

PROGRESS.

EDWARD S. CARTER, WALTER L. SAWYER, Editors.

Subscriptions, \$1 a year, in advance; 50 cents for six months; 25 cents for three months; free by carrier or mail.

Advertisements, \$10 an inch a year, net. The edition of PROGRESS is now so large that it is necessary to put the inside pages to press on Thursday, and no changes of advertisements will be received later than 10 a. m. of that day.

Every article appearing in this paper is written specially for it, unless otherwise credited. News and opinions on any subject are always welcome, but all communications should be signed.

The composition and presswork of this paper are done by union men.

Office: No. 27 Canterbury St. (Telegraph Building)

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, SEPT. 22.

Circulation, Over 4,000.

WANTED—SOME INSPECTORS.

When the big fire swept St. John, it spared the Marine hospital. It was the most worthless of the public buildings, and was run on the worst system.

That system appears to be no better today than it was then.

Recent developments suggest that the fire would have atoned for some of the evil it did had the building and the system been blotted out of existence.

It would have been a great day for the sick sailor.

Two men, discharged from the hospital, have come forward this week with complaints of the food furnished by keeper BARNES, and of the manners of Surgeon CHRISTIE. They bring samples of the former, and leave those who know Dr. CHRISTIE'S style to judge of the latter.

The government undertakes to provide for sick and disabled sailors. It does not do so as a charity. A tax is levied on vessels entering the port and there are ample means to furnish the unfortunate men with every comfort.

These comforts are left to the discretion of the keeper, who gets \$3 a week for each inmate. If he can run his institution on the same principle that Mr. SCROOGE ran his school, so much the better for Mr. BARNES.

But it is very rough on poor Jack.

There is a commissioner, who appears to be out of commission. There is probably an inspector who does not inspect.

The disabled sailor is entitled to as good food as the convict, but he does not appear to get it when hard luck finds him stranded in St. John. He has no vote as a rule, and as he ships as soon as he is able to go to sea, he is a pretty safe man to ill-use.

There seems to be nothing charged against Dr. CHRISTIE further than that he lacks courtesy in the treatment of his government patients. That is quite enough. He is paid to do his work, and well paid for what he does. He has no business to be unkind to the sailors. Some of them are probably quite his equals in everything save a medical education.

Every employee of a public institution is a servant of the people. Some such employees act as though they owned the institution. They should be taught better.

With the keeper of the Marine hospital trying to make money by close dieting the patients, and the warden of the penitentiary charging an admission fee to the prison, there appears to be a need of more rigid inspection.

Inspectors who will inspect will fill a long felt want.

ANNEXATION.

Wherever there is growth there must be change in the relations of bodies to one another and of each to its environment. Readjustment thus becomes a continual necessity and an endless series of problems present themselves for solution. It is not only that the original elements have to be readjusted in their changed relations, but a new element, the increment of evolution, must be taken into account, for it is owing to the presence of this increment that the old balance is disturbed and readjustments made necessary.

A tree in the forest extends its branches. It finds itself subject to a stronger pressure from storms. It must take deeper root-hold of the ground. Its internal fibre must become less elastic, more compact and firm and those spreading boughs must adapt themselves to their new relations. In nothing is the truth of this principle more distinctly manifest than in the growth of contiguous nations.

Where these nations have been overcrowded in their population and overburdened with taxation, the friction has usually produced chafing and irritation and the suffering peoples, like oxen with galled shoulders, have been stung to sullen madness under the unendurable load and have quarrelled with one another.

in the advocacy of each. It is no sign of anything to be regretted that this should be so. It is the inevitable result of freedom. It is a good proof of our perfect liberty that opinions so diverse can spring up and thrive side by side in the same soil. May we not cheerfully conclude with the philosopher of old that truth is great and that it will prevail? Or, according to the maxim of evolution, that among the warring elements of opinion the ultimately dominant will be the best?

It is, however, a striking illustration of the native unrest of human nature that Alexander and the captive in chains among the impedimenta of his army are both in tears. Too much room or too little for national expansion, too many opportunities or too few, are alike causes of trouble.

It is my intention, however, to discuss only one of the theories advanced concerning the future of Canada. Whether continued dependence, independence, imperial federation or a natural development of the present relationship or some other method shall be found best, I shall not now attempt to decide. My purpose is to say a few words upon the proposal of annexation to the United States, as a solution of the question of international development.

