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# PROGRESS.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 17, 1890.

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VOL. III., NO. 107.

NEWS FROM THE SHADES.

INTERESTING INTERVIEWS WITH THE INVISIBLES.

The Spiritualists of Fairville Have Got Things Down Pretty Fine. - Discourses with Departed Citizens. -- A Man Who

Came Back Very Drunk. "How would Progress like to have a column or so of society news from the Invisible. World every week ?"

A question of this kind, coming early in the week, would be apt to paralyze the editor of any ordinary paper, but as Progress makes a specialty of society news, and is always ready to be enterprising, further particulars were asked.

In reply, it got some interesting infor-

. In that Preezy and bustling suburb known as Fairville there are half a dozen or so apparently flourishing churches, which represent the leading denominations in the country. All tastes can be suited, from those of the extreme ritualist to those of the plain, every day Hard Shell Baptist. They are all included within the radius of a some what small circle, and are apparently more than sufficient to supply all the wants of the population.

Within the same limited circle, however, there are said to be about 120 people, mostly of the male sex, who are quite independent of any church. Some of them have belonged to various sects in their time, and by a process of evolution have become full-fledged agnostics. Others are not quite sure what they are, under ordinary conditions, but if in apprehension of death would probably send for a clergyman, as well as a doctor. Others again, are "investigating," with a view to settling down to something definite so soon as they find an "ism" which suits them.

Out of this curious aggregation of heterodox humanity has sprung a circle of spiritualists, the members of which have been having an interesting time during the last winter and spring. They have held regular seances, which, according to their story, have been attended with most surprising results. Frequently, in spirit circles, the messages from the invisible world are from such departed celebrities as Julius Cæsar, Shakspeare, George Washington or some Indian chief, with whom nobody in this mundane sphere has had a personal acquaintance, but in the Fairville circle there is a very different state of things. The spirits are either those of well known neighbors or of prominent citizens of St John, with whom the auditors have had some acquaintance in the flesh. The interviews are therefore of an exceedingly interesting kind.

The method of summoning the departed is the usual one of sitting in a circle and joining hands until some one who is a medium falls into a trance state and his or her body becomes possessed of the spirit. Some care is required in placing the sitters so that positive and negatives will alternate and a good magnetic current result. Disbelievers seriously retard the manifestations. There should be perfect harmony and abundant faith.

It was under these favorable conditions that a much esteemed city clergyman came back not long ago, the medium being a small boy who had never seen the departed. The clergyman's voice was at once recognized by one of the auditors who addressed him by name and was at once saluted with a cheery "how do you do."

"Brother ---- , do you remember the last sermon I preached on earth?" asked the clergyman. "Where did you preach it?" was asked.

"At -... You were there."

"Oh, yes, I remember it. What was the text?"

The text was quoted, and it was the

right one. When the conditions are good there are

said to be exciting competitions among the spirits as the which shall "get the floor," just as if they were all members of the common council. In the council, however, the mayor has something to say about it and can esteem Ald. Baskin more highly than Ald. Chesley, for instance, but in a circle the spirits have to fight it out among themselves. They can be heard in animated discussion as to the right of precedence, one saying "Let me in," and another answering, "No, I am going in." It can hardly be said that they elbow each gets there with-no not with both feet, for they haven't any.

Sometimes they come when they are not sent for. That is, some rather tough specimens return and use very bad language. One of them came back quite drunk, not long ago, and on being asked a civil question, told the searchers for light to go to a place in which the ordinary spiritualist does not believe. He was immediately ordered out of the circle and went. He was not, as has been reported, a Carleton man, but a sinful youth who had been well known in Fairville.

Some may infer from this that there is whiskey in the invisible world, but it is not | fore the Grand Lodge.

so. It is explained that when a man returns, he assumes the characteristics most common to him in his former life, which, being faithfully delineated by the medium, render a recognition possible, sometimes, before a word is spoken. A citizen with a limp may be thus detected, and so may one who has been in the habit of lunching

on gin and onions. There are, it is alleged, a number of spheres, the bad going to the lowest, from which they gradually progress. The longer a man has been away, therefore, the more agreeable is he as a visitor to the circle. One man, who is believed to have been active in Carleton politics, says that he has been regenerated no less than seven times, and it is inferred that there is need for a good deal more in the same line before he can have anything to boast of in the way of a higher sphere. If spiritualism becomes generally popular, some interesting reports may be expected as to the progress in regeneration of some of the present city aldermen after they are called hence, as well as of some of the local legislators.

