

PROGRESS.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JULY 7.

A feature of No. 11 of PROGRESS will be portraits of prominent maritime provincialists who will attend the Inter-provincial convention, including President J. R. Inch, LL.D., of Mount Allison University; President Thomas Harrison, LL.D., of the University of New Brunswick; President Anderson of Prince of Wales college, Prince Edward Island; Superintendents of Education Allison and Montgomery of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, as well as those of prominent educators and teachers.

NATIONAL SENTIMENT.

A glance at the newspapers of Canada and the United States reveals a striking contrast in the manner of celebrating the national holiday in these countries.

In Canada the day seems to be observed simply as a holiday, on which each individual enjoys himself or herself according to inclination or convenience—selfishly, as it were—and without any enthusiasm or sentiment as to the occasion of its observance.

In the United States it is entirely different. There, instead of crowding out of town, all congregate in town, and vie with one another to celebrate their national holiday—to such an extent that even we in Canada catch some of the infection. Orations, sports, military parades and self-glorification are the order of the day. Young America is rampant and runs riot with fire crackers, ability to purchase which has been obtained by months of saving and self-denial. Accustomed to these celebrations year after year, the youth of the country grow up to imitate them, with the result that the older the country becomes the more intense the national sentiment.

In Canada, a fire cracker is seldom or never heard on Dominion day, and many of our boys and girls scarcely know why they are allowed the holiday; there is no perceptible throbbing of patriotism nor evidence of sentiment.

While the inciting cause of national feeling is not present to the same extent in Canada as in the United States, yet there is no reason why it should be so entirely absent. We have a country equally grand, a dominion more extensive than Alexander conquered, and embracing more territory than was included in the bounds of the Roman empire in its palmiest days. The history of no country savors more of the romantic, nor is there one so thickly set with thrilling incidents. Heroes are not wanting, and statesmen are present in abundance.

Let us, then, cease this eternal wailing about confederation and its results, and unite to advance the best interests of our country, and let it be Canada and Canada first. Whatever may be our destiny, it will not lie in the direction of a dissolution of the confederacy. Any step in that direction at this stage would be retrogressive. Let our youth be trained up first with a knowledge of our own history and traditions. In this they will find plenty to interest them and sufficient to arouse, if properly presented.

We may stand with our hands in our pockets and ridicule the spread-eagleism of the United States, but it is sound at the bottom and develops national sentiment. Suppose we take our hands out of our pockets and cultivate a little of it in Canada.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO WATTS.

Since this city had, for the second time, the honor of welcoming Mr. CHARLES WATTS, of Toronto, we have devoted certain leisure moments to the consideration of the question. How have we benefited by his presence?

Mr. WATTS declares himself a secularist. Above and beyond that, he is an agnostic. Confronting the great problems of life and destiny he admits that he "doesn't know" the solutions. Nevertheless he has the temerity to criticise the views of those who differ from him! This is inconsistent.

In his capacity of secularist, Mr. WATTS is necessarily a preacher of morality. With most of his articles of belief, we can have no quarrel. They and the ethical teachings of the Bible are in complete accord. One might suppose that in conducting his propaganda Mr. WATTS would welcome the partial agreement of the book on which so many build their faith—but he derides it! While he makes use of a part, he condemns the whole. This is illogical.

Leaving out consistency and logic, Mr.

WATTS builds a most unstable foundation for his argument.

The alleged aim of Mr. WATTS' efforts is to encourage humanity to a purer life. As a first step, he dispenses with the idea of obligation to a higher power. The utility of an action, he informs us, is to be determined by its results, rather than by the motive which inspires it. Be it so. If Mr. WATTS' neighbor is of use to the world, how is it Mr. WATTS' concern whether he is a Christian or an infidel? and, since every good deed must have some motive, why should it arouse Mr. WATTS' choler to learn that that motive is love of God, rather than a passion for mankind? If Mr. WATTS is disposed to be honest, he will concede that, to very many persons, belief in the Christian religion is the inspiration to good deeds. Why should he endeavor to replace that motive with another, which might and probably would be less effective? Why not accept the good that he finds and propagate his peculiar gospel amongst those who have no other?

To carry this thought a little further, there are in St. John men and women who for years led lives of utter shamelessness until, being touched and impressed with religious truth they were transformed to good citizens. Other abandoned persons whom Christians have not reached are still to be found here. Why should not Mr. WATTS preach to and save them? Is it that his principles of morality find readiest acceptance with those who already, as a matter of choice, lead moral lives?