The proposal contained in this suggestion is briefly that the question of the adjustment of the relations between the two organized bodies existing side by side on the continent, shall be settled by one of them ceasing to be, going out of existence. It is not essential to the question to note that this is to be brought about by its absorption into the other. We are dealing now with the method of simplifying a complex and increasingly important relationship. Let us also keep in mind what it is that is proposed to annihilate, simply the national existence as a distinct entity, and that it is proposed to deal fairly and well with the persons and property of the people which compose that nation in their present condition, that it is represented that the peculiar anxieties and troubles arising from their belonging to one of two nations which may have separate or even rival and conflicting interests, will all disappear so soon as there is only one nation.

This is certainly a plain and easily understood proposition. It is further alleged that there would certainly be an improvement in the condition of the individuals, by their becoming a part of the rival nation, that the trouble of maintaining a separate existence, nationally, being removed, they would have peace and prosperity.

We are moreover assured that the national life is only a matter of fancy, and not worth bearing any trouble for. Again we can say that these statements are quite plain and easily understood, and perhaps they might be established to the satisfaction of many. And I say this in all fairness and good faith, believing that any question should be looked at calmly, and with an honest desire to see the truth contained in the opposite or rather in the different views. Having admitted, then, what it seems fair to grant, we are the more free to deal with certain remaining objections; and I shall try to be equally plain in speaking of them.

And in the first place it can be no fair argument in such a case to appeal to the relative size and strength of the two nations; to speak of the ratio of 5 to 60 whether it be of individuals or of millions. Principles of ethics are not settled in that way, even apart from Christianity. There is no moral quality in the measurement of the biceps of a prize-fighter, and even the relative weight of purses, such as we think of them, does not involve the principle of an argument as between the owners.—It may seem scarcely necessary to say this, but we sometimes forget self-evident principles in a complex argument. And we do hear references at times which are suspiciously suggestive of something akin to this style of reasoning.

Another remark I desire to make is that while admitting the liberty to any who may think and feel so, to hold that a separate national existence is only a thing of sentiment and not worth being at any trouble about, it is to be remembered that others holding an opposite view are not to be ridiculed or condemned. It may be that romance and chivalry and patriotism are no longer what they once were, in the eyes of many, in the eyes of men who are typical of this practical, utilitarian age; but others may hold different views and believe that the struggles for liberty, for the enfranchisement of the people, which have always taken definite form along national lines, that these are more to be valued than national wealth; who believe that the privilege of belonging to a nation through which the principles of freedom and what ever will elevate mankind, can be carried out with unhampered energy, is worth valuing and worth enduring some inconvenience and loss, if need be, to retain. There is such a thing as national pride. Even today men like to feel that they have taken part in a successful enterprise, and the founding and developing of a nation is one of the enterprises in which many men take an honest pride, and they do not like to think of their conceptions and labors being swept away as a failure. No more pertinent illustration can be given in modern days than that of the nation to which it is proposed to attach us. The most colossal war of our age, or of any age, was carried to a termination, with fabulous expenditure of men and means for the preservation of

the national life in its integrity; and we must remember that there are those in Canada who cherish a similar spirit towards the land of their birth or their adoption. But why must we be annexed? In other words, why must our national existence be merged in another? In order that we may trade with one another. But this has nothing to do necessarily with the essential principle at the root of annexation. Only self-interest and false statesmanship, or rather political exigencies, need hinder the most free interchange of material and mental productions. The native instinct of the people will do all that; only let governments not interfere; but why, in order to this, must one government, one nationality, be blotted out? This is a confession of helplessness on the part of any one making it—a confession that a people cannot consciously, and of their own deliberate motion, do that which is right and for their own best interests; that as a nation they must cease to exist, must be taken out of the way in order that that which is right may be accomplished.

But let me briefly speak of another view of this question. The proposal to annex or to hand over for political amalgamation is made with a very imperfect conception of what is involved, it seems to me. It is not to annex 5,000,000 of people to 60,000,000, but a country which is actually of greater extent than that to which it is proposed to annex it—that is to say, Canada controls and possesses more than one-half of the North American continent. From the most recent available statistics, the area under each government is as follows, including water stretches: Canada, 4,103,842 square miles; United States, 3,557,009.

Of course, a very great deduction must be made in each case, and in the case of Canada a special deduction for the inhospitable and uninhabitable North. At the same time, it is well to remember that Alaska is counted in to the United States, an area of over 500,000 square miles; and also to remember that the conception that all of the continent lying to the north of the 47th parallel, is a barren and uninhabitable wilderness, was the conception of profound ignorance and prejudice. Every year is adding to our knowledge of the fertility and resources of the regions farther to the north. Not only cereals, but tender vines can be raised on the rich soil as far north as the 60th parallel; and in many ways evidence is being furnished of the immensity of the region, capable of affording comfort and prosperity to an industrious people.

