If You Have Houses To Let Advertise in PROGRESS. This paper goes to the Family and is read from the first to the last column

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PROGRESS.

WEEKS AHEAD OF TIME.

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THE OPERA "DOROTHY" BEFORE THE PUBLIC IN LENT.

It Was Not Due Until Easter, But It Has Got There Just the Same and Has Created a Genuine Sensation - What "Progress" Has Been Able to Learn About It.

There is trial, tribulation and a confusion of tongues among the members of the "brave little band" who have been rehearsing the opera of Dorothy for production immediately after Easter. There appears to have been trouble from the outset, about one thing or another, and as fast as one difficulty was surmounted another rose to take its place.

The project was started by a few enterprising young ladies with sweet voices and a high dramatic talent which eminently fitted them for the undertaking. They were full of faith, and that faith has enabled them to surmount many obstacles which black indeed. might have discouraged young ladies of less courage and zeal. It should be explained, however, that while the credit of the management appears to be due to the ladies, the legal and responsible managers have been two gentlemen, who do not appear to have had much to say about the matter.

The most formidable obstacle encountered up to last week was the question of the right to produce the opera. This question seems to have been overlooked at the outset. It was only after the work was well advanced and a certain amount of money had been spent that it was found that somebody outside of the company had something to say about Dorothy.

That somebody was a certain Mr. Duff, who resides in New York and reaches his octopus arms all over America to gather in the royalties due him as owner of the proprietory rights. None of the company had seen Mr. Duff, but all of them had heard of him, and that was enough. There was an impression that Mr. Duff was not asleep as to what was going on in St. John. and that at the proper moment he would appear in company with either the sheriff or the chief of police. Under these circumstances it was considered no less politic than honest to consult him.

ago, and according to Mr. Strand and his triends, was the only ground for claiming that he wanted to get clear of the position altogether. In the meantime he continued to perform his duties at the weekly rehear-

A third letter was then sent to the taciturn Mr. Duff, and some bright mind conceived the idea of registering it, so as to prove delivery. This stratagem had the desired effect. Mr. Duff condescended to reply, calmly stating that he had not considered the previous letters worth noticing, but was quite willing that Dorothy should be produced in St. John, on very simple conditions. These were, that he should receive \$100 for the first night, and \$75

for each subsequent production. This, for the three nights contemplated, would make Mr. Duff's bill \$250-a trifle, as he viewed it, but from the St. John point of view the figures seemed very big and very

After this epoch in the history of the company there is a period in regard to which the stories vary. Mr. Strand asserts that he continued to conduct in good faith without any intention of backing out. Others claim that he seemed undecided, as if he wanted to take no risks, and that he led them to believe that he was rather anxious than otherwise to retire. In this crisis they consulted Mr. Ford, who expressed himself quite willing to take hold and see the affair through to the end.

Last week a note was sent to Mr. Strand stating that, in view of Mr. Duff's claims, the company would not guarantee the remuneration originally intended, and asking him if, under the circumstances, he wished to continue as conductor. He promised to

