

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.

ADVERTISING RATES.

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. Advertisers will forward their own interests by sending their copy as much earlier than this as possible.

News and opinions on any subject are always welcome, but all communications should be signed. Manuscripts unsuited 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. 21.

CIRCULATION, 6,200.

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

FOR EVERYBODY.

A merry Christmas to the people of St. John. The C. P. R. is running, the carnival deficit will be paid, the harbor will be improved and the West India trade will flourish.

A merry Christmas to the people of the North End. They voted themselves into very good company last summer, and when Fort Howe is levelled and a retaining wall built all around Mount Pleasant, they will find they voted a good deal more wisely than they knew.

A merry Christmas to the people of West End. They can come to the city Christmas eve without running the risk of breaking their necks over defective sidewalks in unlighted streets. They have 60,000 reasons for feeling that they are better off than they were last year. Then they can cross the ferry three times as often as they could cross last Christmas for the same money, and some day it will cost them nothing at all. Besides, they have a pleasant task ahead of them in calculating just how much they ought to advance the price of real estate when Mr. LEARY begins to build his docks.

A merry Christmas to the Common Council. Those who are violating the law by sham contracts may thank their stars that we are an easy-going people. Some of them too, may make merry on the strength of the hundred dollars they will get this year. They are not likely to get it again.

A merry Christmas to the local politicians. They are like young bears—their troubles are all before them. Some of them will have a better appetite next Wednesday than they will the day after the election.

Finally, a merry Christmas to all classes and conditions of men and women, and more especially to those who read PROGRESS and endorse it as the paper of the people, and for the people, first and last and for all time.

TROUBLE WITH A BALLOT.

Several of the United States have been led to adopt the Canadian system of balloting, and so far as securing quiet voting and doing away with the evils of the old-time system, it has worked like a charm. Just as nearly everybody is praising it, however, some unfortunate candidates come to the front with a new and somewhat serious objection. This is that where there are from twenty-five to thirty-five offices to be filled, the average voter will mark only those of the leading offices, such as governor, etc., and pay no attention to the minor ones. It is too much like work for him to do so, and life is too short. In this way, naturally, the men who are low down on the list are very likely to be left out in the cold.

According to a Boston paper, there was a difference of from ten to fifteen thousand in the number of votes cast for the leading offices and the minor ones in the last election. It is predicted that in a state like New York, with thirty-six presidential electors to be marked, comparatively few would take the trouble to make an X after each name, and thus very serious trouble might result.

No one has yet suggested a way to make the ballot more workable. In Canada, such a contingency can never arise, because our political system is so radically different. Here the ballot does its duty, and does it well—when our side wins. In the United States, the same ballot seems to be just what is wanted, if the difficulty in question can be met. Here seems to be a chance for some inventor to improve on the original.

NOT A BAD YEAR

This has not been a bad year for St. John.

On the contrary it has been a very good year. The chronic grumbler and perpetual pessimist has been very much confounded by the failure of his spring predictions, and has almost decided not to prophesy any more. The trade of the city has improved, and what is better, is on such a foundation that nothing but another big fire can check its progress for the future. St. John has ceased to be a place which pins its faith to one or two industries. It has gone into

the general business becoming the maritime metropolis, and is amply prepared to hold its own against all comers.

Besides, it has become better known as a city of splendid possibilities, with ample resources, situated most admirably for the purpose of trade. Its mediums of communication with the rest of the continent have been wonderfully improved, and it is beginning to get that recognition which it sought in earlier days, but was never able to secure.

Very much of all that has been accomplished in this respect has been done in the past year. Never before was such an effort made to boom St. John, and advertise it to the world. The effort has cost some money, but the investment is a safe one. It will pay, and it will pay still better to keep up the effort persistently, calmly and sensibly. The first exertion of waking up is over, and it only remains to keep quietly at work.

If next year is anything like as good a year as the last one has been, people will almost forget that there was a fire. They have sensibly stopped grumbling and gone to work. No one doubts that they will keep at it. There are millions in it.

THE WORLD MOVES.