And when we talk of such questions, involving the country not for our own brief day, but for the future, let us remember that what is now 5,000,000 will be perhaps 150,000,000 at no very distant day. And, with an equal or larger population in the United States, it is not better to contemplate two self-respecting nations—one in race, language and civilization, one in mutual help and sympathy, one in an untrammelled intercourse, one united power in the furtherance of the best and highest destiny of the world, rather than a political union of an unwieldy immensity, liable to fall to pieces by its own weight? Even the United States contain at least three well defined regions, with distinct affinities, owing to their geographical position and climatic conditions: the New England states on the Atlantic seaboard, the Southern states not quite amalgamated, after all, and the Western states; if, indeed, we may not now add to these a fourth, the North-Western states and territories. History shows how difficult it is to hold together in political oneness regions so diverse in their natural affinities and interests, and the progress of government today is towards the recognition of *regional autonomy*, if I may coin an expression. Unity in the vital and commercial interests, liberty and elasticity in political management and control. G. BRUCE.

THEY NEGLECT THEIR DUTIES.

Those of the city policemen who make a practice of toadying to the chief are spending a very pleasant and profitable summer. For example, one sergeant has been doing all the special work, while the paid detective has done just what he pleased. The sergeant has performed very little night duty during the summer, and men have been borrowed from other divisions to fill his—though the force is surely small enough as it is.

Give all your men a chance, Chief MARSHALL! Let somebody else besides your flunkies have an opportunity to make an extra dollar.

Do you know, chief, that "the sergeant" was at Moosepath, last week, paid for his services there, and that he allowed his division to look after itself at night?

Do you know, chief, that some of your officers are not at their posts half the time? If you do not know these things, you should; and so should the police committee.

"BOILER-PLATE."

We have received the following communication:

TO THE EDITORS OF PROGRESS: In your own paper and others I see occasional allusions to "boiler-plate," used in newspapers. Will you please tell me what "boiler-plate" is, who use it and why it is used? A SUBSCRIBER.

Moncton, Sept. 19. We reply with pleasure. "Boiler-plate" is a term indiscriminately

applied to electrotype, stereotype and celluloid reproductions of reading matter selected by New York and Chicago editors and put in type by their compositors.

To give the list of the provincial papers which use "boiler-plate" would take too much space. It will answer every purpose to say that PROGRESS does not use it.

"Boiler-plate" is used because it costs less than it would cost to have the same amount of matter put into type by compositors. The publishers who employ it are apparently willing to yield up the control of their columns, so long as these can be cheaply filled. From their point of view, this may be justifiable; from ours, it would not be. PROGRESS is of and for the people; therefore it is edited and printed in St. John, instead of in the United States.

The noteworthy event of the national encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, recently held in Minneapolis, was the reception of a message from President CLEVELAND. The local committee having invited him to attend the encampment, he sent a courteous declination, alleging the usual excuses. The reading of this, say the press dispatches, was followed by hisses and groans, and for 15 minutes the encampment was in an uproar—the committee which had been so injudicious as to tender an invitation to a Democrat spending, of course, a bad quarter of an hour. All of this inspires the reflection that the founders of the G. A. R. made a mistake at the christening. They should have named it the Grand Army of a Republican Republic.

United States congressman OATES, of Alabama, showed eminent forethought in applying to "aliens" along his new bill forbidding naturalization to polygamists, anarchists, socialists and communists. If the terms of the act embraced native polygamists, the honorable gentleman and many of his associates might find themselves suddenly disfranchised.

Has it ever occurred to the ladies that even United States politicians compliment the sex by making house-cleaning a national issue? To be sure, it is the White House they think of, but the principle remains the same. The one thing that weakens the comparison is that, with the politicians, the "soap" comes in the wrong place.

The heaviest blow that has yet fallen upon Jacksonville is conveyed in the announcement that GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN is going there to lecture. Generous gifts of chloroform, laudanum, opium and morphine will doubtless be included in the next consignment that the relief committee sends to the unhappy people of Florida.

The public would benefit and the delivery clerks at the post-office would be spared considerable annoyance and waste of breath if the authorities would provide printed placards announcing, "Fredericton Mail In and Distributed," etc., to be displayed at the proper times. Think of it, gentlemen.

Autumn begins today. It is our most delightful season, here, in New Brunswick, and tourists who missed a summer vacation might do worse than to grant us the pleasure of their presence now. The latch-string is always open—except to men who want to talk about CLEVELAND and fish.

The constitution gives the president the right to adjourn congress in case of a disagreement, and there are indications that he may be obliged to exercise it. Considering the nature of the work they have done this session, we do not wonder that the congressmen are afraid to go home.

