

PROGRESS.

VOL. V., NO. 237.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1892.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

TYPOGRAPHICAL ERROR.

UNION PRINTERS ORDERED OUT OF "PROGRESS" OFFICE.

Why they go, and how the paper proposes to do without them—the methods they have adopted to impede the work of the office—"Progress" on deck as usual.

This week, for the first time in its history PROGRESS has had some disagreement with a number of its employees, and, as many highly imaginative reports are being circulated concerning it, the real story of the affair may very properly be published.

Those who are in the printing business in this city, or, in fact, in the province, are very well aware that for the past three months good printers have been very scarce. PROGRESS found this out quite early in the year, and on various occasions has been hampered by the fact that it was unable to obtain a sufficient number of compositors to turn out its newspaper as early as it should have been, or to push the job printing forward as rapidly as was desirable. Nearly two months ago this lack of compositors became so marked, and the amount of work that came to PROGRESS Job Printing Department increased to such an extent, that urgent advertisements were inserted in the newspapers asking for additional compositors. As no applications were forthcoming, and two or three printing contracts had been undertaken on the stipulation that they would be completed at a certain date, the advisability of securing female compositors was considered. Mr. John Hopkins, the foreman of the job printing department, was consulted in regard to the matter, and, when it was decided to engage two or more female compositors to assist in that department, he was promptly notified of the fact. Mr. Hopkins is a member of the typographical union and the employees under him were also members of the same organization. But it is a fact worth noting that, although he received such ample notice of the employment of female labor, no objection was made to the proprietor at that time, or, indeed, when a week ago last Monday the female compositors were introduced in the department was any objection made by Mr. Hopkins, or by any of the union men under him. On the contrary, as foreman of the department he assigned them their work and saw that they looked after it.

A whole week passed along very smoothly without any objection being made to the girls. They were engaged entirely upon one particular book which it was necessary to have completed by the 10th of November. Last Monday, however, the proprietor of PROGRESS received an intimation, by means of the following communication, that the matter of the employment of girls had been brought to the attention of the typographical union:

ST. JOHN TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION, No. 85, ST. JOHN, N. B., Nov. 10th, 1892. EDWARD S. CARBER, Esq., Publisher PROGRESS: DEAR SIR,—It having been brought to the attention of the executive committee of St. John Typographical Union that you have employed in your office two non-union female compositors, and that PROGRESS has heretofore been regarded as a union office, I have been directed to inform you that it is contrary to the constitution of this union for its members to work with non-union compositors. This fact was brought to the notice of your foreman, Mr. Finlay, but as he refused to lay the matter before you that duty has devolved upon the executive. I am also directed to inform you that a delegation from this committee will wait upon you on Tuesday evening, 8th inst., at 8 o'clock, in order to see if some arrangement cannot be entered into whereby any trouble may be averted. If the above date is suitable will you kindly inform me as soon as possible. Yours respectfully, GEO. H. MAXWELL, Sec. St. John T. U., No. 85.

This letter came somewhat in the way of a surprise, because, so far as the publisher of PROGRESS was aware, his office was in no way connected with the typographical union. Up to February, 1892, PROGRESS was a union office, but, owing to the lack of protection extended to the paper at that time by the union the proprietor decided that so far as this paper was concerned he would not be guided by the Union or its rules. Due notice of this was given to the foreman of PROGRESS office, at that time Mr. McConnell, who, in his turn, informed the union men under him. From that time forward when a printer was engaged to work in PROGRESS composing room, the fact of whether he was a union man or not was not taken into consideration, and, although the majority of them were persuaded to become members of the organization after they were engaged by PROGRESS, the fact that they were members or not had nothing to do with their employment. Consequently the communication printed above came somewhat in the nature of a surprise to the proprietor of this paper. It appeared to have the earmarks of a declaration of war, and as it was desirable that PROGRESS should know as early in the week as possible whether its employees proposed to stand by it or not through the impending difficulty, the question was placed before the newspaper compositors at noon on Monday by their foreman, and they were requested to give him an answer by 4 o'clock in the afternoon. When 4 o'clock arrived they requested from that time until 6 o'clock. It

was freely granted, and when that time arrived, they requested from that time until 8 o'clock in the evening, when they would place their decision in his hands. This also was given them, and shortly after 8 o'clock the foreman received word that the Union employees, not only in the composing room of PROGRESS but in the job department had been ordered out by the executive committee of the typographical union.

