

PROGRESS.

EDWARD S. CARTER, EDITOR. Progress is an eight page paper, published every Saturday, from the Masonic Building, 88 German street, St. John, N. B. Subscription price, Two Dollars per annum, in advance.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, FEB. 7.

With this issue, PROGRESS ends its career as an eight-page paper. It has won greater success than the publisher even thought or hoped it would. The time has come when it has outgrown itself, when it is absolutely necessary to have more room, not only for the paper and the business interests that have gathered about it, but for the advertising patronage that has increased very largely.

WHAT TO READ. What shall young people read? The question is often asked and almost as often answered, yet to nothing is it so difficult to give a satisfactory response. It is like asking what people ought to eat. We may reply: Anything that is wholesome, but this only raises a second question as to what is wholesome, and the answer to this depends very largely upon the individual.

Everybody does not take up as much room as everybody else, and a great many people do not take up nearly as much room as they think they do—nearly as much. This observation is true mentally, morally, physically and politically. There is probably not a man, who has reached middle age, who cannot recall several occasions when it was foretold that the country could not survive somebody's funeral. "What will we do when he is gone?" was the question everyone asked, except his enemies; but he went, and somehow the country got along without him. We do not mean anybody in particular, and we are not referring to any particular country.

Do you know why this is so, reader, gentle or otherwise? Why, it is because common, everyday people like you and us have, on the average, a fair share of common sense, and our so-called leaders lead us in about the same sense as the flying spray leads the tempest over the ocean. There never was a man so big that he was a necessity to the country. If all our great men would go off somewhere and start a colony by themselves, the rest of us would get along about as usual.

Of course there are men who may be really called great. Measured by the quantity of blood he shed, NAPOLEON doubtless was the greatest butcher up to his rank. Perhaps he would now have to rank second in this respect to PHILIP D. ARMOUR of Chicago, only ARMOUR has confined his slaughter to hogs and cattle. On the other hand ARMOUR has built up, NAPOLEON destroyed. ARMOUR adds to the commerce of the world and promotes the comfort of hundreds of thousands of people. NAPOLEON caused blockades either for or against him, and left a blood red trail of misery over Europe.

Measured by the good they do their race, the great men are the workers. The world rarely knows its real heroes. When they have been dead long enough to let their resting place be forgotten it wakes up to a sense of what it owes them, and hunts about for their graves so as to erect monuments over them. Perhaps this is just as well, for we have seen that it is not possible to erect a monument over St. John's noble young hero without something having the resemblance of a scandal showing its ugly head.

MEN AND THINGS.

Taine, a French writer, says that NAPOLEON caused the death of 1,700,000 persons born in France and 2,000,000 persons born in other countries. This is a terrible record. Seventy-six years have passed since Waterloo, and it would not be very easy to say just how much of the edifice remains, which so much blood was spilled to cement. Germany, Austria, and Italy, which felt the heavy hand of the great commander, have arisen stronger and more consolidated than ever before. Russia, to strike a blow at which he crossed a continent with his armies, has grown with marvellous rapidity in political importance. France has spurred the whole BONAPARTE tribe, and established a republic upon the ruins of the second empire. And the 3,700,000 who preceded the emperor into the unknown—what of them? If we accept the ideas of our spiritualist friends, he would have been able to establish an empire of his own long ago.

Three million seven hundred thousand men. If they marched four deep they would make a column nearly eight hundred miles long, and if on some height in another realm the hero of Austerlitz reviews his dead, he will have to stand and gaze for ten days to see the ghastly, or ghostly procession pass.

Speaking of numbers of people, how many persons do you suppose could stand on Queen's square, in this good city. The area is, say, 500 feet square. Probably this is not quite correct, but it will do as a basis for calculation. Its area is, therefore, 250,000 square feet; that is to say, on the square and the streets surrounding it you might pack the whole population of the province. There would be a little overflow into the side streets, perhaps, but not very much, if the people were packed together as close, well, say as close as the Normal school students pack the Fredericton post-office on Saturday night.

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An old lady, who, when sitting with a very woe-begone look upon her face at a prayer-meeting, was approached by her pastor and asked if she felt the influence of religion, answered that it was either religion or dyspepsia, she did not know which, was in a frame of mind that a good many are in, if they would only tell the truth about themselves. A real hearty enjoyment of the good things lavished upon us by a bountiful Creator is not inconsistent with religion, but it is with dyspepsia. A man will drink the cup of pleasure to the dregs, and then repenting in bitterness of heart his excesses, will advise the young against innocent enjoyment. A story is told of old Dr. Parr. At a dinner a man refused some sweetmeats with disdain, saying sneeringly: "I never eat sweets." The doctor turned to him, and said: "That, sir, is because you are or have been a sot.

