

PROGRESS.

W. K. REYNOLDS, Editor.

Subscriptions, \$1 a year, in advance; 50 cents for six months; 25 cents for three months; free by carrier or mail. Papers will be stopped promptly at the expiration of time paid for.

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One Inch, One Year, \$15.00
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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.

News and opinions on any subject are always welcome, but all communications should be signed. Manuscripts unsolicited to our purpose will be returned if stamps are sent.

EDWARD S. CARTER, Publisher and Proprietor, Office: Masonic Building, Germain Street.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, DEC. 14.

CIRCULATION, 12,000.

THIS PAPER GOES TO PRESS EVERY FRIDAY AT TWELVE O'CLOCK.

THE DANGER OF THE AGE.

Dynamite appears to be gracefully retiring from the public view as a menace to life, property and government. It recognizes that it has a successful rival in electricity, which seems to become more and more dangerous as its scientific and commercial uses become better known.

What we do know of that so far, when applied to the peaceful employments of everyday life it has the power of carrying mischief not only where it ought to go and is supposed to, but over a very wide area besides. The men who get killed are not usually those who come in direct contact with electric light wires, but who touch some other kind of a wire, or a metal fixture, it may be miles away from the location of the leak.

Suppose, for example, a heavy rain, followed by snow and freezing weather. Let the hundreds of webs of all kinds of wires be crusted with ice so as to finally break some of them, or bring them in contact one with another by their own weight.

Almost anything. The deadly current may be carried wherever the wires of all kinds go. It may kill telephone talkers, telegraph operators, and enter the stores and houses to burn them, as happened in Boston. If, as is likely, the fire alarm wires are in the trouble, the instruments will be burned out, and while half a dozen big fires have started in as many sections of the city, not a correct alarm can be given.

It remains to be seen what remedy will be adopted. The plainest one seems to be the abolition, wherever practicable, of the deadly high tension wires and the substitution of others less dangerous and equally efficient. The mere burying of wires does not rob them of their danger.

Either the people of the country know too much about science, or they know much too little.

IT IS WORTH TRYING.

The prompt response which the story of JAMES SHACKELTON drew from the public last week, shows that the people of St. John are very ready to assist the poor and suffering.

There are undoubtedly many among us who are worthy of the attention of the charitable, during the winter months. They may not be suffering for lack of food, such as it is, they may have enough fuel to prevent them from actual freezing, and this being known their circumstances attract no attention.

Such people may not solicit help. They may, indeed, seek to fight the hard battle of existence in such a way that their real circumstances cannot be known. They can be found only by searching, and aid to them must be given, sometimes, with a studied effort to avoid hurting their feelings.

There are all grades of the poor, but they are always with us. If we look for them we may find them. If each person who has enough and to spare were to make an effort to find at least one poor neighbor or family whose Christmas season might be made brighter by timely aid, a vast amount of real good could be done, in a very quiet way.

Perhaps some of the readers of PROGRESS will make an effort to carry out this idea. It is worth trying.

A WORD ABOUT LOTTERIES.

What is the use of having a law against lotteries, if it is not enforced? Nearly every provincial paper, at this season, contains the result of a drawing at this place or that, and not an effort is made to stop the infraction of the law. It matters not what the object of the drawing may be. A lottery is a lottery, whether conducted by saints or sinners, and should be so regarded.

Last year, in a spasm of virtuous indignation, a bill was introduced into the local legislature, directly aimed at the business of the Louisiana State Lottery in New Brunswick. Solicitor-general RITCHIE was the father of it, and it was intended to add to the already stringent provisions of the Dominion act.

The Louisiana lottery is believed to be at least as honestly conducted as most of the domestic affairs, but no attempt is made to interfere with the latter. Indeed, close upon the heels of Mr. RITCHIE's bill a private lottery, endorsed by city officials, was openly advertised in one of the daily papers. PROGRESS called the attention of the authorities to the fact, with the result that the advertisement was withdrawn and the affair suppressed. It may find it necessary to take the same course again in some particular case.