If Mr. WATTS had brought us truths which would uplift the outcast, the degraded and the fallen, we could appreciate the importance of his mission: for the teaching which elevates those who cannot rise unassisted is its own best vindication. All that he did bring us—and more—is comprehended in the injunction, "Love thy neighbor as thyself": and we are bound to say that the divine command does not come to us with any greater force because it has been reiterated by Mr. WATTS.

A LIBEL ON HUMANITY.

The question before the Prohibitory Alliance, Thursday evening, being the proposed view of evangelist FRANCIS MURPHY, "Mr. S. B. PATERSON showed that there was an increased amount of drinking amongst the working classes and thought that Mr. Murphy would reach that class, as his work appealed to the feelings rather than the head." So says the Telegraph.

The people of this city are pretty well acquainted with the individual who gave vent to these false and insulting remarks and the shortest reply to them is the best.

The statement that there is an increased amount of drinking among the "working classes" is a falsehood.

The insinuation that the "working classes" have not the intelligence to comprehend any argument which could find its way into Mr. PATERSON'S alleged intellect, is as contemptible as its author.

The distinction which Mr. PATERSON seeks to draw between "working classes" and others is such as a snob might be expected to make, and, as a snob is beneath contempt, the least said about it the better.

But the falsehood and the insinuations are distinctly PATERSONIAN; and they may serve to recall to the public mind that this mouthful of moralities has done his full share of "appealing to the feelings of the working classes"—in his own peculiar way.

WHY NOT CALL TENDERS?

No citizen doubts that the system of calling for tenders, generally pursued by the several city departments, is an excellent one so long as it is carried out impartially, and figures, not influence, regulate the award of the contracts. In fact it is a civic safeguard that the chairmen of the several departments shall not be allowed to purchase supplies from whom they please and pay whatever may be agreed upon between them. It is always in the interest of the people that such transactions shall be as much above board as possible and subject at any time to the strictest investigation. Every sensible citizen will grant these things. Why then—and we put the question with all respect—does not the ferry committee ask for tenders for coal? Why was the coal for this service purchased last year by private contract? Why is it that at this hour the barque Maggie M., in which Chairman LANTALUM of the ferry committee has a large interest, has a large cargo of coal in port which is intended for the use of the ferry? These questions present themselves to us as worthy of an answer. If a satisfactory one can be given we are content, but until that is done, or tenders called for, the supplying of this department of the civic service will bear watching.

FOR SERIOUS CONSIDERATION.

In the renewed effort to unite King's college, Windsor, and Dalhousie, a loyal churchman must see the most serious reason for dissatisfaction. In the fact that the effort is supported by the Bishop and leading members of the synod of Nova Scotia he must feel something more than surprise.

The assertion is sometimes made that the Church of England is not adapted to the wants of the people of these provinces, and that she fails in making the attempt to adapt herself to these wants. Is such an assertion justifiable by facts? Let us see.

For six years past a hard-working, zealous and devoted clergyman of the church,

although fully endorsed by his Bishop, has, in this city, been boycotted by his brother clergy, who practically declare that the maintenance, or rather the resuscitation of effete and inapplicable parochial laws is of more importance than the development of missionary enterprise or the exercise of Christian charity.

The mere existence of such a state of things for so long a period also indicates an incapacity on the part of the church in this diocese to regulate its own affairs. Moreover, the fact that each bishopric in the provinces, as it has become vacant or been created, has been filled from abroad and not from the ranks of the provincial clergy shows a want of scholarship in the provincial ministry, or the prevalence of jealousy among them, or possibly both.

In the deficiency of ecclesiastical educational institutions in the diocese is another evidence of weakness, if not of impending decay. Many years have elapsed since the church in this diocese permitted King's college, Fredericton, to be secularized, and the effort subsequently made to establish a theological school in Fredericton was too feeble to produce any result whatever.

For some years past King's college, Windsor, has been the only institution in the maritime provinces in which young men could be trained for the ministry of the church, and it is now proposed that it should merge in Dalhousie. The latter is not a denominational college and, so far as its religious functions are concerned, is absolutely colorless. If the union is accomplished it means annihilation for the oldest chartered college in Canada, but it means also the sapping of the very foundations of churchmanship in this part of Canada.

The young man who in his arts course has studied ethics, or history, or material science, at the feet of a latitudinarian, a sceptic, an agnostic, or perhaps an atheist, who may thus perhaps have been impressed with the existence of a first cause, but not of a revealed God, is little likely to be greatly influenced by lectures subsequently delivered on Christian apologetics, the great councils and the creeds. So fully do the other religious bodies recognize the incompatibility of commingling dogmatic with secular education that they are maintaining with energy and self-sacrifice their separate schools and colleges.

