

NO CHECK EITHER WAY.

THE FERRY TOLL SYSTEM IS A WRONG ONE.

The Collectors Have No Means to Keep an Account and the City No Way to Find Out if the Returns Are Correct—Fairness Demands a Change.

A well-known and shrewd American who recently made a short sojourn in this city, remarked to the writer that there was one lucrative situation which, should he remain here, he would like to fill. "I refer," said he, after a moment's pause, "to the collectorship in the ferry service."

There can be no doubt of his meaning, for the fact is too apparent to every citizen that the corporation's system of ferry collection is unfair both to the collectors and the city.

To those who have not paid particular attention to this branch of the city service, some little explanation may be interesting. A few years ago the ferry paid its expenses and usually had a respectable surplus to its credit. At that time the terminus of the New Brunswick railway was in Carleton and a large portion of the traffic was incident to this. Since the completion of the cantilever bridge and the consequent arrival and departure of the trains from this side of the harbor, the ferry revenue has undergone a decrease so marked that instead of the usual surplus the expected deficit crops up every year.

At one time, all the ferry tolls were collected on board the boat, but the ferry committee thought that a change was advisable and substituted four collectors, who are stationed in the toll-houses on the east and west side to collect the fares. The reasons for such a change may fairly be asked. There was no check upon the collectors on board the boat; there is none upon the present occupants of the positions; the only difference being that four men handle the receipts instead of two, as under the old system.

PROGRESS contends that this system is unfair to the men and the city. Only a few months ago certain charges were made against one of the collectors. The council appointed a committee to investigate the matter, and that was the last of it. Like many other complaints, it has been hushed up in committee, and those who read of the charges in the press still have the idea that something was wrong with one of the collectors' returns and he still handles the cash. There can be no doubt that this is unfair to the collector and is manifestly so to the city. Those charges should have been investigated upon the spot, the matter settled and the people acquainted with the settlement, for who, after all, are more interested in such matters than the tax-payers?

Some persons who read this may exclaim, "Oh, but there are turnstiles in the toll-houses which keep a correct account of all who pass through the gate!" Yes, there are turnstiles, but for all the good they are they might be removed and allow passengers an unobstructed path to the boat. Every man, woman or child who passes to and from Carleton daily—and there are hundreds of them—have monthly tickets, yet the turnstile records their passage, with those who deposit three cents each time they cross. In addition to this there are a number of persons who do not pay at all and they are counted. Thus it will be seen that the turnstile is no check, but at the end of every night will record a much larger number of passengers than the receipts show. This is of course expected. The collectors know the result cannot be otherwise and realize that there is absolutely no check upon them.

Light has dawned at last upon certain members of the committee, who assert that a return to the old methods will be made in a short time and if there is any difference in the receipts at the end of the month it will be noticed. Is this the only remedy? surely the Ferry committee can devise some means whereby a check upon the collectors can be had, and confidence restored all around. At present the system is too loose. If a man wants to steal there is nothing to prevent him from doing so. The city owes it to itself and to the ferry collectors that temptations of this kind shall be removed and every man given an opportunity to show that he and his cash are even at the end of each month or any shorter period the committee may deem advisable.

A Noticeable Improvement. "I look upon the payment of the half yearly accounts as one of the best signs of the times," said a member of a leading dry goods firm to PROGRESS. "If they come in slowly you may depend upon it that money is scarce and times hard, but on the contrary, prompt payments indicate the opposite. Last July payments came in slowly and continued so for the months following, but this year they are fully one-third larger and are coming in more rapidly each day. With us the indications are better times and more money, and I fancy our business is a fair indication of the general feeling in the community. The improvement of this year over last is very noticeable."

For an Idle Hour. Diana Barrington, an interesting romance of Central India, by Mrs. John Croker, is published in Bryce's Canadian copyright edition and for sale by J. & A. McMillan.

OUR SUMMER VISITORS.

Their Number Increases Yearly and Every Year They Stay Longer.