In answer to the assertion that spiritualism is not of practical use, one Fairville man says that he had a message asking him to warn a young lady in the Western States against encouraging the attention of a certain young man, whose name and occupation were given. Neither he nor anybody in the place had ever heard of the young man before, but on writing to the West for particulars, he found that the spirit was thoroughly posted, and as a result, the young woman's friends are keeping an eye on that young man.

The spirits of some St. John citizens who have been interviewed give some very interesting particulars as to themselves in the past and present. These would be very readable, if published, and should there be a general desire on the part of the city readers of Progress, a society department devoted to the departed, might be made a great success, so long as the spirits

But in such event the editor will change his name and address, and provide himself with a gun as a precaution against the ovations of the mundane relatives of the departed who are interviewed.

### HE ABANDONED THE CHILD.

But was Struck with Horror at the Prospects of Catholics Rearing Her.

At the city police court, the other day, one Wilson was charged with abandoning his lame and partially blind child, by leaving her on a doorstep and running away. The magistrate was willing to allow the accused to go, provided he gave up all claim to the child, and allowed it to be put in some institution where it would have proper care. To this end, he asked Wilson what was his religious faith.

"I am a Baptist," he replied. Then, as if struck with a new idea, he hastily corrected himself by exclaiming, "No, no. 1

The magistrate remarked that he seemed to be in some doubt on the important point, whereupon the prisoner explained that he remembered being christened when he was a child, and as the Baptists didn't believe in that he must be a Methodist. The magistrate, concluding that he had not a strong bias toward any faith, remarked that the child might be sent to the Protestant orphan asylum, the almshouse or the Catholic asylum, but at this point the prisoner interrupted him by exclaiming ex-

"Oh, don't send her to the Catholic asylum, whatever you do. Don't let the Catholics get hold of her, I beg of you!"

It was quite evident that though the prisoner had some doubts about his own spiritual status, he had very decided views

on the "religious cry."

# The child was sent to the almshouse.

What is Your Ideal of a Minister? Two correspondents write to Progress this week on one subject which has evidently been the cause of a social argument. They both want information and both have ideas. Their question is a curious one What is your conception of an ideal Minister? A queer question certainly, yet a hard one to answer. Progress will not attempt it, but leaves it to its readers, anyone of whom can send in his or her ideas on the subject. Make them short and to the point, and they will not fail to be interesting. No doubt many other, but there is evidently some kind of think their own minister their idea of what hustling going on, and the most energetic a minister should be. It so they can give a pen portrait of him without mentioning names. PROGRESS goes to all parts of the province and there are ministers everywhere-no matter what his creed; if any reader of Progress thinks he comes up to the idea of what a minister should be, let him give him the benefit of his opinion. Such a series of letters should be most

# To Visit Moncton.

It is expected that Grand Master Walker will make an official visit to Keith Lodge. Moncton, on Wednesday, the 28th, and it is possible that he will be accompanied by the mayor had ruled that only one speech the staff which exemplified the degrees be- trom each member could be allowed.

WHY THEY VOTED FOR IT

INS AND OUTS OF THE DEBATE ON THE LEARY DOCK.

The Central Figure in the Whole Affair was Alderman McCarthy with His Idea.

a Worse Thing Might Happen. and hard thinking in regard to the action | their minds to vote for it. of the council in regard to the Leary dock scheme, it remained for one man to settle

ever expected. That man was Ald. McCarthy, and he was probably as much surprised as anybody

pened in this way: council would be a tie in a square vote on Idea by a vote of 15 to 10. the Leary dock scheme. This statement was the result of careful enquiry, and time aldermen stood divided as follows:

nor, McGoldrick, Nase, Lingley, Baskin, Smith, Kelly, Stackhouse, Morrison, Mc-Kelvey, Busby-13.

Against - Barnes, Blackadar, Allen,

as Leary men by the public at election be on hand when wanted. time. It had been asserted that Ald. Likely had been aided by Ald. Kelly who counted on him as an ally. In the case of Ald. Lockhart, it had been assumed that and on this theory the issue had never been raised in the Brooks ward contest. In this 11 for the dock became reduced to a tie, in which case the mayor, a Leary man, would have the casting vote.

It was understood that much as His Worship wanted the dock, he was unwilling to shoulder this responsibility, if he could help it, especially if etiquette dictates that a casting vote shall be in favor of the existing state of things.

