

PROGRESS.

W. K. REYNOLDS, Editor.

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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 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, MARCH 15

CIRCULATION, 6,800.

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

TWO QUESTIONS.

"Do you think the aldermen in your ward would be returned to the council if the election were by the citizens at large, as advocated by PROGRESS, instead of by the voters of the ward, as at present?"

This is a fair way of putting a very important question. The men who are now in the council have been before the public long enough for the people to have a general idea of their merits or demerits. How many of them would be elected if it were left to the voters outside of petty ward influences? Some of them would be. Any group of citizens could agree upon the names of those few, and would just as certainly agree that most of the others would stay at home.

The next question for every honest voter would be: "Are the men who would stay at home in such a contingency the men who represent the ward? If so, why don't you choose better ones?" This is a still more important question, for it is one to which there can be a practical answer in the nomination of new and competent men. And if they are to be nominated, they should be nominated now.

The aldermen are not, or ought not to be, elected simply to work for their ward, or some hole and corner of it. They are supposed to represent the citizens, and by their prudence or folly, honesty or dishonesty, is regulated the expenditure of the people's money. It is important to send only the best men from each ward, rather than to submit to a choice of evils in allowing a survival of the unfittest among men of whose ability or integrity there may be a doubt.

One of the reforms most obviously needed in the council is the abolition of the sectional cliques which have given so much trouble since the union. They may be good men in those cliques, who adhere to them because of necessity, but this is no reason why the cliques should exist. They are prejudicial to the best interests of the citizens, wrong in theory and expensive and demoralizing in practice. They should be swept away.

They never can be wholly abolished so long as we have the existing system of ward elections, but the evils of them can be greatly lessened if the electors of each ward will do their duty and choose the best available men. There is plenty of good material if the people will take the trouble to pick it out. If they will not help themselves, nobody can help them.

The time for action is short. Let the electors of some of the wards remember that, if anything is to be done, a beginning should be made now. Every day lessens the chance for successful work.

EDITOR AND CITIZEN.

It is a pity that the average St. John editor cannot rise above the level of the demagogue in discussing civic matters. It is a pity that the rubbish of party politics should be allowed to hide the simple questions of what things are best in the interests of the people.

The average editor appears to be of opinion that the average citizen is incapable of reasoning for himself in the matters that most concern him, and so attempts to guide him. In doing so, the average editor further believes that the most trivial and transparent arguments will lead the average citizen to think this way or that, as the interests of a clique or party may require.

The truth of the matter is that the average citizen knows a good deal more than the average editor gives him credit for knowing. He reads the daily papers for facts and is able to form his opinions for himself. An editor's opinion is no better than his own in any case, and when the editor is simply the mouthpiece of a party or clique the views of the citizen are very much more likely to be sound. In these days of the advice of a mere party paper, of either side, is usually not worth the labor employed in putting it in print. It pleases the adherents of that side, but converts no one from the other side. Facts alone, fairly put, are the strongest arguments with the people.

When an editor appeals to the people to

champion this or that scheme so that money will be spent in the city, whether the scheme is a good one or not, he is a demagogue, pure and simple. He does not give the people credit for understanding that there is a right and a wrong way of doing things, and that they do not want the wrong way when they can have the right by taking the proper course. The citizen knows, if the editor does not, that where the city needs improvements they are sure to come, and that to secure them it is not necessary to sacrifice public interests for the benefit of this or that jobber, ring or clique.

The average citizen is not half as big a fool as the average editor takes him to be.

MAYOR LOCKHART'S MISTAKE.

Whatever may be the views of people regarding the Leary dock, there can be but one opinion as to the action of Mayor LOCKHART in appointing a committee with but one member opposed to the scheme. In a committee of five, the opposition should have had at least two representatives. This eagerness of the mayor to further the Leary scheme by an abuse of his position has done much to hurt him in the eyes of those who have been inclined to let him have a second term of office. The paper which termed the committee a "packed" one was perfectly correct. It could be called by no other name. The question of who were Tories and who were Grigs on it has nothing to do with the case.

Another mistake of this kind, if made before nomination day, may relegate Mayor LOCKHART to private life for the next twelve months. He is none too safe as it is. The chief magistrate of a city should be, above all things, a fair man, whatever his opinions may be.

A DIFFERENT MATTER.

