

MUSICAL CIRCLES.

RICH PEOPLE'S FADS.

The absence of any musical events makes it a somewhat difficult task to make this column interesting. However, there are a number of events on tap which I hope to describe fully next week.

Speaking of the new music hall in New York, Progress' New York correspondent "Hermia," (who by the way is a bright New Brunswick lady) has something to say of its rich founder, Andrew Carnegie.

SPORTS OF THE SEASON.

Next Saturday a dozen or so athletic St. John boys go to Halifax with their lacrosse sticks and on Monday week they will cross them with the crack players of Halifax.

I understand, however, that unexpected strength came to the Union when Dr. Essoe went down to practice the other evening. It was quite plain that there is another Essoe in town who can handle the stick.

A portrait of Frank White, the Y. M. C. A. sprinter and base ball pride, adorns the first column of the Y. M. C. A. Herald this month. Frank looks natural.

A gentleman saw his boy in front of the house throwing a ball in the air one evening. He had played ball himself for 30 years, and knew nothing of the kind of ball cricketers have introduced in the last few years.

Although base ball will be the attraction at both the St. John and Shamrock grounds on May 25, there has been very little activity among the players. The Shamrocks have decided to put an amateur team against some foreign club, but considering the shortness of the time very little has been done towards completing arrangements for the day.

There is a great deal of speculation among the members of the different athletic clubs, as to what kind of sport will strike the public favorably in future. Base ball has been the mainstay of the leading clubs for many years, but after an experience of last year, and its inglorious termination, the clubs seem undecided what to do.

But base ball or lacrosse; which will it be? The introduction of the new game has made things more complicated than ever in preparing for the season's sport. All agree that the public will become very enthusiastic over three or four different games, and which should have precedence is the question.

Lacrosse has certainly had quite a boom, and the fact that Frederick Moncton and a number of other places are likely to go into the association is looked upon as indication of its popularity all over the province.

On the other hand, I am continually hearing people say there is nothing like base ball, and they all seem to think that the amateur game is a good game as one wants to see. There is no doubt but that there are scores of people who attended the ball games who would not go to any other kind of sport. They know the game, know the players, know where to find them when the umpire called "play ball," and were interested in every individual in the line.

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The Thistles have been tossing the ball on the ballast wharf, lately, but have thought very little about organizing for the summer. It is quite probable, however, that if the associations put teams in the field, they will be on the ground at the present. Thistles will be on deck with a rattling team, for all the old players are still in Lower Cove. They have the advantage of having a good state of mind, and would have very little experimenting before getting into shape.

The Shamrocks were a little slow in considering their Queen's birthday programme, which probably accounts for the fact that they are not yet ready to start. They counted on a game of lacrosse between Shamrock-Union, and St. John-Union teams, the idea being to test the "Union" strength of each of the big associations' teams. This could not be arranged, however, and efforts were made to get on a game of base ball with the Y. M. C. A.'s. The latter club, however, had been negotiating with the St. Johns, and the offer of the Shamrocks is said to have helped them in striking a good bargain—half the receipts.

The Y. M. C. A.'s have been so busy making their sports a success that they have had very little towards getting in shape for the season's field sports. Base ball, however, seems to be their card, and lacrosse is not in it. If they are to start after a nine and go in the box, they should be able to hold their own against any amateur team. The Y. M. C. A.'s will have some good material for a nine, but we will see what five of them can do on the 25.

One of the most remarkable things in the sporting line of late is the number of new athletes that have come forward. Some of them are good ones, and others are more than promising. The Shamrocks intend doing everything possible to encourage general athletics, and President Ahearn, who is one of the most active officials of the St. John club ever had, intends giving special attention to the new ones. The club has a number of good athletes among its members, and will be represented in all maritime sports.

It is amusing to hear the remarks of some of the men who spent time and money in base ball during the last few years. They say they won't do it again. "It's a good game and all right for people who pay their admission fee and can enjoy it," said a sporting man to me the other day, "but when one has spent time and money in getting up his club, and of a hole once in a while, and neglect his business, why it don't pay—and I'm not in it." I've heard this kind of talk before, many a time, as the song says, but once the fever gets properly started it's very contagious, and you can't find them at their place of business on a fine afternoon when there is a game going on.

