



As early as 6:30 o'clock the rink began receiving its guests and Proprietor Loney and Manager Martin were kept busy until 11, entertaining the crowd.

There were all kinds of people present dressed in all kinds of broad cloth, and a more genteel crowd never assembled. Everybody was in for a good time, and all had it. We could not do the costumes justice so will not attempt to describe them; but will say that the whole World's Fair Midway was there.

All skated until they were skated out, and the best good feeling prevailed. At 9:30 the masks were removed, and the prize awarded to Lucian Stuart. After unmasking, those who desired, remained for more fun, while a large number went home to sleep the sleep of the just.

The spectators were there in all of their glory. The rink was crowded—jammed in like sardines in a box. Had there been many more, space would have been at a premium.

Mr. Loney can congratulate himself upon his ability in conducting a masquerade skate. It was in every sense of the word a grand success, and his financial standing better than ever, for several 10 and 15 cent peices were dropped into the money drawer—and The Pioneer is glad 'tis so.

School Items.

By Earl Raymond.

School was reopened Monday with good attendance.

We all extend thanks to the board for having the school house cleaned.

Wonder why the parents do not come and visit the school, especially the school board?

David Boise is absent on account of being sick.

The next debate will take place a week from next Friday.

Charlie Wheeler met with an accident the other evening and is unable to be at school.

I again call the attention of the public to the entertainment Friday night.

Remember the entertainment at the town hall tomorrow evening, for school library benefit. It is the duty of every resident of Hope and vicinity to help make this venture a success financially. A good library is a necessary adjunct to every school, if the best results are to be attained in the pursuit of knowledge. Topics are continually referred to but not discussed in the higher branches, which arouse the interest of the pupils, but unfortunately we have not the means to satisfy their desire for further investigation. We desire to have a goodly number of reference books in history, geography, civics, etc., and contributions in the form of magazines, and papers will be very acceptable at any and all times.

PROGRAM.

"Chimes of Normandy.
Svengales Death, in Trilby.

Adieu to Care, Song.
Leonora, Rec.
Marguerite, Song
Angelo Serevade.
Tally-ho, Galop.
Anvil Chorus.
Oh I Have Sighed to Rest Me, Song.
Star Medley, Mozart.
Flower Song.
Plantation Medley.
Xylophone Solo, Mocking Bird, with var
Blue Damsel, Waltz.
Grand Army, Harmony.
I Love You My Honey, Song.
Husking Bee, Rec.
Down in Corn Field, Song."

SUNDAY SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

Many of the Books are Pernicious and an Insult to the Intelligence of Young People.

Edward W. Bok has been making a careful and comprehensive examination of Sunday school libraries, and in the February Ladies' Home Journal he confesses himself disgusted with the literature thus placed in the hands of our boys and girls. A less complete investigation, Mr. Bok says, would not have made it possible for him to believe that the libraries of our Sunday-schools were stocked with such piles of rubbish—"wishy-washy literature," as he terms it. He quotes the titles and gives the themes of a number of books he obtained from Sunday school libraries, these seem to completely warrant his conclusions. "Such books," he contends, "are an insult to the intelligence of the young people, and have a pernicious influence. Instead of being healthy books they are decidedly unhealthy in tone and teaching. Surely we are cultivating a dangerous taste for reading in the young when we feed them on such rubbish."

Mr. Bok unhesitatingly lays a part of the blame upon the Publication Boards and Societies, which are influenced by a denominational spirit that narrows their choice of books. Then, again, it is shown that the most mediocre sort of "talent" is employed to write these books, and that beggarly prices—less than \$80 per book—are paid. A share of responsibility, Mr. Bok asserts, rests upon the men who purchase Sunday school libraries, who, as is most frequently the case, are not qualified for the task, and whose object is to secure a library as cheap as possible. Mr. Bok warmly urges that the selection of Sunday school books be left to women, who "instinctively know and feel the kind of a book which a boy or girl will read and enjoy." He insists that women should be given carte-blanche to make the selections so far as the prescribed amount of money will go. "A hundred good books," Mr. Bok concludes, "are far better than five hundred books of indifferent interest," which are bought simply because they are cheap. "A Sunday school library cannot be created in a day, and no discouragement should be felt if the financial means of the church are contracted, and necessitate the purchase of only a few books at a time."

An Old and Well Tried Friend.

The Youth's Companion will celebrate its seventy-first birthday in 1897. Among the attractive announcements of the paper for the coming year is an article by Mr. Andrew Carnegie on "The Habit of Thrift." Successful men in other