Every year shows an increase in the number of American tourists visiting St. John. They do not stay here any length of time, however, except in cases of people who are travelling for health and find the clear, cool air of St. John so invigorating and healthful that they are tempted to linger for weeks and regain their lost powers. But the majority of them are "on the go," for as Mr. Drake of the Dufferin remarked to a representative of PROGRESS, a few days ago: "They seem to be anxious to see how much ground they can cover in the shortest possible time. The first thing the majority of tourists ask," added Mr. Drake, "is how to get to this or that place as quickly as possible."

A great many who arrive here from the states, stay a day or two at the hotel and then go up river as far as Fredericton, perhaps, and spend a few days there, while others go up the river and return the same day. Last year the majority of the tourists went across the bay, but this summer the St. John river seems to be the popular resort.

Large numbers leave here for Halifax direct and return by way of Windsor and Annapolis, while others visit Prince Edward Island.

Although there has not been very warm weather in the west during the last few weeks, the travel is increasing. All the leading hotels report business good, and the Dufferin has been turning away guests for over a week. The travelling season begins about the first of July and continues until the last of September, the greatest number of tourists arriving here about the last of July or the beginning of August.

Heretofore very few tourists have come from west of New York, but this year a great many are coming from Philadelphia and Baltimore. These come by the Allen line ocean steamers via Halifax, and return home by rail, always stopping a few days in St. John.

All the hotels at which tourists generally stay when in the city are at present "full."

A "Hog" Abroad.

Under the heading "A Champion St. John Hog," a gentleman writes the following breezy paragraph to PROGRESS:

"The above animal was seen last Friday morning on St. James street, opposite German. The circumstances of the case are these: Two ladies and three children hailed a car on that corner to go to Portland. It was in the morning during the heaviest of that hard rain storm, and as the car stopped this 'hog' dressed in pants, vest and coat, etc., came out and must needs stand on the step to open his umbrella. Instead of opening readily, there was something the matter with it, which it took quite a while to adjust. Meanwhile, the ladies and children were being soaked with the rain and every one of them got their feet wet and had to change most of their clothing on reaching home. One of the ladies thought seriously of asking the 'hog' if she could assist him to open the umbrella and escort him to the sidewalk, but fearing he might not know what sarcasm was, refrained, and got a drenching and a cold.

PROGRESS has but one idea regarding such animals. Their true character should be indicated by a placard which the law should compel them to bear about.

They Are Sent by Express.

The exportation of berries was done by express, this year, and the experiment was highly successful.

Mr. W. H. Merritt, of Puddington & Merritt, says that prices kept up splendidly in the foreign market, and the sale was quicker and more satisfactory. "We used to send the fruit by boat and pay half a cent a box. Leaving St. John one morning, they would be on the Boston market about noon the next day. There was no fault to find with their condition, for they were as fresh as when shipped. Now we send the berries by express, and it costs two and a half cents per box to do it, but the fruit is placed upon the early Boston market of the next morning and it brings a better price, netting us more money, even at the increased cost of transportation, than it did formerly. We'll continue to send by express."

This Makes Us Blush—Almost.

PROGRESS is the name of a weekly paper started in St. John, N. B., last spring. It has already attained a circulation of 4,000 copies, and promises to attain a circulation twice as great before the snow flies, providing it keeps up the brilliant reputation it has already won for enterprise. PROGRESS is conducted by two bright young men, Messrs. E. S. Carter and Walter L. Sawyer.—New York Marine Journal.

Ingenious Advertising.

The proprietors of Maple Leaf soap secured a good advertisement Monday, and very simply, too. The day was insufferably close and hot, and every lady and gentleman on the grand stand of the Athletic grounds hailed with delight the gift of a useful fan, which displayed "Maple Leaf Soap" at every wave.

Hoodlums Wanted.

A poster offering a reward of \$5 for the conviction of the person or persons guilty of breaking windows in St. Mary's church school-room has ornamented Haymarket square and the adjoining streets, this week. The window-breaking was done purposely, the vestry think.

ON THE WAY TO WEALTH.

NEWSBOYS WHO MAKE MORE THAN MAN'S WAGES.

Of Course They Sell "Progress" and Saturday in Their Greatest Day—The Manners and Methods of Some Smart Boys Who Are Sure to Come to the Front.