It would seem by the edifying narrative of the late WALTER BATES that the good Bishop of Nova Scotia, eighty years ago, had very pronounced ideas on the question of free seats in churches. It gave him, as he says, "no small concern" to learn that the pews in the church at Kingston were all held in common. Such an innovation, unheard of elsewhere at that time, probably struck the learned divine as something monstrous. With all his experience, in this country and in Europe, he had never heard of such a thing. Therefore he proceeded to show why the free pews were an insidious and dangerous enemy to religion and the church.

The grounds upon which he based his censures sound strange at the present day. The first and strongest of these was the danger of spiritual contamination. "Men—perhaps of the worst characters—might come and set themselves down by the most religious and respectable characters in the parish." Though the rich and the poor might meet together, for the Lord was the maker of them all, the ungodly should sit by the godly lest there be disorder and the true spirit of piety and devotion be checked.

The other reasons given for opposition to the "strange arrangement" were at that time of more apparent force, for in those days every man had to warm his own feet in his pew as best he could. It was doubtless the weight of the bishop's latter objections that caused the church to follow his wishes, rescind their free seat resolution, and sell the pews from that day even unto the present.

That was eighty years ago. The world has moved a good deal since then—in churches and out of them.

PEN AND PRESS.

The Portland Telegram came out with a mammoth edition last Sunday, filled with Christmas advertising and good reading matter. The Telegram is a lively paper and has won its success by hard work.

The Herald will take the place of the Capital in Fredericton, and judging by the appearance of the first number, will more than fill the bill. It is well printed, with a good arrangement of matter, and gives evidence that it is very carefully edited. Farmer McNutt will have to hustle to hold his own with his new rival.

The chief feature of the Dominion Illustrated for Dec. 18, is a good view of St. John and its harbor. It does more justice to the subject than some of the engravings which have appeared in other Upper Province papers, while the descriptive letter-press will give to people abroad some idea of the city and its resources. Another view is that of the North End, of which it is difficult to give a correct idea in one photograph. In this instance the artist has done very well.

The Moncton Daily Times has been enlarged. "Each of the 28 columns is lengthened about an inch and a half," is the announcement. That is the right way to go about it. The paper looks better than it would if only some of the columns had been lengthened and the rest left as they were. However, the Times is a live paper, from which the St. John dailies might learn a lesson now and then. PROGRESS hopes that it may continue to grow and prosper in the future as in the past.

It is a pity that so good a country paper as the Albert Maple Leaf should give its editors such a rocky road to travel. It was started as a conservative paper. Later it became grit in its views, and finally the editor and founder, disgusted with the tactics of both parties in that county, emigrated to the west. Then W. J. Jones took hold, and tried to run the paper as an independent organ. The last number contains his valedictory, in which, after candid remarks about both sides of politics, he remarks that "difficulties have arisen which will make a change necessary," and resigns the editorial chair. There is probably a pretty good story in his experience, if he would only tell it.

All Xmas Cards, Booklets, Bibles and Fancy Goods reduced to clear at McArthur's 80 King Street.



FRANK HATHEWAY  
 Sells all kinds and varieties of Tea.  
 THE BLACK CURRANT FLAVORED "EAGLE CHOP" TEA  
 seems to suit best.

SUNDRY HITS AND HINTS.

Don't forget your poor neighbor next Tuesday night.

A jury of "experts" would be tolerably certain to disagree.

No nobody knows whether there is to be a general election or not.

Fun will be in order next week, and good resolutions the week after.

This appears to be an unusually good season for the "religious" lottery.

Chief Kerr's Christmas box is an increase of salary and leave of absence.

Influenza is the fashionable epidemic this winter. It is the latest thing in Paris.

The harbor won't know itself after the council and Mr. Leary get through with it.

So the gentlemen of the jury stand a chance of eating their Christmas dinners at home.

Truro has 1,550 electric lights. If it had some hotels, just now, it would be quite a town.

This is the shortest day in the year, and some of the men who have to hustle to take up notes will find it so.