It may be that the law against lotteries is not a wise one, and that the people should be free to do as they please with their money, without the restrictions of a paternal government. In that case, the law should be abolished. It is a pity to have it remain on the statute book and be openly disregarded.

WOULD BE ALL RIGHT HERE.

A bill for \$2,500 has been introduced by Ald. O'DONNELL, of Halifax, with a view to unseating him. The allegation is that he rented a barn to the corporation, previous to his election, and having a contract with the city, was not eligible to his seat in the council.

The people of St. John are disposed to be more lenient. They allow at least two aldermen who have contracts with the city to hold their seats, despite the fact that the contracts were obtained by transparently sham tenders.

If Ald. O'DONNELL is unseated, he should come to St. John and be elected in Victoria or Brooks wards.

GOOD FOR A YEAR.

Seasonable Publications Which Will Mark the Flight of Time in 1890.

Barnes's Almanac, for 1890, filled with the usual amount of statistical information and general intelligence, has shown its welcome face. It is one of the things which no well regulated family, store or office can do without.

The Queen Insurance company, C. E. L. Jarvis, agent, is to the front with a finely colored calendar on extra heavy board, the figures having the merit of being clear and distinct for reference. The Queen also supplies a handsome blotter, which will be appreciated by ladies and others.

The feature of the calendar of the Travellers' Life and Accident Insurance company, M. & T. B. Robinson, agents, is a fine photo-gravure picture of President Harrison and his cabinet. It is not only novel but artistic and attractive.

The calendar of the Eastern Assurance Co., J. M. Robinson, agent, is brilliant with the colors of the orient, while a mosaic head shows the connection of the east with the west.

There is Another Week.

A glance at the columns of PROGRESS will discover more holiday "ads" than in any other paper in the city. It is quite evident that the merchants know which is the best retail medium. Those who want to push trade next week will find it to their advantage to patronize next Saturday's issue which will be the last for Christmas. There will be three clear purchasing days after the paper comes out, with Sunday between.

Back Numbers to be Had at the Office.

Special efforts have been made to obtain a few complete sets of the papers containing the articles on the coming of the Loyalists which began in No. 81 of PROGRESS. From 20 to 25 complete sets can now be supplied to any persons who may want them. The continuous demand has been somewhat unexpected, but a part of it can now be supplied.

Do You Want to Travel.

For the Christmas and New Year's holidays, the New Brunswick railway will issue excursion tickets at all ticket stations to local points on N. B. system; also to Boston and return (including an admission to the Maritime exhibition), and to Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, and points in Ontario. Full particulars can be obtained of New Brunswick ticket agents.

All the Boys Know It.

The December Gripsack contains some of the best and worst jokes that Joe Knowles has ever perpetrated. There is besides a great deal of lively condensed information about hotels, commercial travellers, and travel in general. It is a very good number, and every man "on the road" should have it.

Booklets and Christmas Cards, lowest prices, at McArthur's Bookstore, 80 King street.



GOLDEN EAGLE FLOUR.

SUNDRY HITS AND HINTS.

It is a Christmas duty to make some other heart glad.

It is well to "remember the poor," but it better to help them.

Don't forget your creditors in the distribution of holiday favors.

Only ten more days for the children to count until Christmas eve.

The sudden and ominous lull in local politics may mean something, or it may not.

"The electric octopus" is the name the New York Press gives the overhead wire system.

Halifax bids fair to become the wickedest city in America, if it keeps on at its present pace.

It is not every directory publisher who can have his work compiled at government expense.

Whether there is to be a general election or not is one of these things that no fellow can find out.

The greatest novelty of the season is the fact that Frederickon is trying to enforce the Scott Act.

A policeman on the ferry boat Saturday night is the right man in the right place. More power to his elbow.

Thanks to the suggestions of PROGRESS on Saturday, several of the clogs denounced the ghost folly last Sunday.