It has been pointed out to PROGRESS, on the authority of The Boys' Brigade Gazette, of Glasgow, that the statements of the Christian World, quoted last week, are based on a misapprehension of the facts. It is alleged that the "battalion" from which eighty per cent. of the boys had passed into the army, militia or volunteers, had no connection with the Boy's Brigade, but was a body which was not a religious organization. It is further stated of the company of the Boy's Brigade which has been longest in existence that, in the course of seven years, not one boy has enlisted in the army while over fifty have passed into the Young Men's Christian Association. PROGRESS cheerfully makes the correction, so that no erroneous idea will prevail as to the nature of the Brigade, which has now an active existence in St. John.

IDLENESS AND POVERTY.

Louis Kossuth emerges from his retirement to say that "much of the poverty in Europe is due to the expense of maintaining standing armies." This is often said, and to a certain extent it is true, but it is very misleading. A standing army is a chain upon the people only to the extent of maintaining so many men in idleness. All the other expenses of the army go for the products of the artisans and husbandmen, and so promote prosperity to that extent.—Toronto World.

Wrong again. A standing army means not only the maintaining of so many men in idleness, but an absolute loss by reason of the unemployed productive power which should be adding to the wealth of the country. Non-producers of all kinds, lawyers as well as soldiers, help to keep the rest of mankind toiling to make up the deficiency. If there were no soldiers, lawyers, brokers, liquor dealers, speculators and professional politicians, the industrial classes would be twice as well off with half the hours of labor to which their necessity makes them slaves now.

THE question of the abolition of grade crossings has been agitating the people of Massachusetts for many years and is to the front again. The proposition now is to abolish them gradually, the railroads paying the greater proportion of the cost, the cities and towns in which the crossings are being charged with the rest of the expense. The proposition has not yet become law, but it probably will. The level crossing is out of place in any settled locality and should be abolished. There should be such a law in Canada, to apply at least to all new railways, if not to those already in existence.

ALD. PETERS deserves the thanks of the citizens for calling the attention of the council to its inadequate accommodations, and taking a step in the direction of having the chamber enlarged. During the discussions on the dock question the chamber was uncomfortably crowded, and yet there were a small proportion of citizens present compared with those who would have been glad to attend had it not been for the discomfort they knew awaited them. The chamber should be enlarged without delay.

It is said that in framing the Union Act, the question of having aldermen elected by a vote of the citizens at large was considered. The proposed reform was rejected, for fear it would endanger the act when it came before the people. Such a reform will have to come some day, and the sooner the better. Simultaneously with it, there should be a reduction of the electoral districts. Twenty-six representatives are at least eight too many for the good of the city.

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THE LATE WM. KILPATRICK.

An Excellent Portrait of a Well Known and Respected Gentleman.

PROGRESS prints below an excellent portrait of the late William Kilpatrick, who was so long identified with the old Portland schools as secretary of the board. His life



was a useful one, and its history is in a great part that of the community in which he lived. No gentleman in the North End was better known, and none possessed in a greater degree the respect and regard of the people.

SUNDRY HITS AND HINTS.

There is no doubt now which side Mr. Hanington is on. The D. orothy people are very quiet this week; the lull after the storm.

Somebody once wrote a book entitled, Friends in Council. Perhaps his name was Leary.

There is a difference between the common council virtually adopting a scheme and adopting one virtually.

According to present indications, a good many electors won't take the trouble to vote for a mayor this year.

There are other bodies than ships on the stocks that will go with a rush when the "ways are greased."

Don't misjudge a profession by some of its members. All lawyers are not bad, even as all ministers are not good.

After the first of April lots of people will begin to tell what they intend to do to get good aldermen for their ward the next time.

Assertions as to the safety of the government or the strength of the opposition are not worth a cent until there is a square test vote.

With Captain Hanington, Lieutenant Stockton, and full privates Stevens and Alward, the opposition is just aching for a fight with the government.

So Rev. A. MacDougall has started a "little church-round the corner" of his own. An "independent" Presbyterian church is something new in this locality.

So there was some irregularity in the proceedings for a new Scout Act election in Portland. Has there been anything but irregularity since the day the act was accepted there?

If the legislators would simply do the business of the country, as in the fiction of politics they are supposed to do it, there would be an exceedingly short session at Fredericton.

Wouldn't it be well for Rev. A. J. McFarland to confine his sermons to matters he knows something about, instead of advertising himself and what he does not know at the same time?

Lent appears to be a propitious season for poets. Several yards of verses have been received at this office during the last week, and are awaiting perusal when the editor has more leisure.