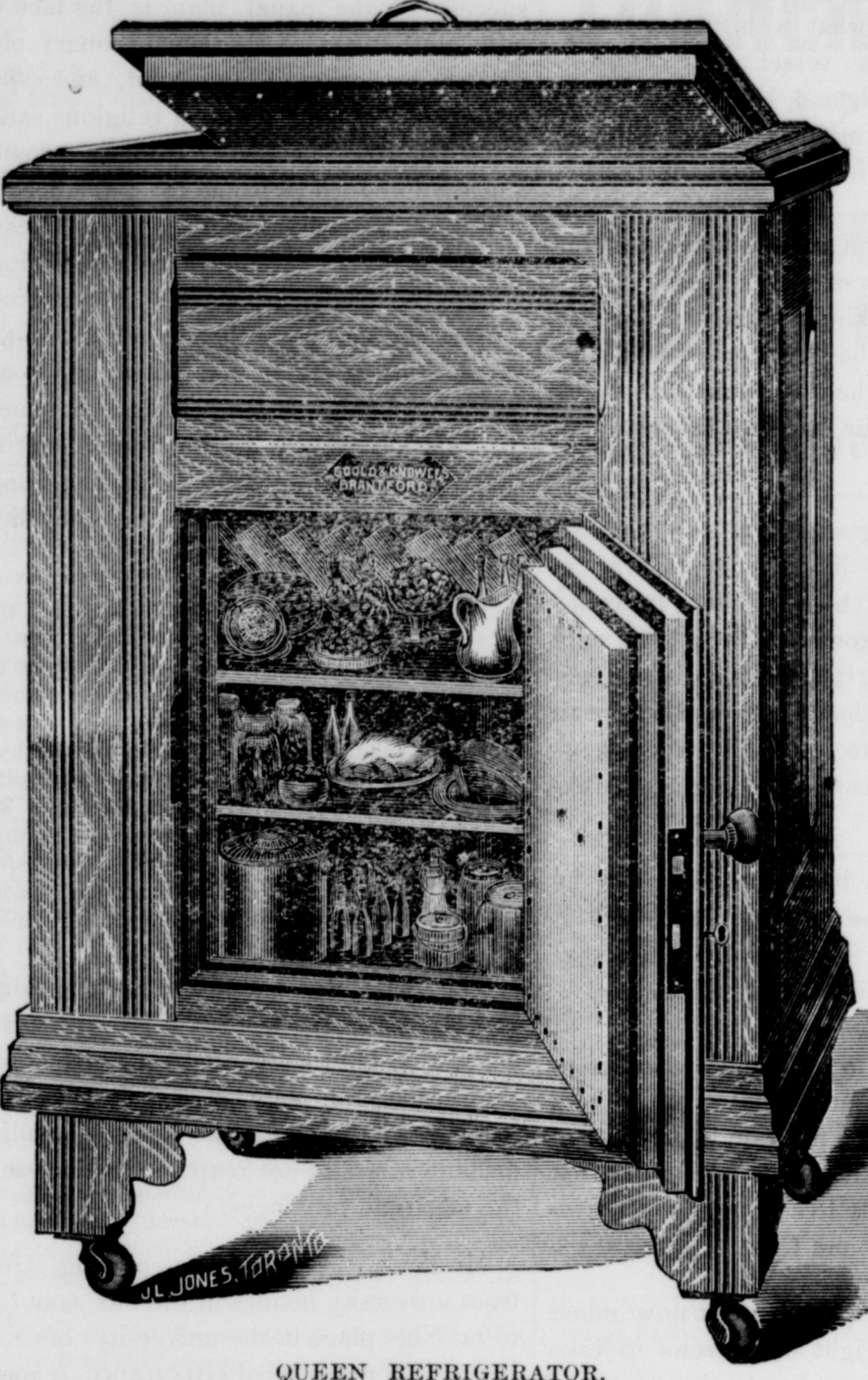
Few clubs of any kind have sprung into greater prominence than the Beavers. From the first this club has carried things before it with a dash that surprised a good many. All their sports have been well attended, and the club has always made a good showing. Long walks to and from business and climbing Wright street hill, seems to have had the effect of making the Beavers a more active club, and the people are being rapidly made aware of the fact. But there is as much business ability in the club as anything else, and if the Beavers do not make their veterans of the members of the St. John association, some people will be surprised.

