

58 all the assemblies I wonder I don't remember him by sight as he is a striking looking fellow. He seems to have known Bandman for some time & has thus been tempted to go on the stage; & under his auspices will get a fair start if he really has gifts that way. One good result has proceeded from Leather & Gullbin's chumming, & that is the discovery of mutual musical tastes & abilities. Gullbin plays the piano very fairly & knows a lot of operatic music by heart & sings ditto, but having no voice or rather not having been taught to use his voice, his singing is not very good - good enough for a second. Leather on the other hand has a very good baritone which he has been taught to use well & sings with great taste & expression. "Non più andrai" from Le Nozze is a great favourite of his, & a sacred one of Guano's

"Noyaketh", a sort of Christmas carol - written for Sautley. In 59 fact he is ambitious enough to make Sautley his model, & is much given to sing the "Stirrup Cup" & his other well known songs. So here is an improvement in having some music at last. Before this the piano used to look reproachfully from its corner: even now so lately is bold enough to attempt anything, the Sunday schoolers being afraid to measure themselves with Leather. The caddy is rather hot just now to sit long in of a morning, but then one can sit above outside the open skylight, & then get the benefit of the music from the piano below. Another intimacy has begun between me & Mr Smythe, a very funny little man, as I said before rather a mystery at first, but gradually solved. His appearance is comical - short & stout - short black hair standing