give an answer at the next practice. On Friday evening he went to practice as usual. He says that he had decided to continue with the company. There had been some talk of engaging Mr. Ford as piano accompanist and when one of the committee said, "Isn't it too bad that the expenses are to be so heavy that we can't promise you anything. Mr. Ford is willing to work for nothing," Mr. Strand, affecting to believe that this had reference to the piano accompaniments only, replied to the effect that Mr. Ford was quite welcome to do so, and added, "I have decided to go on with it." It is claimed that the members of the committee understood him to say "I have decided not to go on with it," but that he did not mean that is shown by the fact that he immediately walked over to another group and repeated, "I have decided to go on with it." Soon after, apparently by pre-arrangement, Mr. Ford entered the room. He had never met Mr. Strand, and was introduced to him. "I understand that you have decided not to go on with the opera,' said Mr. Ford. "I have decided to go on with it," was the reply, in tones that left no room for any misunderstanding that time. There was a slight pause, and the rival artists began to talk of Mozart, "Tarbet," the musical merits of "Jerusalem," or some thing else that had no connection with the future of Dorothy. Two of the committee retired to the rear, consulted and returned to Mr. Strand. Then he was asked if he were willing to guarantee the financial success of the opera. Remembering that the expenses would amount to about \$600, and that Mr. Duff wanted \$250 more, he declined to give any such guarantee. So the matter stood. Mr. Ford was there ready to take charge, but Mr. Strand was actually in charge, having arranged for practice on that evening. He did not propose that Mr. Ford should run things while he was in the room, and Mr. Ford himself had no desire to do so. A very speedy solution of the problem was reached when one of the management proclaimed the Dorothy Opera company dissolved until further notice, or unti arrangements could be made with the publisher, Duff. The "further notice" was very short. They met and reorganized the next night. When Mr. Strand retired from the company, or rather, when the company retired trom him, he found himself not quite alone Five gentlemen with resonant bass voices proclaimed themselves on his side and about five ladies have since declined to enter the new company. Some of the champions of Mr. Ford assert that Mr. Strand requested some of the latter to retire, but

HIS HONOR WILL SPEAK. SOME THINGS HE MAY SAY WHEN HE OPENS THE HOUSE.

NAL BOLLOW

An Explanation of the Mystery of a Black Valise-The Impression which a Sermon Gave of the Boy Candidate-Members who are to be Congratulated.

His Honor the Governor will have the opportunity to deliver a very interesting speech from the throne when the legislature meets, next Thursday. The old speeches. as all know, have been rather dry and formal affairs, but as this is a progressive age it is only right to look for something of the bright, breezy and conversational style on this occasion.

After the usual and necessary preambles, His Honor may proceed with the the vital topic of the situation in which his advisers find themselves, and may rise to the occasion as follows :

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

for the despatch of business on the 13th of an unlucky number, and I have grave reasons to suppose that this session will be an unlucky one for somebody, but whether for the government or opposition it is not membered, was nomination day, and some of my late advisers from St. John may find a grim significance in the commencement of the legislative battle two months later.

I am advised that the government never was stronger, more stable and better assured of a perpetual lease of these halls. I am also informed from other sources that it has barely a working majority, and after the first test vote will be compelled to surrender to the opposition. I regret to announce that on this point it seems im-

interests of the representatives in the various counties, and to pass acts which will furnish new fields of battle for the increasarmy of lawyers. If you can find out just what the city of St. John wants in the way of docks, I would recommend a grant of a million dollars in aid of the project. I wish you a short session and a merry one. Be virtuous and you will be happy.

PROGRESS SAUDITA

DRAW THE LINE.

Reverence and Decency Do Not Require One to Uncover to a Long Procession. It seems all very well to pay a proper reverence to a funeral cortege, but the idea of standing uncovered out of doors is apt to have very dangerous results in this climate. If, for instance, a procession opens ranks to allow the hearse, mourners and citizens to pass through, it is customary for all to keep hats off until the last man has passed. There is no need of this, and in the winter season it is as dangerous as

"I have been pleased to summon you it is unnecessary. It is quite sufficient to pay this mark of respect to the remains and March, instead of the 6th, as some of you the immediate mourners and there the line expected. Thirteen, as you are aware, is should be drawn. Otherwise, if the procession be a long one, many minutes must elapse during which the sensitive surfaces of unprotected heads are exposed to chilling currents, almost certain to produce for me to state. The 13th, it will be re- colds and perhaps even worse and fatal results. People should have the moral courage to abolish a custom which can do no good and is apt to produce a vast amount of harm.

Bright and Active Boys.