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IRIS TALKS ABOUT HALIFAX.

Sleighting parties still continue sur le tapis. Perhaps you think it time I should drop the subject, as last week I devoted much of my letter to the "beautiful snow." But it being so unusual an occurrence since we have had snow in this city, I thought I would say a few words about it. It is not a sleighing party, but a sleighing party, and it is not a sleighing party, but a sleighing party.

On Tuesday evening last, was held the carnival of the rink, given by the subscribers to the "Private Afternoon," although a non-subscriber could go in for a dollar. This annual carnival is always the best of the kind given during the season, consequently it was looked forward to with much interest. The weather, quite a number of spectators were present, and also a fair number of skaters. Several ladies and gentlemen danced the "minuet" and "waltz" and "ye olden time" were extremely pretty, and greatly admired by everybody who had courage enough to venture out on such a night.

TRURO, N. S.

Miss Greenway is here from Halifax, the guest of her sister, Mrs. Fred Carver. Mrs. I. E. Brine and Miss Laura, have returned from Halifax.

Mr. W. S. Casson, of the Victoria, has been the purchaser of Mr. D. C. Cummings' elegant residence, corner Pleasant and Victoria streets.

Mr. Harry T. Harding's church party last Tuesday evening, Jan. 27th, proved one of the pleasantest of card parties. Among those present were: Mrs. W. S. Muir, Mrs. Thos. Mason, Mrs. Seiden Cummings, Mrs. Harry W. Crowe, Mrs. D. C. Blair, Miss Mai Dimock, Miss Blanche Tremaine, Mrs. Stevens, Miss May Bent, Miss Ida Black, Miss Mary Black, Miss Mary Crowe, Miss Sutherland, Miss Anna Sutherland, Mrs. Thos. Mason, Mr. Seiden Cummings, Mr. Harry W. Crowe, Mr. Andrew Campbell, Mr. A. Patterson, Mr. Bowers, Mr. Tabor, Dr. Hall, Mr. James Ross, Mr. D. C. Blair. The first ladies prize was won and awarded to Mrs. Harry W. Crowe; Mr. Bowers carrying off the gentlemen's first; second ladies prize—second gentlemen fell to Dr. Hall with Mr. Ross in close pursuit.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Field, who have been guests of Mrs. C. E. Cutler, left on Saturday last for visits in other parts of the province, or their return to their home in Cambridgeport, Dominion.

The Second Baptist church social was held at the residence of Mrs. Fulton, corner of Massion and Victoria streets, last Thursday evening. A very pleasant and social evening was enjoyed by those present. A very pretty programme of musical selections, vocal and instrumental, some choice readings and recitations, were gotten through with with credit to all.

HON. ALEX. MACKENZIE, PRESIDENT.

THE NORTH AMERICAN LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY. MAKES A RECORD UNEXCELLED BY THAT OF ANY OTHER COMPANY. EXTRACTS FROM THE Annual Statement, 1890. A gain in the Surplus over that of the preceding year of Eighty per cent. The Cash Interest Income shows an increase of forty-three per cent, and was more than sufficient to pay the Death Losses of the year. Profits to Policy-Holders in matured Policies in EXCESS of the Company's Semi-Tontine Estimates.

W. T. STANDEX, of the Actuary Society of America, a distinguished Consulting Actuary of eminence and experience, in his report, says of the North American Life: "The large gain shown in every department, ranging from ten to eighty per cent, makes a record unexcelled by that of any other Company." Mr. STANDEX, further states: "As a matter of great interest for the North American Policy-Holders, an examination will show that the percentage of increase in surplus as compared with the Assets is 6.12 for the past year, as against less than four per cent for the average of other leading companies doing business in Canada, as shown by their last reports." The above is only a small part of the conclusive proof that can be furnished to intending insurers, to show that it is to their own individual interest to take among the many reasons that can be given: During the present year, the first year of the Company's Ten-year Investment Policies matures. The consulting Actuary has allocated to these policies, profits, in excess of the Company's Semi-Tontine estimates, which will be paid on the due date for each policy, and which have been very satisfactory to those whose policies were already matured. This Company was the first Canadian institution to adopt this form of Insurance, and it has become so popular, that nearly all the other Canadian Companies several of them after denouncing in former years—now issue policies upon it, in one form or another.