The thermometer has fallen several degrees on the St. Croix this week, and the Courier man has begun to cool down.

What St. John needs is to have its streets lighted every night of the year—Sundays and moonlight nights included.

There is nothing small about a cold wave 1,900 miles wide, which was reported on its way from the North Pole yesterday.

The citizens will spend a merrier Christmas than if they could peer into futurity and see the figures on next year's tax-bills.

The man who reads the stories in this issue will be convinced that there is a good deal of literary talent in the Maritime Provinces.

The Department of Agriculture has the reprehensible habit of saluting business firms as "gent," in its official communications to them.

A Chinaman, who appears to have a faith that would remove mountains, has undertaken to make a living by running a laundry at Eastport.

The gentlemen who have to serve on the jury in the murder case would probably get mad if any well-meaning friend congratulated them.

Whatever the aldermen may think of the dock question, they won't have their salaries docked, to build a fence around the Old Burial Ground.

A. Close, of St. John's, P. Q., has been trying to recover \$1,800 paid by mistake to A. Close, of St. John, N. B. He succeeded in securing \$725 of it. It was "A Close shave."

In his recent lecture before the law courts, Mr. C. N. Skimmer denied that the legal profession has deteriorated in St. John of recent years. Nobody thinks it has—in quantity.

Judging from the number of men who were excused on account of "old age and other infirmities," the jury for the November circuit must have been summoned from a Home for the Aged.

So, after all, nobody has copyrighted the pure and simple words of John Milton. The publishers attempt to "snead editions" by comments of their own.

"As deadly as any kind of poison within the knowledge of the most experienced chemist," is a New York doctor's opinion of the electric wire. It looks as though Gotham was getting excited over the matter.

There are 113 lawyers in St. John, or about one to every 60 voters. As not more than half the voters have anything to do with law, this leaves about an average of 30 citizens for the support of each lawyer.

The broad and generous West is ever prompt to aid the East. The sufferers by the great fire in Lynn have received from the citizens of Aurora, Ill., a donation of maps, showing sites for shoe factories.

The Telegraph editorially remarks that the wire by which the last victim was killed in New York "was of the variety named 'undertaker's wire,' of copper," etc. Well, that is a good name for it, under the circumstances, but "undertakers" is the word that has been used in the past.

Mr. George H. Steadman, who is out as a candidate for the legislature, in Albert county, says that "there is a great gulf stream of principle running through our people, though apparently chilled by aggressive icebergs of selfishness." Yes, and sometimes ambitious politicians get shipwrecked in that gulf stream.

We don't always understand our neighbors. In the attempts to secure a jury in the murder case, it was found that men who never were heard to say or do anything rash before had expressed most violent opinions and had most deep rooted prejudices as to the facts of that particular case. And there were a lot of them that way.

Celebrates its Majority.

The majority number of the Moncton Times is a number which speaks well for the enterprise of the proprietors. The illustrations of the town and portraits of its prominent residents are numerous and truthful, while there is a great deal of valuable information, historical, statistical and descriptive. The Times is to be congratulated on the success of its effort.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

The Shackleton Case.

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS: I was very much surprised on reading in your issue of Dec. 7 of Mr. J. Shackleton, Sand Cove. I should have said nothing if he and others had not been wrongfully represented.

I am glad to say that I never saw him on "his bed of sickness," but, on the contrary, have heard him say that he had been able to walk as far as Mr. R. Thomson's and Mr. J. Manchester's, fully a mile, and has been able to walk out daily. I do not think Mr. Shackleton has as yet wanted for the necessities of life, and at many times had had those nourishments requisite for a sick man, as Mr. Thomson, who is well known as a gentleman to a large number of PROGRESS readers, has been a frequent visitor to Mr. Shackleton's, and has taken every interest in him; also nearly all the well-to-do residents of Manawagonish Road have come to his assistance.