PROGRESS has some bright boys working for it in the outside towns of New Brunswick. They work but a short time every Saturday morning, and in that period make as much as in all the other days of the week. Some of them go to school regupossible to reconcile the opinions of Mr. larly, and use their holiday to advantage in selling PROGRESS and making their little cent on every copy. Among those who have been longest at this work, and the most successful, are Johnnie McCoy, of Moncton; George Douglas, of Amherst, and Bertie Russell, of Newcastle. If these regard to that valise, I may state afficially boys go on in the way they have begun, that it is not yellow but black, and that its they will be successful business men some contents are neither dynamite cartridges, day. The publisher would always be samples of Moncton mud nor specimens of happy and prosperous if all his agents were water-works eels preserved in alcohol. They as prompt in their payments, and as watch-

QUIET IN THE WARDS. PEOPLE HAVE NOT BEGUN TO GET EXCITED ABOUT ELECTIONS.

The Chesley Boom Is Progressing, But Not Overshadowing Anything as Yet-A New Candidate In Victoria Ward, With Excellent Chances of Success.

The suggestive fact that the elections for aldermen come on All Fools' Day, this year, may or may not have a deterrent effect on some who might otherwise be ambitious to seek a seat in the council. At any rate, there is much less talk of candidates than one would expect to hear with only three weeks for action.

In regard to the mayor's election, Mr. Chesley and his friends appear to be trying to create a boom for themselves. A supper was given on Wednesday evening to celebrate the opposition victory in the the local election, and the guests were about fifty of the energetic workers who took part in the campaign. Mr. Chesley occupied the chair, and they had a very pleasant time. It is asserted that there was not a word in any of the speeches about the mayor's election, and that the nearest approach to it was the infliction of the dock question on the company, by some of the aldermanic orators.

All the same, by a singular coincidence, there did not appear to be a very large sprinkling of the recognized friends of Mayor Lockhart there. According to one of the papers, "Mr. Chesley responded appropriately to a very complimentary toast, which had been received with much enthusiasm."

Mr. Chesley is understood to have pronounced views on the right of the North End to have "its share" of what is going, and to have expressed himself quite strongly to the effect that the mayor for the next term should come from that quarter.

Victoria ward has another candidate

The statement in last week's PROGRESS

that Ald. Law and Busby would form a

ticket was doubted by a good many voters

in the ward, but proves to be the truth.

The reason is not that Ald. Law likes his

colleague very much, but that he is not

inclined to view the candidature of Mr.

Forrest with favor. All the candidates are

on the war-path, canvassing with vigor.

Mr. Forrest is of opinion that his chances

A new man has also come out in Stanley

ward, in the person of Mr. Arthur W

Howe, a well known resident, who ought

to poll a good vote. Whether this ward

will have a triangular or square contest

Whether Mr. W. Watson Allen or any

other new man will offer for Queens ward

is a problem at present. In the meantime

Ald. Jack is making a very thorough can-

vass, and as each day goes by he divides

the number of voters by the number of days

remaining between that time and the elec

tion, The quotient gives the number of

voters a new man would have to see if he

started at once. If one began now, for

instance, and did not work Sundays, he

would have to talk to more than 50 men

In Kings ward there does not appear to

be any opposition as yet, though the name

of a certain lawyer has been mentioned.

He is understood to deny any intention of

terests of the people.

never were better.

does not yet appear.

man in his canvass.

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GREAT MINDS DIFFER.

One Editor Kills the Frenchmen and the Other the Natives.

"It is said," writes a correspondent, 'that there are two sides to every story. and this is certainly quite true as regards any story that the Telegraph may help the Sun to circulate. Not only does this remark apply to their editorial articles and locals pertaining to politics ; it extends even to their foreign news. This is a very good reason why all lovers of truth and fair play should subscribe to both papers, and I would suggest that these great morning journals of ours be clubbed at an annual subscription of say fifty cents.

"Here are two clippings from Tuesday's Telegraph and Sun. 'You pays your money and you takes your choice'"

PARIS, March 3. - A | PARIS, March 3. - A port has been received report has been received the government from by the government from the governor of Senegal the governor of Senegal that 8,000 of the king of that 8,000 of the king of Dahomey's troops at- Dahomey's troops attacked the French force tacked the French force at Atabo. Ater a severe at Atabo, and that after fight, the French were re- a severe fight the French pulsed, the natives kill- | repulsed the natives, killng 100. It is reported ing and wounding 100. that the government in- It is reported the govtends to annex the king- ernment intends to andom of Dahomey to the nex the kingdom of French possessions in Dahomey to the French Africa.-Tel. possessions in Africa .--

Sun.