In accordance with those instructions nine of the employees of PROGRESS failed to put in an appearance on Tuesday morning. That statement, however, is not literally correct, for, while they failed to put in an appearance with the intention of going to work, a number of them seemed to forget that by their own act they were no longer employees of the paper and to think that they had the same right to the premises as they had formerly enjoyed, for, at different hours in the morning they strolled in and proceeded leisurely to the composing room. They seemed to be highly indignant and annoyed when told that their presence was not desired in the department unless they were there for the purpose of going to work, and it that was their intention their work was there for them, if not, they were invited to remember that PROGRESS did not desire their company or to change its pay day on their account.

In the meantime, however, it is not to be supposed that the men who had left PROGRESS office were all idle. On the contrary, they were very busily engaged, if not in setting type. One of them named Gillen was stationed at a convenient point where he could intercept all the female compositors in the city and proceeded to caution them against having anything to do with PROGRESS office; that it would not be well for them to engage in the office or help it out of its present difficulty in any degree. Two or three others had a job cut out for them in their endeavors to persuade the efficient employees of the paper who had remained steadfast and loyal, that it would be also to their interest to throw up their situations and join them in their desertion. Neither did they neglect to notify any compositors throughout the province who might be looking for work, that it would be undesirable for them to come to the city of St. John where PROGRESS was having great trouble with its employees. In spite of all this, however, work went on in this office as usual from Tuesday to the end of the week, and as the public is already aware PROGRESS appeared on time and in its usual good form.

Tuesday, the day after the men went out, passed without any trouble whatever being experienced by the force that remained in the establishment. A good start had been obtained on the week, and the first part of the paper went to press even earlier than usual. But a pressure was brought to bear upon the foreman of the press room, Mr. Trifts, who had not sufficient moral courage to withstand it. He was not a member of the union; had never sent in an application, although much to his surprise, he said that he was informed that an application had gone in for him, and although he had never paid any dues, nor taken an obligation, nor signed the constitution of the union he was declared to be a member, at least for the time being, and as he informed his foreman, was instructed to go out of the office. He said that his name had been forwarded to the headquarters in the United States for seven weeks' allowance at \$5 per week, and he was in doubt whether it would be better for himself to remain in the office, or to join the men outside. Tuesday evening when he left his work he assured his employer that he could depend upon him without fail, but on Wednesday morning he failed to put in an appearance, sending instead, a note stating that he had thought the matter over, and that it would be for his interests to join the men.

In spite of this however, the work in the press room progressed with more than the usual regularity, and on Wednesday evening the paper was further advanced than it is usually. This was also the case on Thursday.

In the meantime the members of the union appeared to have grown desperate, for, having learned that the force of PROGRESS was to be augmented by one or two compositors from outside, they not only sent telegrams to the towns they supposed that they were coming from, telling them to remain, and offering to pay their wages if they did so, but they even sent watchmen to the trains to see that no stray printers ventured into the city without being warned not to work for PROGRESS. They did so, no doubt, in ignorance of the fact that they were doing something which rendered them liable to a very severe punishment. PROGRESS, however, was not disposed at that time, nor is it yet to take any action whatever against the erring printers, since it has got along without much difficulty, and it has no worse prospect looming up in the future. They may be assured, how-

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SHINDIES IN THE RANKS.

BOTH TORIES AND GRITS HAVE A LITTLE UNPLEASANTNESS.

The Tories Hire a Hall and Howl in Good Shape—The Grits Have a Select Caucus in Mr. Weldon's Dining Room—How the Shows Came Off.

Judging from the feeling shown at the conservative convention on Monday night, Mr. George McLeod had better take the first government office that is offered to him. He understands by this time that the party has no further need of his services as a candidate.

The machine wanted him, of course, because they thought he would imperil the chances of Zekiel McLeod and Hazen at the general election, when one of the three members must retire. The weaker the man they could get, the better were the chances for the men now in; for while it is possible, it is by no means certain that Zekiel will get shelved before the next general election comes around. Nobody in whose shoes he wants to step may die in the meantime, and if there is a vacancy, the past has shown that neither Zekiel nor his colleague will have all to say about the matter.

So it was nicely cut and dried that Mr. George McLeod was a good enough man for this occasion. Mr. Chesley had no chance of a nomination from the outset, and when some of his supporters realized this they were anxious to see Mr. McLeod nominated, so that they could have an excuse for running John A. as an independent man. That was why Mr. McLeod got a majority of the delegates' votes when nobody outside of the combination expected he would.

The morning papers of Tuesday covered the show so fully that it would be travelling over old ground for PROGRESS to dwell on the high old time they had at that grand Tory turnout. There were bushels of fun, and everybody had something to say. Those who did not make speeches stood up and howled. When the name of George McLeod was brought in by the committee, the roar of "He's no good!" came from the body of the house, while fainter cries of "He is good!" came from the machine supporters in the pit. The noes had it that time, and the committee went back to select Mr. George Robertson, whom nobody could charge with having a record of pernicious activity in the machinations of the grits in their years of plenty.