We sometimes wonder that the St. John liquor dealers, inspired as they must be by the success of the law in Prince Edward Island and Portland, do not raise a fund for the enactment of the Scott act in this city. They would have to pay no licenses and could sell at all hours, then.

Portland standard time is the latest astronomical fad. It is ascertained by deducting from 24 hours the nine hours when no member of the city government wants a drink.

Some of the country papers are unusually bright this week. This may or may not be due to the fact that the editors of most of them are away on a junket.

PERSONAL.

Mr. R. Murray Boyd, the obliging and capable accountant of the Daily Telegraph, is enjoying a few days' vacation in New York. The business staffs of the city dailies have no member more popular than Mr. Boyd.

Henry B. Rainsford brings no dignity to the clerkship of the house of assembly. People who know him are not through wondering how he got the appointment, and how long he will keep it. A few more such appointments will do the executive greater harm than good.

H. V. B. Bridges, the new school inspector, is the best available man the position could have found. His college course was brilliant and his teaching record has been most successful. He is a brother of Dr. H. S. Bridges, of the university, and the promotion which has come to him is well deserved.

Look For Our Sign:

BARNES & MURRAY,

17 Charlotte Street.

NOW IS THE TIME TO PURCHASE

New Goods - - - New Prices.

GREY FLANNELS—Come and See. SCARLET FLANNELS—Away Down. GREY SHAKER—The Cheapest Yet. DRESS GOODS—From 8c. TOWELS—From 7c. pair. ULSTER CLOTHS—Very Low. KID GLOVES—Splendid Values. WOOL SHAWLS—All Prices. FELT SKIRTS—Three Qualities.

BARGAINS FOR ALL.

BARNES & MURRAY.

NEW BRUNSWICK HORSE AND CATTLE SHOW AND FAIR.

THE FREDERICTON PARK ASSOCIATION, Aided by the Government of New Brunswick Will Hold a HORSE and CATTLE SHOW and FAIR on their Grounds in FREDERICTON,

On WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY, 3rd and 4th, October, 1888, At which over \$1,500 will be offered in Prizes, distributed as follows:

PRIZE LIST.

Table with columns for HORSES and CATTLE, listing various divisions and prize amounts.

General Conditions:

Entries close on SATURDAY, 29th September, 1888, and must be made to W. P. FLEWELLING, Fredericton, from whom blank forms for entry may be had on application. A fee of 50 cents must accompany each entry.

W. P. FLEWELLING, Secretary. A. A. STERLING, President Fredericton Park Association. FREDERICTON, N. B., 21st August, 1888.

THE TRIAL OF A SERVANT GIRL.

An Invalid Lady Says She Could Write a Book About Them.

"I am never lonesome," said a bright but afflicted lady to PROGRESS, yesterday. "So long as I have my eyes and ears I find plenty to amuse me. Why, the domestic is a perfect fund in herself. I think I could write a book on the trials of the servant. This one in particular seems to be annoyed by the door bell."

"One morning I heard her ask the milkman—a staid countryman of about forty—it was going to get married."

"Why, no," he answered, amazed. "What made you ask that?"

"Cause you're getting so stingy in your measure," was the girl's reply.

"She told him his milk was poor yesterday. He replied that he was watering it now!"

"Only yesterday there were three violent rings at the door almost within as many minutes. Mary's good temper did not forsake her the first or second time, but the third time she bonned and flung the door open in a trice to find a small boy inquiring in a smaller voice if Miss — lived here."

"If you ring that bell again like that I'll wring your neck," was her astonishing answer.

"Will you," was his meek reply and he left.

"No, I'm not lonesome."

PEN AND PRESS.

Personal mention of three distinguished journalists is found in this week's exchanges. The notices are as follows:

A Boston correspondent writes that Mr. C. Bruce McDougall is now editor-in-chief of the East Boston Sun.—Moncton Times.

Mr. B. H. Higgins, who had the literary management of the Pioneer for the past summer, left yesterday by the early train for Charlottetown on his way to Dalhousie college, Halifax, where he intends taking the second year course in journalism at that seat of learning.—Summerside Pioneer.

The Cumberland Leader is now published at Parrsboro. Mr. James Hannay is announced as the editor.—Moncton Times.

We Prefer the Latest Craze.

It is strange how a craze will take hold of people. This year the craze is without doubt base ball. Everybody plays it. This state of things is much better than that which existed, a few years ago, when every street in town had a fife and drum band, with rattled drums and consumptive fifes. Every night these noisy crowds made their appearance on the streets and kept up the noise, or gathered in a room near the public streets and with the windows open tried to make all who passed put their fingers to their ears. This year every street has its base ball clubs, but thank goodness they make their noise outside the city limits, yet the discussions at street corners are noisy enough.