If the Church of England would hold its own it must do likewise. The possession of a beautiful liturgy is a great feature in the church, but it is not everything. No religious organization which lacks charity, or counsel, or learning, can expect to flourish; and if it is not prepared to be generous and self-sacrificing and fails to perceive that its spiritual energy must co-exist with its intellectual activity, it has no right to predicate its continued existence.

PRESIDENTIAL PROBABILITIES.

In the electoral college, which will convene in the neighboring republic some months hence, 38 states will cast 401 votes. The action of 201 of these will determine whether Mr. CLEVELAND or Mr. HARRISON shall fill the presidential chair.

The electoral vote of each state and its probable political tendency are shown by the following table:

Table with 2 columns: Republican and Democratic. Lists states and their electoral votes.

Total, 188. Doubtful, Indiana, 15.

It is possible that the attitude of the Republican candidates on the Chinese and railroad questions may alienate the Pacific States, and the calculator who should place California in the "doubtful" list would not do so without warrant. Conceding this to the Republicans, however, and giving the Democrats those states only which are to be relied on—and in this category we place New York—the contest narrows itself down to Indiana.

If Mr. THURMAN were not what he is, and if his party lacked the prestige of power, the state would be likely to give its electoral vote to the Republican candidate. Under existing circumstances, however, few politicians hazard the prediction that it will take this step.

We believe that CLEVELAND and THURMAN will receive 213 electoral votes and that HARRISON and MORTON will be obliged to content themselves with 188.

THE GOOD OLD WAY.

Mr. MICAWBER is the author of the recipe for a happy life, but Gen. HARRISON, Republican candidate for president of the United States, is the latest and best example of its effect.

Said Mr. MICAWBER: "Income 20s., expenditure 19s. 6d., result happiness; income 20s., expenditure 20s. 6d., result misery."

Says Gen. HARRISON: "My father had a farm about five miles from that of my grandfather. He signed some worthless

notes and died poor, leaving his family nothing. I married young, when I was only 20 years of age. My wife and I took as our dwelling a little house of only three rooms in Indianapolis. I remember we had six knives and six two-pronged forks, six plates, and a similarly slim equipment all around. My wife did her own work."

Having the names of these illustrious personages to conjure with, no young man needs hesitate to marry at 20 years of age; to engage a three-roomed flat, and to supply his table with two-pronged forks. In the interest of true economy, however, we suggest that two knives, two forks and two plates would answer every purpose, and that the amount saved in this direction might go to purchasing a tin savings bank, which would hold the proceeds of future economies.

At the same time, we make bold to suggest to the brides that the world has moved since Mr. MICAWBER and Gen. HARRISON were young, and that there is no law, human or divine, which forbids happiness, contentment and silver forks to dwell in the same house.

Referring to our statement that Mayor Thorne was a Fredericton boy, the Farmer, of that city, says:

We may remind PROGRESS that Mr. Thorne is not the only chief magistrate York county has furnished St. John. We gave them Simeon Jones, who was born and reared at Prince William, a few miles above Fredericton.

That's all right. We won't quarrel over them; they are both good men, but, after all, it's a question of give and take. The best mayor Fredericton ever had, who occupied the chief magistrate's chair for the longest period, was a prominent resident of St. John for more than a quarter of a century. Fredericton owes him much of the beauty of her streets and we have a living memorial of his efforts in the same direction in the stately elms on King square, which he planted with his own hand.

On behalf of the people, we request you, president A. O. SKINNER, to call a meeting of shareholders and citizens for the purpose of re-organizing the directorate and taking other steps to build the new opera house.

We request you, furthermore, to impress it upon that meeting that the DOCKHILL property is the only available site, and the only one for which any money has been subscribed: and to rule out of order every malcontent who tries to defeat the purpose of the gathering by moving for committees to look after locations that were proven, two years ago, to be out of the question. The time for all such boys' play has gone by. The people, whom PROGRESS represents, are in earnest in this matter, and they will support every step you take along the lines which this paper has marked out. Therefore, let us have the meeting, and at once!

The first of July was an important anniversary in Portland, Maine, as well as throughout the Dominion. On that day 40 years ago, Mr. EDWARD H. ELWELL, the senior editor of the Portland Transcript, issued the first number of the Northern Pioneer, and that paper, four months later, was united with the Transcript, of which he has since had charge. For four decades the man and the paper have given to thousands an incentive and inspiration to right thinking and true living; and if the relative importance of events were measured by any just standard, his fellow-citizens would have organized a "jubilee," Monday, in honor of Mr. ELWELL and the Transcript.