The Three Kells were there, and each of them had something to say. John Kelly spoke vigorously, not to say viciously. When Jimmy Kelly, the orange tailor, was wanted there were cries for Kelly, and J. King Kelley, the orange orator responded. Much of his speech was in pantomime, for the crowd made so much of a howl that he could not be heard. In the intervals in which he was audible he asserted that such proceedings might confuse some orators but did not disturb him, as he had done missionary work in the halls, school houses, Sunday school rooms and churches all over the county. He was frequently invited to "come down out of that," but he kept his ground and pitched into the prospective candidate, Robertson, as well as into Hazen and McLeod. Finally, somebody in the gallery howled "put a muzzle on him," shortly after which Mr. Kelley brought his oration to a close.

Jimmy Kelly's oration was more brief and less audible.

When the meeting adjourned early in the morning most of those who had remained were very tired and not a few of them were very mad.

Hon. Thos. R. Jones was considerably surprised to find that he was not in it. Ald. Chesley was not surprised that he was ignored, but he calmly resolved himself into a martyr, with the possibility of being a candidate into the bargain.

A good many of the liberals were delighted at the turn things had taken. The row in the Tory camp seemed to afford them hope of a victory at last. They considered that the Tory extremity was the grit opportunity, and there was blood in their eyes all day Tuesday. They were doing the Diogenes act in going about "looking for a man," only they had no lantern. It was rumored that there would be light enough at Mr. Weldon's house to find a man that evening.

For the party managers, by whom are understood Messrs. Ellis, Weldon, John McMillan and a few others decided to have a caucus to talk over the ways and means. Before they got through with it, it developed into a cav-cuss, with a decided accent on the last syllable.

It has been pretty well understood that neither Mr. Weldon nor Mr. Ellis has been spoiling for a fight. The former is out of condition for a race just now, but there is a hope that the Tories will grow so bad by the general election that the grits will be able to sweep St. John, and then the old standard bearers want to be the people's candidates. Mr. Ellis may not care so much about it for himself, perhaps, but he

has a regard for Mr. Weldon, and the latter has decided objections to being considered a political hack number. Should a strong man, and especially a young man be elected now, he and another young man would probably be the candidates when there was a fight worth having. It was not in the interest of the old members to have a contest on this occasion.

The caucus was held in Mr. Weldon's dining room. Mr. Weldon sat at the head of the table, Mr. Ellis assumed the vice-chair, and following good grits stretched their legs under the popular juriconsult's polished mahogany, that is to say:—Arthur Everitt, George McAvity, John McMillan, J. E. B. McCready, Charley Harrison, Arthur A'tams, Clare Ferguson, Allen Jack, Dan Purdy and H. Laurentias Strdee. Mr. Weldon conducted the opening exercises.

The question was whether there should be a fight or not, he said, and if there was a fight who should be the candidate. There was also, he remarked, while his eyes sought the frescoed ceiling with a steely glitter, the question of finance. Thousands of dollars would be required. He had been asked to be a candidate, but his health would not permit it.

A sigh of regret, which may have been wholly or in part sincere, was wafted to the aforesaid ceiling, descended, and was lost behind the cut glass on the sideboard. It was asked if he would not run provided the party did all the work for him. No, because a party could not do it. The sigh was not repeated.

Letters were read from Messrs. Laurier, Cartwright and Jones (Alfred not Thomas R.) and all spoke of the importance of having a fight in St. John and regretting their inability to send any funds for the cause. They thought that if there were no contest the effect would be unfavorable to the party all over Canada. Mr. Jones grew emphatic when he declared that if the situation were in Halifax they would "fight the devil under any circumstances."

Mr. Ellis did not say whether there should or should not be a contest, but he averred that the grits had made a great mistake in tying their fortunes to Mr. Blair. Whatever Blair's intention may have been, he had proved himself an enemy of the party all over the province. He was responsible for its disorganized state at the present time.

Mr. McMillan told of some of his experience in trying to induce the faithful to part with their shekels at election time. The minimum legitimate expenses of an election in St. John city and county would be \$3,000. Where was the money to come from? The enemy would have plenty and it was easy to guess where they would get it. He did not think it was desirable to have a contest, though it would be different if Mr. Weldon or Mr. Ellis was to be the candidate.

Mr. McAvity said he could not accept a nomination, even if an election by acclamation could be guaranteed.

Several others favored fight.

Recorder Jack summed up the evidence. The result of his lucubrations was that there ought to be a fight.

Mr. McCready, despite the presence of "dear Weldon," spoke right out in meeting. Now was the opportunity of the party, and if they did not seize it what could the papers say? He did not see much good in a party that would not fight, and had heard loud complaints of the inactivity of the party leaders.