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The historical and analytical lecture to be delivered in St. Luke's church, by the rector, next Thursday evening, May 21st, on the subject, "The Rise and Progress of English Church Music," promises to be one of special interest and value to all true lovers of sacred music.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

In the Hub, as in the other great centres, things theatrical are getting dull, the season is about closing, and the companies are beginning to disband. Those who are in the first flight of the stellar away are packing their trunks and turning towards Europe; those whose means are more moderate and whose wants have to be more circumscribed, are counting their cash and thinking of the cheap summer resorts by land or sea.

Here in Boston, while all the theatres are still in full blast, there seems to be a lack of novelty, and the blasé theatre-goer has not much to attract him, even though he has the inclination to sit in front of the several curtains of the several play houses.

Last week did not offer anything startling. The Merry Monarch at the Globe, headed by Francis Wilson, seemed to be the chief attraction. I may be hard to please, and, horrible thought, perhaps lacking in a sense of humor, but certainly I cannot see that Mr. Wilson is so funny. I could name a half a dozen men who, to me, have a greater natural fund of humor than Wilson. "Marie" Jansen is always pleasing and the opera is well staged and well put on, although there are not three acts that one remembers half an hour after leaving the theatre.

E. S. Willard is playing at the Tremont, and, as I had occasion to remark once before, he is a remarkably fine actor. I had the pleasure of seeing him again in The Middleman, and enjoyed his artistic work in this piece very much.

At the Boston, the Soudan, with its wealth of scenic effects and crowd of supernumeraries, supplemented by a company of actors of whom the least said is the most charitable, holds sway for a second engagement. The play will always draw on account of its spectacular strength, but I must say it would break the heart of an English officer to see the way the march through Trafalgar square is put on.

Almost next door to the Boston, at the Park theatre, Helen Barry is delighting her audiences with her performance of the dashing widow, burlesquing as a French officer in the play called A Night's Frolic. It is a flimsy farce comedy, but Miss Barry is supported by a fairly good company and they make the piece go.

Down at the historic Museum sensationism is in vogue, and all the favorites are seen in Hands Across the Sea. It is needless to remark that the piece is played as it should be.

Away up at the Grand Opera House there is another of the farce comedies that seem to have captured the fickle public of late years, one called A Cold Day, and you can squander all the wealth that Progress is liable to amass within the next decade that it will be a very cold day when I see it again—verbum sap.

Rustic drama holds forth at the Hollis Street, and Richard Golden and Dora Wiley, well known to St. John people, are pleasing their audiences in Old Jed Prouty. The piece is clean and wholesome, but too much like half a dozen other farm-yard productions.

We are promised Alexander Salvini very soon, and next week I hope to see Augustin Daly's company, which will be a treat, although the initial piece is not much to boast of. A Last Word is the opening play and it did not score a success, but after that he promises The School for Scandal and Taming of a Shrew, and I have pleasurable anticipations of Ada Rehan in both of these pieces.

PROSCENIUM. Mark your Lines with Robertson's Printing Stamps. Perfectly indelible.

And Some of Their Peculiarities and Eccentricities—What They Are Doing. Speaking of the new music hall in New York, Progress' New York correspondent "Hermia," (who by the way is a bright New Brunswick lady) has something to say of its rich founder, Andrew Carnegie.

He holds the charming theory that great wealth is only a great trust to be administered for the good of the people, and has already placed a large portion of his where it will do the greatest good to the largest number. In Scotland he has endowed free public libraries in Dunfermline and Edinburgh, and in America he has given a picture gallery, concert hall and library to Pittsburgh and Allegheny respectively, but music hall, N. Y., is his greatest gift, and the most encouraging case on record of entertaining angels unawares.