There was therefore a feeling of relief among the dock men when it was discovered that though Ald. Barnes had crawled out of a sick bed to be present, Ald. Robertson, a strong opponent of the scheme, was unable to attend. This made it look as though the report recommending a subsidy of \$10,000 a year for 20 years would be carried by a vote of 13 to 12. So it would have been, had not Ald. McCarthy been a man with a fixed Idea.

That Idea was that, instead of \$10,000 a year, Mr. Leary should receive one per cent. a year on the certified expenditure. He had advanced the Idea in the first instance, and had stuck to it like a limpet to a rock. All attempts to argue him out of it were in vain. He was a friend of the dock, but he wanted the other friends of the dock to understand that they could not pull him. He insisted on his Idea.

When the council met, on Monday, Ald. McCarthy was there with his one per cent. scheme. If there had been any possibility of winning over either Ald. Likely or Lockhart, the dock men would have permitted Ald. McCarthy and the Idea to sink into a state of innocuous desuetude, but there was no such possibility. Ald. Likely had made up his mind, and so had Ald. Lockhart. Besides, the latter had his employer, ex-Ald. Smith, present as a chaperone, and was bound to vote for the opposition.

Under these conditions Ald. McCarthy became an exceedingly important person, and his Idea loomed as a factor of collossal magnitude. For aught anyone knew he might not vote for the dock at all unless he voted for it in accordance with his own views. Should this happen and Ald. Robertson turn up to be counted, the

scheme would be defeated. Ald Robertson did not turn up, and when Ald. Baskin moved the adoption of the report the mayor did not lose a moment in asking if the council was ready for the question. Had it been put then the report would have been adopted, but twelve of the council were not ready, and Ald. Chesley rose with his amendment that the report be not adopted, but that the city build an elevator, etc., at a cost of \$250,000. This, it was thought, would

satisfy the Carleton men. Ald. Robertson had not appeared, but in order to give him every chance, Ald. Chesley spoke and read from documents for 50 minutes.

Then Ald. Connor "objected to the amendment as it did not bear upon the subject matter of former resolutions," as he had objected, the week before to a motion to adjourn. The mayor did not agree with him.

Several other anti-dock orators followed, but the dock men kept very quiet indeed. It was their policy to allow the opposition to fire all its guns, and then give it a broadside, to which there could be no reply, as

Ald. McCarthy and his Idea then came party of about 100 will be made up.

to the front in the shape of the amendment TO BE CHIEF OF POLICE. for one per cent. to Mr. Leary. By his motion he became the keystone on which the stability of the whole fabric depended. It it was not supported, he might refuse to support the original motion. Ald. Kelly -His Proposition was Accepted for Fear seconded him, and though some of the dock men had previously had no belief that After all the hard talking, hard swearing the Idea would carry they all made up

They were not alone. Ald. Lockhart also agreed to vote for it, "because he did it, and that too in a way which nobody had not want the dock," and Ald. Christie thought he saw in it the death of the whole scheme. The opposition, who had no hope certain is that the event is to happen. of anything but defeat on a square vote, at the final adoption of his Idea. It hap- inwardly rejoiced at what looked like an easy way out of the trouble. They were On the Saturday following the aldermanic not at all unhappy when Lockhart and election, Progress claimed that the new Christie stood up and helped to carry the

The fight did not end here. It was the idea of Ald. Connor that the mayor with proved the estimate to be a correct one. Alds. Kelly, Baskin, Stackhouse, Peters, When the meeting in which the question and Likely, being four to two in favor was to be fairly considered was called, the of the dock should be a committee to confer with Mr. Leary. This slate was broken For the Dock-McCarthy, Lewis, Con- by Ald Chesley, on whose motion Alds. Allen and Forrest were added, making four on each side of the question.

Whether Mr. Leary will accept the terms or not may be known before Progress Robertson, Blizard, Tufts, Likely, Christie, reaches its readers, or it may not. He has Chesley, Lock' art, Shaw, Peters, Forrest 30 days to decide. The opponents of the scheme say it is as dead as a doornail. Two of those against had been counted The friends of it say that Mr. Leary will

If he accepts, the city will pay one per cent on the expenditure, and assess at least one and a quarter per cent on the valuation. If there is legislation to free it from every West side alderman was a dock man, taxation Mr. Leary is likely to make more money than he will as things now stand.

In the meantime Ald. McCarthy is a and the value of one Idea.