The fact that a man who invests a dollar in the Louisiana lottery has one chance in 99,999 of winning \$15,000 doesn't deter people from trying their luck, because every one thinks that he is the hundredth thousandth man.

Moody, the revivalist, doesn't believe in monuments for dead men or titles for preachers of the Gospel. Wonder what he thinks of a congregation building beyond its means and mortgaging the House of the Lord?

The most insane idea yet advocated, by a man of prominence is that of David Dudley Field, that the state should make voting by the people compulsory. Such an attempt would well justify a bigger revolution than that of 1776.

An injustice was done Chief Kerr in stating that George Moffatt's hand-organ was in advance of his buttonhole bouquet as a harbinger of spring. The chief sported a nosegay several days before Mr. Moffatt began to fascinate the public with an organ recital.

The bucket-shop men of Chicago have been defiant over the efforts of the police to close them up. They claim that they have as much right to deal in stocks as the regular exchanges have—and there is a good deal in their contention. Gambling is gambling wherever you find it.

IN MUSICAL CIRCLES.

Really, there was so much talk about the Dorothy trouble, last week, that it has left me very little else to write about. It seems too bad that it should have happened so to poor Dorothy, but I am glad it has been settled satisfactorily, and that Mr. Strand has been paid for the time he gave to it. The people interested really have had a great deal to contend with, and no doubt the publicity that their affairs had was very unpleasant, still it helped to advertise the opera. The libretto was expected by the English mail this week, but I did not hear whether it had arrived or not.

The company held two rehearsals this week, meeting for solo practice at Miss Halliday's on Tuesday evening, and at its room in the Mechanics' Institute on Thursday evening. All the ladies express themselves "delighted with the dainty costumes," which have been designed expressly for Dorothy by Miss Katie Burpee.

Let me congratulate the Oratorio society on the efficient board it has elected for this year. With Gen. Warner as president; Rev. R. Mathers, vice president; Mr. Thomas Morley, conductor; Mr. George B. Hegon, treasurer; Mr. Alfred Porter, librarian; Mr. H. B. Schofield, secretary; and Rev. J. M. Davenport, Mr. George C. Coster and Mr. A. M. Smith all working together the society ought to do some very good work in the near future. Mr. F. S. Thompson, formerly secretary, and Mr. James S. Harding have retired from the board of management. Notice was given of an amendment to the rules, imposing an entrance fee of \$2 in the case of active members. I did not understand whether said fee was to be paid yearly, or only on entering the society, but I think it a good rule either way; for when one thinks of the amount of instruction in good music one receives without even having to buy a copy of the oratorio that is being learned, two dollars seems a very small amount. I think if all the active members took into consideration the trouble that is taken by Mr. Morley and the board of management, they would not require so much pressing to attend practices and think they were conferring a favor by attending occasionally.

Last Friday evening there was a practice held at Mr. R. P. Strand's for the concert in connection with the Church of England Institute, which is to come off some time in the dim and distant future. Mendelssohn's "Hear My Prayer," and the duet "I waited for the Lord," from the "Lobengesang," are to be sung, I believe.

There is some talk of a concert at Brookville some evening next week. Among those who are going, I think, are Mrs. Perley, Miss Quinton, Miss Halliday, Miss Goddard, Messrs. A. H. Lindsay, A. M. Smith, and others.

Mr. Hugh Swanton has written a setting for the hymn "Sweet Savior bless us ere we go." I notice it came out in the New York Churchman last week. The following is from the Queen:

Mendelssohn's Elijah transcribed and adapted by Adria De Lorne, Hanover edition (Duff & Stewart). The expiration in June last of the copyright in Mendelssohn's oratorio, Elijah, has set all the birds—and some of the big ones, too—a-pecking at its tidbits, and we have an example before us in this fairly good arrangement for pianoforte solo of some of the more familiar numbers. Arrangements for one or two flutes and one or two cornets will doubtless soon follow, and we should not be surprised to hear of a set of lancers founded on the airs in Elijah.

Both the Old Musical Club and Choral club have their meetings next Tuesday evening. The former at the residence of Miss Marion Jack, and the latter at Miss Lizzie Smith's.

Some one, I don't know who, told me that on Good Friday Mr. Ford was to have an anthem of his own composition, and appropriate to the day, sung in the Stone church. I hear also that Miss Halliday and Miss Elsie Mathew are going from the choir of Trinity to that of Stone church, but presume it will not be until the surprised choir is singing in Trinity.