Some interesting facts bearing on the nationality of the clergymen in the Episcopal church are given in another column. It is not comforting to Canadians to think that our best churches are filled by strangers; but this very fact compels the belief that they are the superiors of Canadians. There are exceptions, but they serve to prove the rule. After all, we need not feel badly about it, for we know of no English clergyman among us who is not as thorough a Canadian as, and often a more loyal Canadian than, any of us.

The wharf railway is at a stand-still again. The common council finds that the legislation obtained in Fredericton last session makes the city responsible for damages from loss of life on its streets. It is well to be cautious, gentlemen, but do not over-do the thing. If you persevere in your non-progressive tactics, there will be a civic disaster, and we will mourn a city. Are you prepared to pay the damages?

The office of the Toronto Saturday Night was burglariously entered for the fourth time, last Monday morning. Men who were engaged in any other business might complain, but the publishers have never objected. They take it as a high compliment that the burglars think it worth while to come.

Allow us to congratulate you, Superintendent STEEVES, of the provincial lunatic asylum, upon securing the appointment of your old friend and former partner, Dr. ALLISON, to the temporary position of assistant superintendent during your son's absence in England!

We are bound to support the appeal of the BRYDENE-JACK memorial committee to the graduates of the University of New Brunswick. There are enough graduates

in St. John to raise \$5,000, let alone \$500. And yet we are told that a few of those already asked have refused to subscribe any amount to this object, which must appeal directly to all true graduates. Their refusal can be accounted for not from inability but from meanness. We suggest that the names of those who subscribe and those who refuse be published—but under different heads.

It may interest our readers to know that the Canadian club, of New York city, no longer exists. Its name has been changed to the St. James, and its conditions of membership have also undergone alteration. This is not the first time that the voice of patriotism has been silenced by its surroundings. Even the Israelites could not sing the songs of Zion in a strange land.

The St. John firemen were afraid of muddying their boots, so, bless you, they occupied carriages in the firemen's procession, but as there were only nine of them, they didn't take up much room.—Farmer.

The motto of our boys is, "work when you work and play when you play." They were on an excursion, Monday, but had the alarm sounded St. John would have shown the celestials how to "get there."

We are assured by the intimate friends of Mr. TOLE of the asylum that he does not want the position of chief of police and that he is not supported for it by Hon. Solicitor General RITCHIE. Mr. TOLE is satisfied with his present position and we are glad of the fact. It lessens the list of candidates and makes the choice easier.

The attention of the postal authorities is directed to the fact that one of the letter carriers, whose name can be learned at this office, is not a responsible person to deliver Her Majesty's mail throughout the city. Any man who gets stupidly drunk is unfit to hold such a position of trust.

It is time thoughtful business men began to consider the effect of the presence of the "bucket shop" on King street. Every sensible man would say good-bye to it with pleasure. Are not the alleged transactions of this concern in defiance of the law?

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

One of Many.

TO THE EDITORS OF PROGRESS: I am glad to see that you have taken up the opera house question. Since your issue of Saturday last the general public seem fully aroused to help you and the proposed directors to build the place at once and I hope they mean what they say. I hope that a meeting will be called at once, when I for one will be present and do all in my power to secure this one thing that our city lacks.

THEATRE-GOER.

St. John, July 4.

They All Say So.

TO THE EDITORS OF PROGRESS: I see your paper regularly and on the whole I think it is the brightest and breeziest sheet that has yet been issued in this province. It comes like a refreshing zephyr from the sea—minus the fog—these hot summer days. F. H. R.

Fredericton, July 2.

He Won't Get Left.

The present situation of the new railway bridge at Fredericton is credited to Mr. Alexander Gibson, a gentleman who is generally credited with some considerable foresight. The New Brunswick railway has its branch terminus at Gibson, and if the bridge had been situated a few hundred yards down the river, the curve necessary to allow it to connect with the bridge track could easily have been made. Mr. Gibson saw, however, that by situating the bridge where it is the New Brunswick road would be forced to connect with the Northern & Western some miles from the river, and, of course, buy a right of way from him, making the N. & W. so much more valuable. He hardly ever gets left.

DOUBTFUL THINGS.

[BY OUR PRIZE POET.]

The stranger passing by, Looking in upon the sly, As I'm sitting in the Royal hotel, Might be induced to think I'd had dinner and a drink— But you can't sometimes always tell.

A Sinful Game.

A particularly straight-laced deacon of Forest City, N. B., whose chief business in life consists in deterring the young from such vanities as cards, dominoes and croquet, recently in the course of a very fervent speech, asked: "What is the cause of drunkenness, misery in the house and the overcrowding of our jails and penitentiaries?" Pausing for an answer which the crowd breathlessly awaited, he triumphantly announced, "Dominoes!"