WHO WAS THE LAWYER?

A Good Deal of Curiosity About the Maw that Swallowed a Widow's House.

PROGRESS has had a great many enquiries as to the identity of the lawyer referred to last week as having devoured a poor 'widow's house." It may not be flattering to the profession, but it is a fact that several lawyers who were innocent of the transaction have been suspected by their fellows. as if there were a belief that they might do such a thing if they got the chance.

A letter was written him, explaining the circumstances, the humble aspirations of the amateurs, etc., and asking him what he would take. He did not emulate Artemus Ward by answering "whiskey," and indeed did not answer at all.

In the meantime the forty voices were being attuned to cheerful notes, under the conductorship of Mr. R. Percy Strand, organist of Trinity church, and forty hearts were filled with glad anticipation. Some of the company, while admitting Mr. Strand's ability as a musician, got the impression that conducting was not his strong point. He was too gentle with his class, and did not shout and gesticulate sufficiently to satisfy some of their tastes. The human race, having been governed and misgoverned for centuries, likes to be ruled over, and young ladies dearly love to be "bossed" by a man, if he goes about it in the right way.

There is said to have been a feeling among some of the company, which may or may not have been due to parochial preference, that Mr. James Ford, the new organist of Stone church, was the right kind of a man to take Mr. Strand's place. Whether they thought Mr. Ford would be more fierce than Mr. Strand is not stated, and whether financial consideration entered into the matter is also a matter on which PROGRESS does not presume to offer an opinion. The preference, however, seems to have gained strength from week to week.

Mr. Strand, apparently, was not aware of this fact. He attended the rehearsals, as usual, and said "please" as mildly and as frequently as if he were instructing a favorite drawing-room pupil.

In the meantime another letter was sent

Mr. Strand's friends are indignant at the Gentlemen of the Legislative Council : Look at the Book First. tem and the patriotism of St. John jurors gentleman, the late William Kilpatrick, of method taken to freeze him out. They There is a book going the rounds of the Gambling on the North Shore. when a stranger has a suit in court. I must congratulate you on the renewed this city. assert that after three months of practice, country purporting to be an account of A correspondent writes that Richibucto Some of the young ladies thought that a when he had accomplished the hardest part promise of a long and easy life. It is most May Supply Themselves. Stanley and his travels. PROGRESS has a has one of the best equipped gambling light opera in the Institute, followed by an of the work, it was most unfair to displace unfortunate that by a provision made in A city paper says that "the Fredericton letter from a subscriber complaining that saloons on the North Shore. The prohim and put him in a false position before amusing farce in the court, would be an the days of our forefathers your number is hotels are laying in a big supply for the the agent represented the book to be the public, simply because some of the prietor is a strong temperance advocate. awfully jolly racket, and were rather inlimited by law, as my government desires company had a greater personal friendship hungry politicians who will descend on the written by Stanley recently, and embracing Each table accommodates six persons, and clined to go ahead. This was the beginning to add several of its friends to your ranks, for Mr. Ford. city next week." What about the supply his latest explorations. People should not the fee charged is 25 cents an hour for On Thursday the company sent to Mr. of sorrow for Mr. Strand. and none of you seem disposed to die for the thirsty ones? be deceived by this. The book is an old Strand to know if he would accept an apoleach seat. Around these tables gather Mr. Strand objected to being a party to or resign. ogy and \$20 for his services. He replied that his bill was \$25, and as he had been one redressed and added to, and sent into Should be Proud of Them. proceedings which might end in all hands men in all walks of life. Gentlemen from Gentlemen of the Legislative Council and the country at this time when the name of the "upper ten," with five letters after their Mr. George B. Hegan has received many appearing in the police or some other used so unfairly he declined an apology, Gentlemen of the House of Assembly: Stanley is on every lip, and every one is names, down to the every-day laborer, congratulations on the fine picture of his court, and said that it such a course were as they offered it. One of yesterday's You will be called upon to deal with a anxious and eager to read about him and beautiful childreen, displayed in Martin's papers, however, says that the apology has meet there on a common level to strive for followed he must decline to continue as variety of measures tending to advance the been accepted. his adventures. the "filthy lucre." window, King street, during the last week. conductor. This was more than a month It would appear very plainly that good Painting and Glazing in all their branches To get Paper Hanging done quickly and **Ceiling Decoration a specialty of Wilkins** music and perfect harmony are not interarc done in First-class style, by Wilkins & Sign Writing done promptly by Wilkins & reasonably apply to Wilkins & Sands, 266 Umbrellas Repaired ; Duval, 242 Union & Sands, 266 Union street. changeable terms. Sands, 266 Union street. Sands, 266 Union street. Union street. street.