I know that Rev. S. H. Rice, pastor of the Methodist church, has been to call on Mr. Shackleton, who has said "that Mr. Rice called as a minister, and left as a gentleman and a friend of the afflicted." If Miss Cain did call on Mr. Rice and was refused assistance, it was only because Mr. Shackleton's eldest son was at work at Mr. Manchester's, where Mr. Rice is living, and has the opportunity of knowing daily his condition. In my opinion, Mr. Rice is the last person who would refuse to give to the needy.

If any kind friends wish to assist this afflicted man I would recommend that they do so either to Mr. Shackleton or his old employer, Mr. Thomson, Manawagonish Road. While it is his duty and only a christian act of any young lady to assist the suffering, there need not be any misrepresentations for the case as it is bad enough. Mr. S. is a very respectable man and well known. About three years ago he lost his wife, and was left with four little children. For the past 15 months he has not been able to work, and I feel sure he would be glad to see any kind friend who may think it worth their while to call on him.

If you would in regard to parties concerned publish this you will oblige

JOHN BOSENCE.

Fully Explained.

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS: I fully recognize the justice of a complaint made in your columns last week, by a correspondent signing himself a "Member of the Club." I regret extremely that in making up the list of subscribers to professional fund the names of the following gentlemen were accidentally omitted, viz., Messrs. G. W. Jones, Percy B. Evans, H. V. Cooper and D. D. Robertson.

W. S. BARKER,

Sec'y St. John A. Club, St. John, Dec. 11.

"Progress" Readers are Not Gullible.

IF PROGRESS thought it had among its many readers anyone who was likely to be deceived by counterfeit money circulars, it would explain the swindle. It is not probable there is need for anything of the kind. The circulars continue to come to respectable citizens, but only people who are outside of the reach of the press are likely to be deceived by them in this part of the world.

ATHER DEATH.

While sunk the sun below the western rim And shades of night fell on the eastern sea, She passed away from earth so peacefully, As loving kindred sang the dying hymn; And, as we gazed with bright eyes wet and dim Upon her face, all the bright memory Of gladsome days, that were no more to be, But filled the cup of sorrow to the brim: Ah! by the love and goodness of thy life, Crown'd with fair deeds, our faith fixed on the cross, May we not greet thee on that other shore? Farewell! dear mother, over now the strife, Thine absence will be but a transient loss— Soon shall we be united evermore. A. H. CHANDLER. Rocklyn, Dec. 8.

JUST THINK OF IT.

WE ARE CLEARING A LINE OF Wool Dress Plaids, at 19 cts. FORMER PRICE 30 CENTS.

Just the thing for Children's wear. The patterns are new this season, and have only to be seen to be appreciated. The quantity is limited. So come early.

BARNES & MURRAY.

A Well-Known and Thoroughly First-Class Article is always Desirable Stock.

THE JEWEL RANGE, The New Model Range, And the PRIZE RANGE,

Are Goods of which this may truthfully be said. However, every one sold sell many more, for the user will advise their friends to buy no other. Thus to present profit is added future gain, and what is of more value, the reputation of furnishing Reliable Goods.

The exact reverse of this proposition is true of cheap and poorly constructed goods. They are dear at any price.

Call and examine our Stock.

SHERATON & SELFRIDGE, 38 King Street, (Opposite the ROYAL HOTEL.)

P. S.—JOBING PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

A CHOICE XMAS PRESENT FOR YOUR MINISTER.

Read what a Leading Merchant says:

I have now been using the "Caligraph" purchased from you for one year, during which time it has never been out of order, nor cost a cent in any way. I can write much faster than with a pen, with much less exertion, and giving better results. I am fully satisfied with the choice I made in buying a "Caligraph" after having examined all the leading machines in the market.

D. GRAHAM WHIDDEN, Antigonish. SEND FOR CATALOGUE. ARTHUR P. TIPPET & CO., Sole Agents.



GREAT REDUCTION IN THE PRICE OF

PIANOS, ORGANS, AND SEWING MACHINES,

FOR THE HOLIDAYS,

At W. H. BELL'S, 25 King St.