Handsome Furniture.

Some very handsome rattan parlor suits in Harold Gilbert's windows have attracted a great deal of attention of late. The style is new and novel, and is taking so well that it is likely to be the pride of every housewife.

MRS. SILLS AND THE RAILWAY.

A Fredericton Lady Defies the Railway Company, and Holds Her Fort Against It. Fredericton has a heroic lady—a genuine railway obstructor, in the person of Mrs. Sills, who lives on George street. Mrs. Sills owns a neat little cottage residence, and with it a plot of ground, in which flowers and vegetables abound.

When the railway company made its survey, early in the spring, the route lay through the best room in Mrs. Sills' house, and, foreseeing the necessity of removing such an obstruction, they opened negotiations with the owner, with a view of purchasing the property. Mrs. Sills was, of course, agreeable, providing the price suited her. She wanted \$3,000 for the privilege of getting out and allowing the railway right of way. The company offered her \$2,500. Neither would recede from its position, and finally arbiters were called in. In the meantime, however, the company had purchased Judge Steadman's property for \$1,500, and offered it to Mrs. Sills in exchange. She refused it. The arbiters valued Mrs. Sills' property with due regard for the interests of both parties, and awarded \$2,000, which was \$500 lower than the company's offer and \$1,000 less than the owner's demand.

It took time for these negotiations, during which the bridge was finished and the track begun to be laid upon the Fredericton side. It began to enter the city, ran through what was Mr. Parkin's residence, passed that owned by Judge Steadman, and when the writer viewed the scene, a few days ago, the steel rails were hard against Mrs. Sills' back yard fence—but no further.

It is said that the company offered to move the house and leave the owner and her goods undisturbed, and she declares that they will have to do that before she will evacuate. She has held the fort so long that the engineer has laid out another route, which will carry the locomotive and cars so close to the back door of Mrs. Sills' residence that her kitchen will be filled with smoke every time a train passes.

Picnic of the Future and Past.

Brussels Street Sunday school hold its annual picnic at Watters' Landing, July 17th. These are indeed the pleasantest and most beautiful grounds on the river. Capt. Watters has a large, fine building erected purposely for the accommodation of picnickers. He also provides numerous swings and the river affords a grand chance for those who love rowing and sailing. The refreshments provided by Brussels Street church ladies are always good and a large crowd is confidently expected.

Centenary picnic takes place on the 10th, on the same grounds. Next Tuesday is the day, and every one who can should go to this enjoyable annual outing. The committee guarantees every visitor a good time, and the accommodations are such that those who attend must have a day of rest and pleasure.

Exmouth street church holds its annual outing on the 24th inst. The May Queen has been engaged.

The Jemseg excursion was highly successful, financially and otherwise.

St. David's Sunday school went out of the city's frigidly, Thursday afternoon, and spent a very enjoyable afternoon out of town.

For particulars of Brussels and Centenary picnics, consult the advertising columns.

He Was Used As a Floor Wiper.

Grand Manan has recently had a new captain come on the scene to take charge of the affairs of the Salvation Army. He prefaced his assumption of command with the remark that he proposed to assume entire control and any law the local magistrate did not know he was prepared to teach him. An occasion soon arose to call in the services of his honor. Some of the young men refused to stand during the singing of the opening hymn and this was deemed sufficient to require the aid of the magistrate. A day was set for the trial and the captain appeared on the scene before the hour and proceeded to instruct his honor. A difference of opinion soon arising, the captain, to shorten the discussion, called his honor a liar and invited the court to have his face slapped. His honor, temporarily laying aside his dignity, remarked that it took a man to call him a liar and immediately proceeded to wipe the floor with the captain, having done which to his satisfaction he ejected him forcibly through the door. When 10 o'clock came the gallant captain had not reappeared and the court was adjourned sine die.

Mrs. Scold with flaming tooth (Pain enough to raise the roof) In the dental chair soliloquises, "Well, One wrench will end this pain!" But she's gripped three times in vain,— So you can't sometimes always tell.

How the hungry drummer winks At those sausages in links! Like a heifer in the clover see him swell. Is he munching steak and ham Or poor Rover's diaphragm?— But you can't sometimes always tell.

Just a little while ago We heard a politician grow, "This country 'I'm going to sell"; But we won't distress our mind— As the deed has not been signed— And you can't sometimes always tell.

All winter, with a hum, I've, I've, I've In our ears kept ringing like a bell; Methought I've dead, perchance, But he was only in a trance— So you can't sometimes always tell.