Blair and Mr Thaddeus Stevens.

I am not able to announce on any reliable authority that the valise of Mr. Stevens will be exchanged for a portfolio before the close of the session. As a great deal of misconception appears to have arisen in have other uses for alcohol in Moneton. ful of the sales as these three boys. The valise has nothing more pernicious than two boiled shirts, two collars, one pair of socks, one cuff, a poker deck, two corkscrews, Cushing's Manual, a Ready Reckoner, a box of domestic cigars for

"pain-killer." I am happy to announce a cessation of hostilities, and the substitution of an armed neutrality, in the war between the citizens of St. John and the Pope of Rome. The self-sacrificing spirit of Messrs. Alward and Stockton in risking defeat by consenting to make an alliance with the tories will be recommended to your favorable notice. It is my painful duty to announce a slight feeling of disappointment in looking for the

Lawson, I had been led to suppose that the term "boy candidate" was purely ironical, and that Mr. McKeown was about seven feet and a half high, and sixty inches around the chest, with a voice which exceeded in compass even that of Daniel Hanington, and a smile that surpassed in sweetness that of William Pugsley. I had been led to imagine that he could speak fluently in Sanskirt, Russian, Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Choctaw and Shemogue French; that when he was glad at heart the birds trilled sweet melodies, and when he was sad the tog spread over the Bay of Fundy. I had expected to see him drive up to the house of assembly in a golden chariot, with outriders in livery, having Mr. Lawson as private chaplain, in full canonicals, a Twelfth of July procession as a guard of honor, and the base ball league as an ad-

Talk On the Street.

The "fourth of March" has come and gone and St. John business goes on in the same prosperous path as usual. No big or little house, so far as is known, failed to friends and one dozen bottles labelled come to time at the note teller's box, and no embarressments are reported.

T. McAvity & Sons will enlarge their retail store this spring, absorbing the premises at present occupied by Mrs. Mc-Connell as a boot and shoe store.

George H. McKay will open a dry goods store at 49 Charlotte street, where Messrs. Dowling are now, in a short time.

Messrs. Parker Bros. have now one of the handsomest drug stores in the city. first time at Mr. McKeown. Having at- The painters have been busy there this tentively read a sermon by Rev. William week and the store is much brighter in consequences.

Keep to the Right.

A good many people, probably, are not aware of the fact that there is a city byelaw requiring pedestrians to keep to the right in meeting or passing each other. The ladies, in particular, seem determined to bolt to the left at every possible opportunity. Now that the spring is coming, with its bad street crossings, etc., it would be well to keep the bye-law in mind. In any American city the size of St. John, a person who persisted in dodging to the left would not only be looked on as a Down-Homer from Wayback, but would be well elbowed into the bargain-or the

Mr. Jones and Mr. Rogers.