Did you ever take the time to think what kind of a boy brought you your favorite paper?

Newsboys and the lads who carry the daily and weekly papers to regular subscribers, are of two almost entirely different classes. The carrier boys on the morning papers are supposed to be at the office as early as 5 o'clock. They work in the mailing-room, wrapping up the papers, putting them in bags and transferring them to the postoffice by means of hand-carts. The mail all sent out, the boys receive their papers for city delivery. Each boy has his "round" of subscribers to serve and this generally keeps him on the run until about 8.30 or 9 o'clock. Then his work for the day is done, except on one day, when the boys are expected to come back to the office in the afternoon and mail the weekly edition.

The other class, newsboys, are their own "bosses"—every boy has a particular business of his own. Some of them have a large lot of regular customers, whom they serve daily, and besides this take out papers to sell while they are going their round. Other newsboys do not take customers unless they happen to be in a place easily reached, as they think their particular abilities can earn more money selling papers on the streets. All the newsboys are lively youth and have an eye to business, although there are some with keener insight and better methods of working their business than others. The smartest and most successful newsboys are not the largest. Indeed the boys who make the most money are little fellows.

Among the daily papers the greatest competition is seen about the *Globe* office. The morning papers are printed long before the newsboys come to buy them, so that they do not have to wait; but at the *Globe* office it is different.

The chief object of the boys who sell the evening paper is to "get out first," and as a consequence Water street is thronged with newsboys every afternoon, waiting for the paper to be printed. Anybody seeing the boys about this time would take them for a pretty "hard lot." They are certainly noisy and mischievous, but what could be expected when such a crowd gets together. To persons who know them and their ways, they are no worse than other boys.

There are "capitalists" among the newsboys as well as everywhere else. These are the most successful of the boys and generally have others working for them. They are sometimes pretty hard bosses, too, and the way they cover the ground with their assistants is surprising. "The boss" will get his papers as early as possible and give each of his assistants an arm load. His object then is to get over some district where the paper has not yet appeared. One boy starts off ahead on the run and another follows him. The boy who is ahead keeps running so as to keep ahead of all competitors, while the second boy sells all the papers he can as he goes along. Then if the boss has three boys he sends the third down bye streets selling papers, while he himself serves all odd ones that come along. The boss brings up the rear and shouts instructions to his assistants as they go along, and will give them change or more papers. In this way they try to cover their field before their competitors.

There is always excitement in PROGRESS' office, Saturday morning. The boys begin to flock in between 5 and 6 o'clock and get on the streets as quickly as possible. The boys who are working for the prizes which PROGRESS offers every week to the boys selling the largest number of papers, buy as many papers as they can carry and sometimes more, as they always have an idea that no papers will be left in the office when they return.

Some boys do not have \$5 or \$6 to make a first purchase with, so they buy as many as they can and return again as soon as possible to buy more. The competition among them is keen and they naturally endeavor to keep the track of their rivals. They always inquire if such a boy is down yet and how many papers he "took out"—but of course they can never know that until Monday, when the prizes are given.

No class of boys in St. John make more money than the newsboys. The lads who sell PROGRESS are the best off in this respect, as they make one cent on every paper they sell, and they say it is the best selling paper in the city.

Did anybody ever hear of a boy of about 13 years of age buying over 500 papers in one day?

Yet that is the number of copies of PROGRESS that Douglas McCarthy paid for last Saturday. That means that Douglas had \$15 in his pocket Saturday night, with which he did business with PROGRESS alone. By selling 511 papers he made \$5.11, and the \$1 price increased it to \$6.11. A pretty good day's work, isn't it? Besides this, Douglas sells 80 *Globes* every night and makes 40 cents (newsboys only make a half cent on the dailies), and on Saturday night he sells 100, making his profits from the sales of the *Globe* \$2.50. Selling PROGRESS on Saturday alone he clears \$5

or \$6, which makes a grand total for the week of \$8.50. There are a great many men in St. John with families who make far less in the week than this boy of 13 years.

