness of this argument is so apparent that I do not think I need say anything further about it.

The other correspondent pronounces my criticism "valueless" because of what he is pleased to term its "amiability, contradictions, and weaknesses," some of which alleged defects he proceeds to point out with an air of superiority that is decidedly refreshing. He neglects, however, to tell us what value is to be attached to a criticism coming from a very much interested source. But probably that view of the matter was not taken into consideration at the time of writing.

My critic considers it an insult to the composer to call "The May Queen" a "pretty cantata," because, forsooth, Sir John Stainer, and some other eminent musicians, including, of course, "One who knows what he is writing about," speak of it as the "most beautiful" pastoral in existence! What a petty quibble for a man with such a voluminous autograph to raise! Is there anything in it?

This correspondent also criticises my use of the words "nicely" and "pleasing," claiming that they were not used in a proper sense. I intimated that the vocal and instrumental music in the choruses harmonized nicely, and that this harmony had a pleasing effect throughout; in short, that those present were pleased with the rendition; and it is for so expressing myself that I am taken to task and accused of ignorance. Had I said that the choruses were beautifully sung and that the audience was highly delighted, my very disinterested critic would, no doubt, have been better pleased, for, like other eminent musicians, he is fond of exaggerated flattery. But, fortunately or unfortunately, I used the language referred to, believing that it was as forcible as the occasion required, and have incurred the displeasure of your correspondent.

By the way, who told my critic that I thought Sir William Sterndale Bennett was still living? I certainly never said so. "One who knows what he is writing about" should be careful not to bear false witness.

Your correspondent's method of disposing of my remarks in reference to the manner in which the leading characters in the cantata enacted their respective roles is unique, to say the least. He states, on authority, that the positions were determined by the conductor, whose ability, he patronizingly adds, has not escaped my notice, and then drops the subject as if this statement was a sufficient answer to

what I had said. But this will not do, I said before, and I now repeat, that the effect of some of the most beautiful lines in the cantata was lost upon the audience owing to the manner in which they were interpreted, and every disinterested person present who knows anything about the importance of attention to detail in such affairs will bear me out. Something more than good singing is necessary for success in the presentation of such pieces as "The May Queen," and the sooner this fact is grasped with by the Philharmonic Society the better. The mere popping up and down in one's place, and the singing or reciting of a few lines with one's nose glued to the music sheet is a characteristic of the country singing class, and there it should remain. We look for action and pathos and strict attention to detail at high-class performances in Charlottetown. And in this connection, perhaps, it may not be out of place to remark that the musical talent of the city is not confined to those who assist at any particular concert or who belong to any one particular organization.

There are some other little matters in the letter I am reviewing that might be taken up did time and space permit, but I must close.

A LOVER OF MUSIC.

An Outrage.

SIR,—What about the nuisance of keeping pigs in the city? How does the law run on this point? What is our city coming to, when people are allowed to butcher them at our very doors? Yesterday morning, about 9.30, a number of men butchered a pig in a most ghastly manner in the open land in front of the doors of the neighbors' houses fronting on Kent and Fitzroy streets, behind Mr. Peardon's stable and outhouses! Let us hear your opinion about this outrage.

ONE DISGUSTED.

Charlottetown Markets.

Owing to the late fall of snow and the good condition of the roads, the market to-day was the largest we have had for some time. The display of beef was excellent, some being almost equal to that of last Easter. Following are the prices:

Table with 2 columns: Item and Price. Includes Beef (small) per lb \$0.08 to 0.12, Butter, fresh, per lb 0.20 to 0.22, Eggs, per doz 0.24 to 0.25, etc.

1890.

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PEOPLE WONDER why it is that SANDERSON & CO. have, in such a short time, built up a business and reputation second to none in the city. Ask their Creditors. They will tell you that SANDERSON & CO. pay promptly and secure the largest discounts, which enables them to sell CHEAP. Ask their Customers. They will tell you that SANDERSON & CO. keep the best Tea and Flour, the freshest, best-assorted and cheapest stock of Groceries, and give better value in return for their Money, Eggs and Butter, than any store in the city. Their claim to being the cheapest and the best is well sustained. Ask Them. Themselves. They will tell you that SANDERSON & CO. have neither time or money to get up or pay for flash advertisements, which only amuse intelligent purchasers, and usually indicate an unsalable stock, while, on the other hand, the extra value that SANDERSON & CO. give, brings them back—with a neighbor—every time. N. B.—You cannot do better than follow the prudent ones to SANDERSON & CO'S, for your Christmas Supplies. dec 14

How to Test Furs.

The value of Furs largely depends upon the season of the year in which the animals are killed. The dressing of the skins is next of greatest importance; and, last of all, the care with which they are made up decides whether or no they will prove satisfactory to the purchaser. Our space does not permit us to more than mention the different important points in the selection of Furs. There is the length, thickness and color of the fur; the gloss, too, is important. Then there is the softness of the pelt, showing the care given in the dressing,—the selection of skins to match well,—the quality and care in stitching,—the cut and shape (especially of Sacks),—the finish and general appearance,—and, last of all, the price asked for the garment when finished. Our Fur Department is one of our very best. We pay the greatest attention to the QUALITY of our Furs, and GUARANTEE our Astrakhan and Bokhara Jackets. When buying from us we give you Furs exactly as represented, and at the same time offer you an immense variety of garments to select from. Our sales in Furs are very large, owing, we believe, wholly to the high quality and moderate price of them. We invite you to call and examine our stock of Jackets and Fur-Lined Dolmans, the value, style and elegance of which is unsurpassed. Our stock of Capes, Bows, Muffs and Caps is still quite large, and offers every variety of price and quality.

CARPETS!

Points Worth Considering when deciding to Buy New Carpets.

Our Carpets are from the Best Makers. We need scarcely tell you how important it is, when buying Carpets, to select none but the best makes. There are carpets and CARPETS. Some look very pretty, but a few months' wear bring to light their inferiority of coloring and material. We take special care to procure the best obtainable.

We Show a Large Assortment. Another important point, when selecting Carpets, is to go where you have a large variety of choice designs to select from. This you have by buying from us. We keep a full range of prices, and offer you 150 pieces to select from.

Our Prices Are Right. Economy in Carpets as in everything else is desirable, and we are in a position, by buying for cash from the largest and cheapest manufacturers, to offer you every inducement in prices obtainable in the Maritime Provinces.

Our Goods are Exactly as Represented. Our stock of Carpets is, we believe, the largest on the Island. Our assortment is very large, our prices are right, and we invite all who require, or who may require, Carpets of any kind, to call and inspect our goods and prices.

BEER BROS. All Xmas Goods WATSON'S DRUG STORE Will be Sold at Cost until Christmas. SAMPLES IN WINDOWS. "CITY STEAM BAKERY," PRINCE STREET. Good Things for Xmas and New Year. A. & C. QUIRK Have the Finest Assortment of Fresh Cake, Confectionery, etc., in the City. PRICES LOW. Quality Guaranteed. CHARLOTTETOWN, DECEMBER 21, 1889—dy 1w

FOR XMAS AND NEW YEAR. JOHN MURPHY Will be to the Front as usual with a Large Supply of POUND CAKE, in Plain Fruit and Dark Fruit, at prices from 20 to 50 cts. per pound. ORNAMENTS done in Plain Almond or Fancy Small Cakes. Over fifty varieties to select from at prices to suit everyone. Teams go through the streets each day to take orders and leave Bread, Cake or Pastry. JOHN MURPHY, UPPER KENT STREET. CHARLOTTETOWN, DEC. 20, 1889.