Bandmaster Jones has been training the Magazine, are from Holman's pen, and to silent, but vigilant Mr. Duff. He paid can be learned there is not likely to be any vance guard to force aside the mighty choir boys of St. Paul's church, and was at they are worthy of the publication. There's no attention to it, and then the company organized opposition to the present incumthrong that would gather to see him pass. peace with the world until Mr. J. N. threatened to make a very bold stroke inmoney in that kind of work, and no one bents. I must congratulate my surveyor-general, Rogers wrote a letter to PROGRESS on the deserves it more than Holman. deed. They proposed to produce Dorothy, Brooks ward is having a good deal of Mr. Tweedie, on the fact that Mr. Morsubject. Since then the relations between whether Mr. Duff liked it or not. Before buzzing over the candidates already anrissey and Mr. Mike Adams had not cor-Messrs. Jones and Rogers have been some-In Next Week's "Progress." taking such a rash step they decided to nounced as in the field, and there is a prosdial relations with each other when he what strained. Last Sunday, Mr. Rogers In the next few weeks there will be consult a lawyer. pect of some fun there election day. accepted the portfolio. I must also conwent to church and took his seat in the plenty of portraits in PROGRESS, the local The legal luminary informed them that It is possible that there may be some gratulate the government on the fact that choir, whereupon Mr. Jones walked out legislature furnishing excellent material for while Mr. Duff could undoubtedly prosefresh political developments if the common the excellent train service on the Northern and went home. It is reported that he rethe artist and engraver. Among the intercute every one of them, yet the cases would council, in session as PROGRESS goes to and Western railway enabled Mr. Blair to marked that he would not sit in the body esting things for next week's paper are two have to be dealt with by a St. John jury, press, votes in favor of the Leary dock reach Chatham and secure Mr. Tweedie in of the same church as Mr. Rogers, to say and there would be only nominal damages. Mr. Strand denies that he did anything of portraits, one of a former chief justice of scheme. advance of the opposition. nothing of the same choir. the province and one of that well esteemed Which speaks volumes for the jury sys- the kind.

gutter.

The name of the lawyer was not made A number of the electors have waited on public, because he is a person who has Mr. Jas. Seaton, and requested him to offer. very respectable connections, not only in He has consented, is in the field on his ewn this city but in other parts of the province. account, and will not form a combination To expose him, as he should be exposed, with any ticket. Mr. Seaton, who is well would cause them both pain and shame for known to the electors, is a practical man, an act with which they had nothing to do. with undoubted honesty of purpose. He The best advice to all suitors, and eshas a trade, and is not ashamed of it. If he pecially to poor widows, is to be sure of goes to the council, it will not be to make your lawyer, and then go ahead. speeches, but vote intelligently in the in-

A Practical Joke.

A well known plate-glass insurance agent thought that April fool's day was upon him this week. Among Charlie Macpherson's advertising novelties when he struck St. John this time was a litho representing Mary Anderson looking through a shivered plate glass window. When pasted to a window the casual observer never failed to sympathize with the merchant over his apparently broken window. One of these lithos was attached to the large plate-glass in the front of McMillan's bookstore and the insurance agent was notified by telephone that there had been a smash-up. He hastened to the scene, stood off and viewed the window, expressed his sympathy, appraised the damage and unconsciously furnished plenty of amusement for his audience for a time. Then he realized suddenly that it was a sell and laughed as heartily as his companions.

A Chance For Poets.

Uncer the head of "To Our Poets," the Salvation Army's official organ says: "We are in urgent need of original songs. written to the following tunes * * * * "God will help you to send one right away." Here is a chance for some of our local versifiers to immortalize themselves every day, in order to overtake the alderand do good at one fell stroke. They have been getting pretty rusty of late.

Another One Heard From.

A bright St. John boy, Louis Holman, formerly in McMillan's wholesale, has turned up in Boston as a magazine artist. Several of the illustrations in that new and bright Boston monthly, The New England

being a candidate. Mr. Enoch W. Paul has decided not to be a candidate in Wellington ward. No one else has come forward, and so far as