BROOMS AND DUSTERS NEEDED. Organic Matter Out of Place Said to

A correspondent, whose letter is crowded out, writes that he has visited more than a score of the St. John schools and twelve of the churches, with a view to seeing how clean or dirty they are. He appears to think there are great opportunities for industrious janitors and sextons with brooms and dusters. Denominationally speaking, he does not find the Baptist churches any too clean, while the Roman Catholics, Presbyterians and Methodists are not much better. The Episcopal churches have some of the best oversight, as in the case of St. Paul's, St. Jude's and the Mission, but, he asks, where is the bump of cleanliness in the powers that be in the Stone church, where dust and moth do corrupt? Perhaps it is to avoid the dust that a good many of the congregation sit down and lean over when they pray, instead of kneeling. So general has this practice become, that the rector has recently requested the choir to kneel at prayer, as an example to

WAR OVER THE SAILORS' BOARD. The Boarding House Keepers Object to

The boarding house keepers who have practically owned the sailors from the hour they struck port until they shipped again, have realized that Miss Hutchison's Home the "Rest," as it is called, are such that might make an old sailor smile, but the of the captains, combined with the fact that there is no rum within its four brick walls-save what the sailors smuggle inand the reasonable price asked for board, have already given it a strong hold on the patronage of the sailor.

The boarding house men object to this combination, and have organized an oppotheir board half a dollar a week cheaper this, they threaten to boycott those who drill to be a credit to any city. patronize the Home by not permitting

"Voluntary" Was Not the Word.

Something of a ripple of excitement entered the General Public hospital last Saturday with PROGRESS. Perhaps the cause of it was a slight indignation on the part of the nurses that Progress should have stated that the action of one of their number in nursing a case of infectious fever was voluntary. They do not know the word, as they are all under orders, and acting under them, have nursed both typhoid and scarlet fevers.

May Come to St. John.

William Parkman Commandery, Knights Templars, of East Boston, Mass., has voted to make a pilgrimage somewhere Down East, and a committee has been appointed to arrange the details. It is expected that the excursion will be made in August, and it is possible that St. John will be the objective point. The members will be accompanied by their ladies, and a

WILLIAM WALKER CLARK WILL HAVE THE OFFICE.

Something About the St. John Force in the Past and Its Possibilities in the Future-Chief Marshall and His Men-Mr. Clark's

Two of the city papers have had an interesting discussion this week in regard to the exact day when Mr. John R. Marshall would cease to be chief of police, and Mr. William Walker Clark would take his place. In the meantime the only thing

John R. Marshall was appointed in 1863, and is now of an age when a good many people think he should be retired. A large number of other citizens think that he is just as capable of performing the duties of his office as he ever was.



WILLIAM WALKER CLARK.

way what had originally looked like 15 to living instance of the power of latent forces Be that as it may, the fiat has gone forth, and if the appointment of Mr. Clarke is not already signed, as is asserted, it will be within a very brief period. The year of

the present chief ends tomorrow. Progress has at times criticized the Chief Marshall in very plain terms, but when all is said, there is a great deal about him for which he will be kindly remembered. He has been an honest man, and conscientious in the discharge of his duties. While he has had bitter enemies in his long career, none of them have ever established against him aught that reflected on the honest administration of his office. His position has been one that rendered him peculiarly open to criticism, and while his judgment may not always have been the wisest, he has acted according to the best

Mr. Marshall found a great deal to improve in the police force when he took charge of it, and Mr. Clark has an equally great opportunity before him. St. John is an unusually peaceful place for a seaport of its size, and Chief Marshall has jogged along with much the same ideas as when he started. In the meantime the world has moved. The old theory in the selection of men was to get a big, hulking tellow who knew as little of the city as possible, on the principle that he would show no favors. As a rule, he was ignorant, and as two or three notable cases showed, absolutely vicious. After one of this class had been discovered setting incendiary fires and another nearly muris likely to prove considerable opposition | dered an inoffensive citizen, there was a to them. The rules and regulations of change for the better, but there is room for a good deal of improvemet yet.

No effort has ever been made to give energetic management, and the good will the city a force in which it could feel any pride. The very cut of the uniform is slouchy, and the wearers of it seem to realize the fact as they shuffle lazily along, swinging their arms in bucolic fashion, and without any attempt at style. Some will wear the coats open and some will have them buttoned; some favor the uniform cap and some the billycock hat, while as sition. They say that the sailors can get to color and cut of trousers every man is a law unto himself. There are exceptions, than he can at "The Rest." Further than and some of the force only need a little

Mr. Clark has been getting pointers their boarders to ship on the same vessels from the heads of departments in Boston and other places, and will doubtless get hold of enough ideas to make some radical changes for the better.