Instruments sold on Installments. Pianos and Organs to hire. Please call and examine before purchasing. W. H. BELL, 25 KING STREET.

TALK OF THE THEATRE.

By some accident, the tail end of my last week's letter failed to connect in the form with the part that duly appeared, and like the celebrated Mr. Bings in the song, it was cut off before its time, if not in the midst of its sins. However, it did not make much difference, since the missing link but told of the worst production of The Private Secretary I have ever had the misfortune to witness. The version used was vastly inferior to Mr. Gillette's, in addition to which it had been cut to such an extent that the part of Squire Marsland was omitted altogether. Mr. Wood, like many another good man, has a bad, and his bad is the belief that he can act the bluff, old, liver-diseased East Indian, and that people like to see him in the character. So they do—in cross-road country towns, but not in a city like this, where his inartistic and, I am sorry to have to add, really vulgar efforts only help to awaken pleasant memories of the magnificent performances of M. A. Kennedy in the same role.

I did not see Jekyll and Hyde, but I intimated in my last what a favorable impression his Hyde had heretofore made upon me, though he is not quite so happy in the dual role of the benevolent Jekyll. The mistake, however, is one of make-up and is not due to want of histrionic ability.

Roger La Honte is an exceedingly powerful drama; a little improbable if you may, but for all that full of action, intensely dramatic and possessing telling climaxes, the logical outcome of an extremely interesting story. In plot it is much the same as The Lyon's Mail, but in construction entirely unfamiliar. The stage setting was fairly good—it was at least appropriate—but the weak portion of the performance were the sticks that the stars have gathered about them and which, and without a knowledge of their lines are the indictments they have to answer.

As Henriette, the wife and mother, in the first act, and Suzanne, the daughter, in the fourth act, Miss St. John gave some highly emotional acting, which for force and finish would have done credit to Clara Morris.

Mr. Wood's interpretation of the despatch, Roger La Roque and William Farney, is deserving of great praise; he was certainly at his best, and should stick to this play, for, with a little study, the disgraced Roger promises to become in his hands a strongly sympathetic and all absorbing role.

THANKSGIVING.

Creation's Lord! To all Thy creatures good! Of gifts the Giver! From whose liberal hand Shower countless blessings on this wide-appeal! To garner plentiful stores, and daily food!— Whose potent arm doth keep from sword and flood A people, tried, and worthy proved, to stand Where others falter—at Thy just command!— To Thee low-bowed, that Thy nationhood!

Father of mercies! Guide our feet aright! Save us from faction, low-pursuit, offence! From every blot which stains our nation's page!— Bestow a fuller sense, that not our might, But Thou, and Thy all ruling Providence Hath gotten us this glorious heritage!

Maccan, N. S., Dec. 10. HENRY H. PITTMAN.

JUST RECEIVED.

NEW supply of ASPINWALL'S ENAMEL ready for use, for painting new or renovating old Furniture of every description, Tables, Stools, Wicker Chairs, Brackets, Bird Cages, and other articles too numerous to mention.

Who brings me occupation new, In precious tins of green and blue, And countless shades of varied hue? My ASPINALL.

When signs of age my chairs betray, And it wipes each stain away, And renders them as bright as day? My ASPINALL.

When to Bazaars my thoughts I turn, And for some novel trifles yearn, From whom fresh secrets may I learn? My ASPINALL.

For sale by J. & A. McMILLAN, Saint John, N. B.

MISS ANNIE A. SUTHERLAND

IS NOW PREPARED TO RECEIVE PUPILS FOR INSTRUCTION ON

VIOLIN AND PIANO.

For particulars inquire at No. 8 BRUSSELS STREET.

TO LET.

PLEASANTLY SITUATED and convenient Upper Flat, containing seven rooms, besides bathroom, lulls, woodhouse, etc., on the corner of Sewell and Coburg streets. Apply to MRS. G. WHITE, on the premises.