I was sorry not to have attended the concert in connection with the Centenary lecture course, which I hear was very enjoyable.

I have been told of some valuable new voices in Dorothy, which is encouraging.

Musically speaking, I cannot say much for Who's Who. It could not be called either instructive or elevating. Still, I took it in last Wednesday evening and laughed as heartily as anyone present over some of the comic songs. Mr. Pepper's ballads were enjoyable; especially was I taken with "Sally in our Alley," and a rather pretty trio was sung from Ruddygore. Many people were disappointed at not hearing the selections from the Condottiers, but as Gilbert had an injunction served on him it could not be helped. Miss Patti Stone's best effort, in my opinion, was the song "A Summer Morning," by H. Pepper, but there is an incessant tremolo in her voice which is tiresome, to say the least. The other members of the company seemed to please everyone, judging from the applause that was bestowed on them, and the comic songs were given most enthusiastic encores. "Two lovely black eyes" and "Only Tonight" are old favorites in St. John.

Mr. Ford's Position.

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS: From your article in reference to Dorothy in your last issue, the impression has been conveyed to many that Mr. Ford endeavored, in an unprofessional manner, to supersede Mr. Strand as conductor of that opera. Permit me to state that Mr. Ford absolutely refused to have anything to do with the opera until assured by the Dorothy committee that Mr. Strand had resigned. I might further add, that the committee, in asking Mr. Ford to take charge, were under the clearest impression that Mr. Strand had actually resigned, and that Mr. strand's emphatic statements to the contrary were a complete surprise to them.

F. H. J. RUEL,

For The Dorothy committee.

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Novelties in Eric-a-Brack.

Mr. W. H. Pope, late of Kentucky, has \$60,000 of the funds of one of the banks of that city. If he comes to St. John, it may be dangerous for him to emulate Walton in cultivating the acquaintance of the detectives. They may recognize him, if they look sharp. It is related that he "wears spectacles, left eye smaller than right, walks with quick, long step, slumy built, weighs 155 pounds, slim, long foot, has a habit of spreading his feet wide apart when standing still, legs bow backward at knees, making calf very prominent, peculiar face, small head, upper front teeth wide apart and project some, white scars on right side of neck back of ear, wears dark clothes and black Derby hat, fond of whiskey and women."

Mr. Pope appears to be a dandy, as far as looks and habits go. He had better not stay in St. John too long, if he comes this way.

An Unprecedented Success.

The demand for PROGRESS has increased so steadily this spring that it has been exceedingly difficult to supply the demand. The number of copies printed has been increased each week, but in every instance the demand has been greater than the supply. Hundreds can vouch for this who have asked for copies at this office and at the newsdealers. An increase of 600 copies in the regular circulation in three weeks is something to be proud of, and PROGRESS is proud of it. In a short time, at the present rate, the circulation figure will pass the 7,000 mark.

Somewhat deceiving is a paper weight simulating three pens lying on a block of polished walnut. A pretty and odd paper holder for the desk is two pairs of open shears held a short distance apart by a rod of steel. Imposing and attractive is an umbrella receptacle representing an old brass cannon held upright by three massive shot. Golden flowers and variegated moths standing in relief from the body of a hammered light bronze lamp produce a beautiful effect. Concealed under the shade of a miniature bronze student's lamp is a table bell, while the small part of the globe which appears above the shade can be used as a receptacle for a candle. An odd conception for a table bell is one which represents a silver wire mouse trap, the interior of which contains the bell. A gilt cat, which surmounts the ornament, acts as the lever by which the bell is struck. A muscular figure of splendidly developed proportions, represented as endeavoring to break a bundle of sticks across his knee, is a bronze statuette perfect in every detail. The figure illustrates one of Esop's fables. Several small hand painted plaques inserted around the bowl of a dark, heavy bronze lamp is the most recent novelty of this class of bric-a-brac. Encircling each plaque are draperies admirably represented in bronze. An imposing group in Carrara marble that is at present attracting much attention in art circles represents two cupids in picturesque juxtaposition in a bird's nest of twigs and leaves. The faces are of extreme beauty and clearness. An exceptionally artistic piece of workmanship in bronze is a toothpick holder, which even to the experienced appears to be an earthenware crucible. The exterior of the ornament is bronzed and blackened to represent its contact with the furnace.