Several men who are capitalists, as far as "capital ideas" go, have yet to be heard from on the dry dock question.

The society correspondent is not supposed to give a list of the young men who will go "on a keg," after Christmas.

Strangers who are in a hurry to see prominent citizens of Moncton, now-a-days, will save time by going direct to the police court.

A Halifax clergyman has been discussing, "Who Were the Mound Builders?" The query in St. John is, "Who are the Dock Builders?"

It doesn't look much like a hard winter so far, but there is plenty of time for the blizzard to get in its work before the violets bloom again.

Mr. Leary did not state he visited Blarney castle in his travels, and paid his devotions to the famous stone. It is understood that he did so.

About this time the editor of the daily paper racks his brain and searches old files to write a touching editorial on the glad season of Christmas.

It is in order to present everybody with the compliments of the season. The complaints of the season will come later. When the water pipes burst, for instance.

The late Mr. Harvey made a great mistake in not removing from Toronto to Chicago before he committed the murder which brought such an unpleasant result to him.

One Timothy J. Murphy has written a book to prove that the Irish were the original discoverers of America. Whether they were or not, they have "got there, just the same."

There is a society called the Canadian Order of Chosen Friends in the upper provinces. Possibly it was organized by a Montreal post office thief out of the jury which acquitted him.

The Halifax police have received a letter from an escaped pickpocket who says that he will keep clear of Halifax when it has its next carnival. It does not require a man to be a pickpocket to say that.

Constant use of the telephone is said to cause a disease in the user, the symptoms of which are general nervousness and lack of self-control. What a lot of people whom we know must be telephone users.

Some fakir fooled the Halifax Echo, last Saturday, with a "special telegraphic service," announcing that three of the Cronin murderers were to be hanged. The jury did not return a verdict until Monday.

Charles E. Knapp is out as a candidate in Albert, with a card half a column in length. He has a platform with fourteen reforms in it, and threatens if elected to make his home in one of the villages of the county.

Is it not about time that people of St. John knew that the St. John's church is the "Stone" church, and St. Paul's the "Valley" church, without the newspapers stating the fact every time they mention either edifice?

The Kings county, N. S., Agricultural society is 100 years old. Not one of the cattle owned by its founders is living, but some of the turkeys and geese turn up at the boarding houses about this time of the year.

"Halifax is preparing to help the poor, this winter," says one of the papers of that city. Judging by the cases of starvation, death by exposure, etc., reported each week, it seems about time to be doing something without "preparing."

The New York Sun editorially refers to Ottawa as "a place which perhaps has no rival on the face of the globe as a source of highly sensational and wildly inaccurate misinformation." The editor seems to have been a careful reader of the despatches in his own paper.

"Every man who votes for the legalization of the grog shop is a sinner, and ought to be kicked out of the church," is the charitable, christian and gentlemanly sentiment of one "Col." Cheves, of Kentucky, who is employed to boom prohibition. Men like this might be very efficient aids on a czar's staff, but they don't hasten a solution of the liquor problem.

Ready for the Winter.

Mrs. L. B. Carroll, having returned from New York, will be pleased to meet her customers at her old stand, 149 Union street. Here she will open on Monday some of the latest novelties in winter millinery.—Advt.

"PROGRESS" AND ITS PATRONS.

Something About the Merchants Who Announce Their Goods in These Columns.

The holiday rage for books and toys will last as long as Santa Claus exists in the minds of the children. The dealers in such novelties recognize the fact and get the most attractive stock they can select to supply the demand. With two large stores at the corner of Charlotte and Union streets Watson & Co. secure a very large portion of the trade. For the last month their stores have been a great attraction for the young people, who never tire of looking at the scores of toy varieties and the splendid assortment of juvenile books. Many another Christmas present can be found there, but there is not space enough in these columns to enumerate what the reader can see in a few minutes inspection.

The American Rubber Store assures PROGRESS that rubber novelties are becoming quite fashionable at this time of year, when people are on the lookout for everything that will be useful or entertaining. The Messrs. Mullin are advertising vigorously, and are having a successful season.