His career has not been without a touch of romance. He bought Castle Cluny in the Highlands of Scotland from the nobleman on whose estate he was reared, and on which his parents had toiled in the humblest capacity. In its baronial palace he has entertained the elite of two nations, and it was there that Walter Damrosch, whose writings and lectures on music are said to have inspired him with the idea of building Music hall, fell in love with and proposed to Margaret Blaine.

Mr. Carnegie's fortune belongs to an era in fortune-making that the students of commercial economy tell us will never be duplicated in America. It is interesting in the light of this prophecy to note how these fortunes are being spent. John Jacob Astor, Jr., is said to part with his grand-pa's earnings very reluctantly, and amusing stories of the thrifty way in which he looked after the pennies while on his recent wedding tour, were brought home by travellers who happened to journey in the wake of the happy pair. Railway porters and hotel employees expected that under the circumstances the path of the young eastern nabob would be strewn with tips "as thick as leaves in Vallombrosa," but the tips that materialized were few and meagre, and the consequent grumblers many and vociferous; but Mrs. John need not mind how tightly he keeps his purse string drawn, for she was one of the richest of Philadelphia's heiresses, and in American law when a woman marries, her husband's property becomes her's, and her own property remains her's.

The Vanderbilts are liberal to themselves and the public. The numerous great charities they maintain make them exceedingly popular, and the old commodore's millions are being wisely administered from every point of view. The eldest son of the Bradley-Martins flung a large-sized stone in the social pool about a year ago by marrying a Louise Hall, songstress, in London, who is ten years his senior, and the divorce recently procured for him swallowed up a great many of his prospective thousands.

The eldest son of Tiffany, of the Broadway firm of jewelers, was likewise captured by a demi-mondaine and ransomed at the expense of his patrimony. George Gould has bought 50,000 acres in one of the wildest regions in the Adirondacks. He has built on it a \$20,000 log house and there he passes all his vacations. He is quite renowned as an athlete and sportsman, and with his gun and fishing-rod for his sole companions, he often spends days wandering over it. Senator Stanford, the richest of the Californian magnates, has no children, but he has founded a college, built a magnificent memorial hall in Palo Alto, Cal., as a monument to his son, and in many ways returned to the public a large portion of his accumulations.

Jay Gould's recent escape from sudden death at the hands of a religious crank has spread general alarm amongst the possessors of great riches, and the American millionaire may hereafter consider it necessary for his personal safety to go about attended like the Russian Czar. HEKMA.

Reasons Why Man May Not Fly. Prof. Hazen of the United States Signal Office says there are insurmountable obstacles to perfecting a flying machine. Prof. Hazen states the main obstacles thus: First—It is impossible to use the food which the bird uses to develop power by any contrivance which can ever be invented that will give one tithe of the effect that the bird gets. That is to say, while possibly a spring or other application of force, by using up an enormous amount of energy in a very short time, might momentarily imitate a bird, yet the motive power in such case would be rapidly used up.

Second—Is it impossible by the most delicate mechanism and most perfect wings to equal the perfection and adaptability of the bird in its own element. Third—There is a limit of weight beyond which it is impossible for a bird to fly. It is probable that the ostrich had the power of flight in ages gone by, but when its environments became such that it did not need its wings to escape from enemies, or when it began to grow larger from any favoring circumstances, it used its wings less and less, so that now it is entirely incapable of flight. It is probable that the condor, weighing fifty pounds, and with a spread of wings of fourteen feet, is very near the limit of weight. We may conclude, then, that we can never equal a bird, and hence, that a self-raising, self-supporting, and self-propelling flying machine cannot possibly be built to carry a man.—Indianapolis Journal.

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Sporting Talk from Halifax.

On the afternoon of the day this issue of Progress reaches Halifax, the first game of the season between the two leading local clubs—the Socials and Mutuals—will take place. This will be the first of a series of 11 games between these clubs, which if continued to the end in the spirit in which they are started, will be the result of some interesting contests.