And yet Douglas does not always win the first prize. Another boy, Joseph Irvine, has won the prize frequently, and both of these have been beaten by another lad, named Swanton. So it will be seen how close the competition among the boys is. They never know who has won the prize until Monday, and often make miscalculations as to how far ahead the others are. A boy will sell as many papers one day as he sold the Saturday before and took the prize with, but is surprised to learn that another has sold 100 papers more than he has. The sales of PROGRESS are larger every week, and the prize-winner always has to sell more than before.

Seventy-five boys were selling PROGRESS on the streets last Saturday, and they all made a good day's pay.

The newsboys of St. John are as intelligent, smart and enterprising as can be found anywhere. Their methods of working are their own. They differ from the American newsboys in one particular at least. The Boston newsboys always find out what their papers contain. Then they get a list of the most important items in their memories, and shout the name of the paper and what it is "all about." They sometimes have more to tell than the average sideshow orator. The St. John newsboys used to adopt this method, but now only call out the name of the paper.

But the boys who sell papers now are of a much better class than those who used to do this work. Some years ago, many respectable people would not let their boys sell papers. But times have changed since then. The handsome profits the boys make on PROGRESS have enticed many lads to sell this paper on Saturday, who never before thought of selling papers. The number of newsboys in the city who are compelled to sell papers for a living is happily not large. Most of the lads who sell PROGRESS do it to earn money for themselves.

This fact clearly demonstrates that the boys of today are anything if not industrious, and many of them will get an idea of the world that will serve them well in after life. But again: Perhaps the boys have been reading American biographies, and become convinced that no man can ever be great unless he starts in selling papers.

Couldn't Find a Place to Stay.

Some idea of the number of American visitors in the city may be had from the fact that almost every morning there are many requests at private boarding houses for rooms for a few days. Last Sunday morning the number of arrivals on the western train was very large and the city hotels being already filled, the coachmen were in a quandary where to place their fares. Boarding houses in eight cases out of ten were unable to accommodate more and it was only in many cases after hours' search that the travellers got settled. One lady told PROGRESS that instead of one boarder of a fortnight ago she had eleven boarders—all Americans who proposed to remain for weeks. All these things point to the one fact that summer travel to St. John is increasing and the question of accommodation for the tourist season must be considered if this city will keep up with the times.

The Dog Was in Demand.

There is great fun in certain circles over a very old joke that has been played on a St. John man with remarkable effect. This party was, for a long time, the unhappy owner of a cur dog that was good for nothing except to prevent food going to waste, and he eagerly seized a recent opportunity to give the mongrel away. The day after he did this, one of his acquaintances offered him \$20 for "that fine dog!" Straightway the citizen rushed off to the friend who had the dog and tried to get him back, but the new owner "wouldn't let him go at any price." During the next few days, the former owner was visited by a score of persons, who tried to buy the dog at prices ranging from \$5 to \$50, and it is said that he shed a good many tears over his wasted opportunities—until he saw the point. Then he bought a gun and he is watching for the man who put up the job on him.

A Boom in the Sunday Schools.

After Sunday school in one of the city churches, a short time ago, the superintendent was taking the number of scholars in each class to see how many picnic tickets he would need for the Sunday school.

"Mr. C—," said he to the sanctimonious-looking young man who teaches a class of small boys, "how many scholars have you got?"

"Do you mean my ordinary class, sir, or my picnic class?"

"Your picnic class, I suppose."

"Well, my picnic class numbers 30; ordinary class, 10."

Business Notes.

Mr. J. Allen Turner has removed his oyster saloon to the vacant store next Breeze's corner. His fish and oyster trade has increased so that he finds plenty to do in both stores. Lang's branch restaurant on King street was appreciated this week by the numerous strangers in the city. It is safe to say that their custom was also appreciated by the proprietor.

THE ART OF WINDOW DRESSING.

A Talk With a King Street Merchant Whose Windows Attract Crowds.

"The art of window dressing? I suppose you would call it that, though for the life of me I cannot tell you where the 'art' comes in. The people like to see nice windows, and it pays to make them attractive. Ever since I was fourteen years old," continued Mr. Harold Gilbert in answer to a query from PROGRESS regarding his success in making his windows so attractive, "I have had something to do in this line and I expect that experience accounts in some measure for any success I am now meeting with."