Good groceries are indispensable about Christmas times, and housewives are ever on the lookout for the best. The excellence of Messrs. Bonnell & Cowan's goods cannot be questioned. They are always up to the standard. It matters not what the housekeeper wants, she will find that Bonnell & Cowan's goods and prices suit her.

The Result of a Hint.

A little more than a year ago, when rain and mud held sway in St. John, PROGRESS called for a genius who would save ladies' skirts from the sloppy thoroughfares. One gentleman, Mr. W. B. Rankine, laughed at the paragraph, and then began to think how such a need could be supplied. The result of his thinking is patents in Canada and the United States today for a Ladies' Adjustable Skirt Protector. The contrivance is simple, and yet, so far as PROGRESS can judge, should be most effective. The protector can be made of waterproof cloth and is fastened around the bottom of the skirt by stationary steel points, which press through the dress and retain their hold in a strong rubber cushion on the inside of the protector. This description is inadequate and would be better understood if the model was before the reader. Mr. Rankine will be remembered as the originator of so many successful characters in carnivals given in St. John. It will not be strange if his genius has taken a more profitable turn this time.

It Works Both Ways.

Christmas gifts take on many forms. One of the most recent is subscribing to a newspaper or periodical for some absent friend or relative. PROGRESS has had many instances of this fact this past week, when men and women, old and young, have visited the office and asked that the paper be sent to some address in the States or Western Canada. And it is also a curious fact that well-to-do absentees in the States have sent many dollars to this office, asking that the paper should be sent to their old homes and parents in the provinces. Such gifts as these are remembered all the year, for, does not the paper arrive every week? Make out your list of absent and near friends.

Useful and Ornamental.

Art is advancing in in the calendar and souvenir line, and notable instances of this are seen in the offerings received from E. M. Estey, Moncton, W. H. Thorne & Co., Manchester, Robertson & Allison, Hunter, Hamilton & McKay, and Weldon & McLean, agents of the Guardian Assurance Co. All of these are handsome additions to any office, and some of them would not be out of place in a parlor.

Albums, Bibles, Prayer Books, Booklets and Christmas Cards at lowest prices at McArthur's Bookstore, Main Street, North End.

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.

1889. CHRISTMAS. 1889.



CHILDREN'S TRAYS;  
 BRASS AND COPPER TEA KETTLES;  
 CAKE COOLERS; "KEystone" WHIPS;  
 GRANITE AND AGATE TEA POTS;  
 NIGHT LAMPS; NURSERY LAMPS;  
 CAKE PANS, CAKE BOXES;  
 SELF-WRINGING MOPS;  
 And all the LATEST NOVELTIES in our line.

Which we are offering at our usual Low Prices—the lowest in the market.

SHERATON & SELFRIDGE, - 38 KING STREET,  
 TELEPHONE, No. 358

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.

PROGRESS ENGRAVING BUREAU  
 PORTRAITS, BUILDINGS, ADVERTISEMENTS, AND CATALOGUE WORK.  
 DRAWN, DESIGNED & ENGRAVED.  
 SAMPLES & PRICES FURNISHED CHEERFULLY.

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.

CORSETS.  
 YATSI I CORSET  
 TRADE MARK  
 FITS EASY MARK

GUARANTEE. If, after wearing this CORSET TEN DAYS, the purchaser does not find it the MOST PERFECT FITTING, comfortable and satisfactory Corset ever worn it may be returned, and the price paid for it will be refunded.  
 We are selling CORSETS at 50c., 75c., 90c., \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50.  
 Our 50c. Corset is the Best Value in the City.

DOWLING BROS.  
 LEAVE YOUR ORDERS EARLY  
 FOR  
 Xmas Trees & Xmas Tree Holders,  
 AT  
 BEVERLY, SANTA CLAUS & CO'S.  
 OUR TREE HOLDERS are something long wanted.  
 SHOW ROOMS, UP STAIRS.  
 Grand Sale of Christmas Cards, Booklets and Fancy Goods at McArthur's Bookstore, 80 King Street.