In the police system of Boston it is an accepted principle that the dog shall wag the tail and not the tail the dog. If Mr. Clark understands his duties he will run the department after his own fashion without the need of a duet or trio of counsellors among the men. If he is wise he will treat every man on his merits and avoid favoritism, the bane of any body where discipline is essential.

Mr. Clark has a big contract ahead of him to make the force what it ought to deep interest.

The Chief's Opportunity.

Street corner loafing is getting to be greater nuisance every day. Saturday and Sunday evenings, the crowds that loiter on the edge of the sidewalks on Charlotte and King streets must impress visitors very forcibly. Mr. Clarke has an excellent opportunity to distinguish himself when he becomes chief of police.

IT HAS KICKED THE BUCKET.

The New York House of Doran, Wright & Co., Succumbs.

Doran, Wright & Co. have gone to smash, and this time there is not the slightest doubt about it. They say so themselves in a circular addressed to all customers, received here yesterday.

"It is with the deepest regret that the heart can feel," they say, that they make the announcement. When they called a halt, on the 26th of April, it was with the idea that they could pay 100 cents on the dollar, and they gave their notes with the idea that by some financial alchemy a flood of prosperity would pour upon them. It failed to materialize. They claim that they endeavored to meet the crisis and heavy sacrifices, and that finally they put all their personal assets into the hole, only to see them disappear with the rest. "We have put on our last dollar," they remark, "and the ship has gone down with the flag flying at the masthead."

The gentleman who inspired this circular is evidently "a dabster" at letter writing, and puts the situation so touchingly that customers are almost inclined to forget their own losses in their sympathy for the defunct concern by which they have been swallowed up. In St. John, as far as can be learned, there has not been a very heavy loss. Some have been bitten, of course, but it is claimed that since the agency was established the great and general public have taken out of it three times as much as they have put in,

This is not an argument in favor of bucket-shops as a source of wealth to a community, but a result of the market being in a condition to favor the customer. If business had continued, the firm would have had its innings in due time.

Doran, Wright & Co. was a big concern with 80 agencies throughout the country It claimed to do a square business, and since the agency has been running in St. John there has been an absence of that kicking and squealing which made another concern here so conspicious in its palmiest days. People were not charged interest on old contracts which they had supposed closed, and there were no angry altercations about dividends, ending with the square accusation of cheating. Business was done promptly, and as satisfactorily as any business can be when in the long run the customer is bound to lose.

The agent, Mr. Thorne, has as much reason to regret the failure as anybody. He is out of pocket about \$200 for fitting up the office, etc., and \$200 more for commission. He is naturally sorry that the concern failed. It was doing a very good business here, and at the rate it was absorbing the customers of Ledden Brothers would soon have had a monopoly of the business in St. John

The latter concern now has matters to itself, unless some other firm sees an opportunity to gather in the shekels which Doran, Wright & Co. have been forced to leave ungathered for want of time. The gullible public is always ready to bite, when the bait is anywhere near big enough to partially conceal the hook.

And the man at the other end of the line is always able to land his fish as fast as he can pull them in, until by-and-bye a bull or a bear strolls along and carries him off

That is the way it happened with Doran, Wright & Co. Bad judgment at a critical time, and possibly mental distraction, caused by the bad puns which Joe Knowles rung in on their names in the Gripsack, led to their being carried away, bob, line and

But the fish are all ready to bite at the next bait. There are millions of them, and St. John has its share of them, as hungry as the rest.

What Ails the Gas?

There appears to be a good deal of grumbling over the size of the gas bills for last quarter, as compared with those of the quarter ending February 1, which contained the largest earnings of the year. Some people allege that their accounts which ought to be a good deal smaller now, are actually larger, though the gas in their places was lighted an hour or so later each evening than during the winter. The meters are all right, probably, but it seems certain that the gas registers for all it is worth. Perhaps it failed to do so last

One Serious Objection

Not many days since a prominent King street merchant was invited to inspect the Union Club House. He accepted the invibe. The public will watch his efforts with tation, went all through the house and expressed himself as more than delighted at the beauty and elegance of the building. As he was going out of the front door he noticed the hall porter's desk, and turning to his friend said:

"I have only one objection to your house, and that is the bar is too near the front door."

Long, Selected Chair Cane is Used in all Chair Seating by Dural, 242 Union street.