It was Saturday evening and as the proprietor talked with PROGRESS' representative crowds paused each moment before the handsome windows and expressed their admiration both by words and glances before they dispersed.

"Almost as good an advertisement as a column in PROGRESS," said the news hunter.

"Yes, for a certain class of people a good window show is a splendid advertisement. If merchants thought it did not pay them no such amount of attention would be paid the plate-glass fronts as at present. The facilities for making a good show are much greater than they were years ago. The first window I dressed had seven squares of glass in it and nothing but gas to light it up. Now with the plate fronts, the electric and rich goods you can hardly help making attractive windows. If you set out with an elaborate plan in your mind you are apt to make a failure of your dressing, but by letting your idea grow with your work you generally. At least that's my experience."

There are a few firms in St. John who make a specialty of attractive windows and with greater or less success. Of course the dry goods establishments have greater opportunities and much more material than their brethren in other trades to make a fine show.

Messrs. Turner & Finlay excel all others perhaps in the richness of their window goods; Manchester, Robertson & Allison in the variety and quantities displayed and Macaulay Bros. & Co. in the taste and originality of their decorations. No finer display in this line has ever been seen in this city than their Christmas and Easter window exhibits.

The Unhappy Tax Collector.

The tax collector's lot is not a happy one.

Perhaps no man in any other business gets so many invitations to "call again." A new man in the business would no doubt be surprised to learn how many men are "away to sea" or "out in the country" during the summer months when the taxes are being collected! but the old constable merely smiles a sickly smile all to himself and decides to meet the man who is so far away from home, when he (the man) least expects it.

Then again, the tax collector finds that a great many young men have changed their boarding houses since he last called, and another strange thing is that their former host or hostess never knows where they have gone to. The collector knows it is no use to grumble at the ignorance of these people, so he pursues his investigations elsewhere.

"The worst thing some people do," said a tax collector the other day, "is to get me to mark a date at which they will promise to pay, and then when I come round say they are unable to pay me and set another date."

Comparatively few people pay their taxes before they have been called upon by the collector, but a great many, after being called on, go to the city building and pay their taxes. The unfortunate collector loses his commission, of course—but that's why the thing is done.

It May Be Repeated.

The moonlight excursion given by the Shamrock club, Monday evening, was a very orderly, pleasant and successful affair, as every one anticipated. So thoroughly were the excursionists satisfied with the arrangements made by the excellent committee that the club has been requested to repeat the excursion, and will probably do so in about a month.

They Make a Good Show.

With his enlarged quarters, Mr. T. H. Hall is able to show his large stock of sporting and fancy goods to advantage. The windows of his new store with the large assortment of goods displayed but indicate the nature of the contents of his added space.

Keep in the Middle of the Road.

People living on the City road are indignant! The milkmen who pass that way found the middle of the street too hard, the other day, and drove their horses over the asphalt sidewalk on the city side, making it almost as rough as the street.

One Hundred and Five Dollars in Stamps.

One of the largest printing orders ever sent through the St. John post-office was mailed this week by Barnes & Co., the postage alone amounting to \$105.

The Blessed Baby.

Fond mother (at the table)—"Now, I wonder what I can give the baby to keep her quiet?" Ferocious father—"A gag!"

London House, RETAIL.

Gents' SUMMER UNDERWEAR.

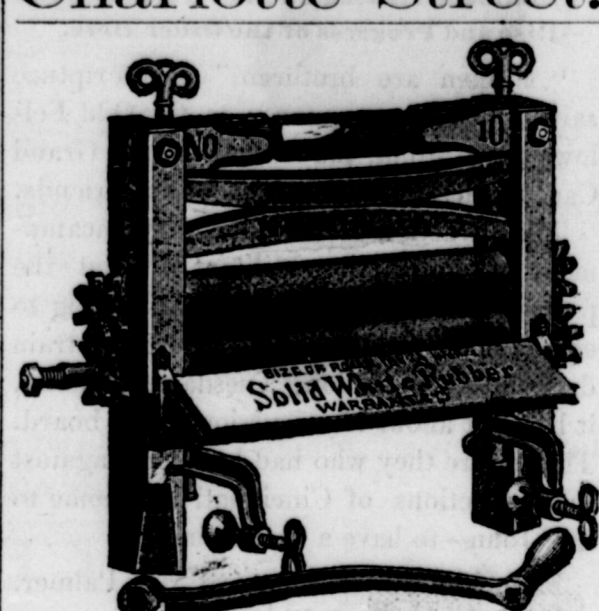
In fine makes of Cashmere, Silk, Merino and Balbriggan.