The agreement provides for games every alternate Saturday, with the two holidays, May 25 and June 22. In the event of the weather being unfavorable on any of the dates agreed upon, the game is to be played on the following Wednesday, and if the weather is again unfavorable the clubs are to agree on a date. Each club furnishes a new ball every game, and if others are needed, the expense to be borne equally by the contestants. The Socials and Mutuals Association, New England and Eastern League admission fee will be charged—25 cents—and occupants of the grand stand will pay 10 cents extra. The grounds, of course, receive a share of the gate receipts, and after payment of the expenses of the game the balance is to be equally divided between the clubs. Each club will sustain its running expenses from the money accrued, and it is generally understood that the balance (should there be any) will be divided in various percentages among those players who are desirous of combining business and pleasure.

In case of the clubs winning an equal number of games, no person who has not played in at least one of the previous contests can play in this game, and it is also stipulated that a player once playing with a team in this series cannot play with the opposing club without the consent of the club he had previously played for. This was the rule in force between the St. Patricks and Socials last year, and when the representatives of the Socials and Mutuals met to discuss the terms of the agreement, they agreed that the conditions should be similar to those of last season.

It is not generally known, however, that there has been a hitch in the proceedings; there was nothing in the old agreement preventing imported players from taking part in the games, except the last one, and the Socials requested a change of this sort to be inserted in the agreement. The Mutuals, however, said that when St. Patricks made a similar request last year the Socials would not agree to it, and said they would not change their minds now. They wanted nothing more of American professionals; they wanted the same clause which they would not give others. The Socials said the circumstances this season were different to last.

The trouble, however, has been bridged over, as a clause has been inserted preventing any club playing an imported player without the consent of the other. But the old saying, "You can drive a coach and four through most laws," cannot be applied to this condition, as there is nothing defining what is an imported player. Will a man who comes here on a visit (?), and perhaps be given employment at a liberal salary in some place of business, and plays with one of the teams, be considered an imported player, and if so, who is to decide, and what is to prevent something of the kind happening? It is hoped, however, there will be none other than local players on either side.

The captains of both teams have played abroad. Doyle, who will have command of the Socials, has played with the Gardiner, Me., nine, and the team work he got out of the athletics last season has never been equalled by any Halifax club. Powers played on a picked nine against the Boston league team on Fast day a few years ago. Both are "kickers," and there will be no need of any other player going in to dispute with the umpires.

The provinces now have no representative in the National league, as "Pop" Smith, who comes from Windsor, has been released by the Boston league team, but has signed with to captain and play short stop for the Washington American association team. "Bernie" McGrath, formerly of the Shamrocks, and one of the most gentlemanly players who has ever visited the province, is leading the battery order for the Boston college team.

Halifax may have had amateur regattas this season. The Lorne's talk of holding a regatta, and it is also proposed to hold one on the Arm in August, similar to the one held at the regatta, which was so popular years ago. The idea is to hold a meeting of two delegates each from the maritime provinces athletic association, royal Nova Scotia yacht squadron, Wanderers, Lorne and Chaboctou clubs. A feature would be a four-oared race, open to all amateurs, in which St. John, Charlottetown and Halifax would be expected to enter.

The first race on the turf this season took place at Kentville, May 6, and it was surprising the record made so early in the year, as many horsemen do not like to trot for a fast record in May. Lucy Derrick, by All Right, reduced her record from 2:44 to 2:42, and Sambo, a Yarmouth horse, who won the 3 minute class, trotted in 2:44. Lucy Derrick trotted the first half of the first heat in 1:18.5.

Sunny Clime, the stallion recently purchased by Geo. O'Brien, of Maccois, for \$3,000 had a narrow escape from being killed while en route here from New York. The train was thrown from the track, and the horse was cut about the thighs. Several veterinarians were called in and his injuries attended to, which, however, will not affect the horse, and he is expected to enter.

thing more than it may prevent him from trotting this fall. The Horseman reports that \$3,000 was recently refused for Maggie T., formerly owned by John McCoy, and that she is looked for 2:20 this season. Mr. McCoy's colt Astoria is still in Providence, and it is predicted will beat 2:20 this season.

A team of Massachusetts cricketers propose to visit St. John and Halifax, the latter part of August. Among them will be Comber, who was with the St. Johns. Ceasar, who was the Wanderer professional and Geo. Wright, the famous baseballist and cricketer. SHAMUS.

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