HALF HOSE, In SILK, MERINO and LISLE.

NEW PATTERNS

Summer Scarfs, Collars and Cuffs, LATEST STYLES.

Charlotte Street.



BUY THE NEW IMPROVED AMERICAN CLOTHES WRINGER

FOR SALE BY ESTEY, ALLWOOD & CO., Prince William Street.

LET US GO

TO THE

MEDICAL HALL

and have a Nice Cool Glass of

OTTAWA BEER,

GINGER ALE,

SODA WATER,

or the EXHILARATING drink of the day,

BUFFALO MEAD.

R. D. McARTHUR,

ST. JOHN, N. B.

P. S.—Season Tickets, which entitle you to 25 glasses, for \$1. R. D. McA.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an ASPHALT Composition Sidewalk will be laid on the Western side of that portion of MILL STREET extending southward from North street to the Asphalt already laid on said side of said street, under the Provisions of Act of Assembly, 30th Victoria, Chapter 74.

By order of the Common Council. HURD PETERS, City Engineer.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an ASPHALT Composition Sidewalk will be laid on the Western side of that portion of EXMOUTH STREET lying between Richmond street and the Northern line of the property of Thomas H. Trautman, under the provisions of Act of Assembly, 30th Victoria, Chapter 74.

By order of the Common Council. HURD PETERS, City Engineer.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an ASPHALT Composition Sidewalk will be laid on the easterly side of that portion of CLIFF STREET lying between Coburg street and the road leading to the Thistle Rink, so called, under the provisions of Act of Assembly, 30th Victoria, Chapter 74.

By order of the Common Council. HURD PETERS, City Engineer.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an ASPHALT Composition Sidewalk will be laid on the easterly side of that portion of the CITY ROAD extending northward from Blair Street, so called, to the northerly line of property of E. V. Wetmore, under provisions of Act of Assembly, 30th Victoria, Chapter 74.

By order of the Common Council. HURD PETERS, City Engineer.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an ASPHALT Composition Sidewalk will be laid on that portion of the southerly side of the CITY ROAD extending northward from Blair Street, so called, to the northerly line of property of E. V. Wetmore, under provisions of Act of Assembly, 30th Victoria, Chapter 74.

By order of the Common Council. HURD PETERS, City Engineer.

PUBLIC NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an ASPHALT Composition Sidewalk will be laid on that portion of the southerly side of the CITY ROAD extending northward from Blair Street, so called, to the northerly line of property of E. V. Wetmore, under provisions of Act of Assembly, 30th Victoria, Chapter 74.

By order of the Common Council. HURD PETERS, City Engineer.

FOR SALE.

A FARM OF LAND IN JUVENILE SETTLEMENT, known as the McLeod farm, containing 240 acres, 30 of which are cleared. The soil is of rich black loam, with clay subsoil, and can be made one of the most valuable farms in the county of Sunbury. New house and fairly good barn thereon. Apply to C. L. RICHARDS, Solicitor, St. John, N. B.

S. R. FOSTER & SON,

MANUFACTURERS OF

Cut Nails and Cut Spikes, Tacks, Brads Finishing Nails, Shoe and Hungarian Nails, etc.

Office, Warehouse and Manufactory:

GEORGES STREET, St. John, N. B.

Havana and Domestic CIGARS.

I have a complete assortment now in stock, in boxes and half-boxes: 100,000 HAVANA and DOMESTIC.

THOS. L. BOURKE, 11 and 12 Water street.