At this juncture Mr. Weldon apparently noticed that the company looked dry, and refreshments were served from the sideboard. After a discussion of the viands there seemed to be an infusion of Dutch courage into the crowd, for they grew more resolute in their remarks and seemed more disposed to have a fight. It was finally decided that it was inexpedient to agree not to contest the election, until the Tory troubles grew worse or better. The meeting was adjourned to meet in the same dining room Wednesday night.

During the meeting the name of Mr. Merritt, of Turnbull & Co., was mentioned as a possible candidate, but there was not so much as a whisper about poor McKeown.

There was a good deal of wire pulling all day Wednesday, and Messrs. Ellis and Weldon had a number of callers. Towards evening it was so generally known the wires had been pulled successfully in opposition to a contest that very few took the trouble to climb Chipman's hill to Mr. Weldon's house. Dr. Travers was there, but it is understood he expressed no opinion, and there were also representatives of the young liberals, who were spoiling for a fight. There was some strong talk, which ended in Mr. Weldon's positive refusal to call a convention. He was reminded that the responsibility of paralyzing the liberal party in this important crisis would be placed on Mr. Ellis and him, and was further informed that rumor credited the party managers with a consistent adherence to the policy of the dog in the manger. The merry party then broke up.

Umbrellas and Parasols Repaired; Duval, Union street.

IN THE SLIPSHOD STYLE.

HOW THE CITY LOOKS AFTER THE WORK AT SAND POINT.

The Contractors First Claim Leads to Some Revelations in the Board of Works—The City Engineer Has Been Waiting for Somebody to Direct Him.

The Connolleys have been heard from in regard to the Sand Point improvements. They want some money.

There is no reason in the world why they should not have some, but they have been working away so quietly for the last month or so that the citizens had almost forgotten they were liable to put in a claim. The board of works seems to have overlooked the fact, and has also overlooked the other fact that the city engineer is supposed to have some supervision of the matter. The latter official has apparently not disturbed himself for the reason that nobody directed him to do so. The matter came up at a meeting of the board of works on Tuesday, and there was a good deal of jaw wagging over the affair. It was finally decided that the board and the engineer should find out more about the matter than they have troubled themselves to learn so far, and that they should report again. ¶

The specifications by which the Connolleys are governed says that payments are to be made monthly as the work progresses, at the rate of 80 per cent. on wharf building and 60 per cent. on dredging, as estimated by the city engineer and certified by him and the director of public works, the balance being held as security. The Connolleys put in a claim for payment on both classes of work.

Now there have been both excavating and wharf building, but whether the contractors are yet entitled to draw money on the latter is another question. The wharf they are building is not on the site of the improvements, but half a mile away. It will be towed to its place when ready, but the point is whether it ought not to be in situ before it is considered a wharf in the sense of the contract. The specification also declares that the excavated material is to be deposited and levelled as directed within the space enclosed by the wharves, so far as practicable, the balance to be "deposited where and as directed, not to exceed one mile towage." Despite the bad grammar, the meaning of the clause is tolerably clear. It assumes that the wharf will be in place to receive the material, and that only such material as cannot be so utilized will be towed away. That the excavating and the wharf building might be concurrent does not appear to have occurred to the board of works, nor did they think that the wharf would be built half a mile away. This, however, has been the idea of the contractors and they have acted upon it. In the meantime all that has been excavated has been towed away and deposited.

"Where and as directed?" Yes, by somebody, but who that somebody is is not stated. The place directed was on a flat near Sand Point, and the contractors had no objection to it—when it was accessible, which was for four hours each day. Then somebody directed them to take the material to the inside of the breakwater at Negrotown Point. This they have been doing.

The distance from the site of the improvements to the last named place of deposit exceeds one mile. The Connolleys have had contracts before, and are good judges of distance. It will not be surprising if the question of extras will be complicated by somebody's director as to towage in this instance.

The contractors are bound to provide facilities for the city engineer to inspect the work, take soundings, etc., but it was learned at the meeting that that official had not paid any special attention to the matter, because nobody had directed him to do so. He admitted that he had not been over there much, and in fact had waited wholly for orders from somebody or other, though just who that somebody was did not appear very clear to him. Inspector Brown, formerly the roadmaster of Portland, is paid to look after things, and probably tries to do so. He can be in only one place at a time, however, and when he is at the wharf he cannot keep account of the scowloads excavated. The contractors keep a memorandum of this, the inspector gets his figures from their books, and the city engineer estimates the cubic yards in each scowload. On this basis his certificate has been given.

Somebody at the meeting wanted to know how anybody could estimate how much ought to be paid from time to time, on the material removed as the work progressed. Ald. Connor explained that in government contracts the contractors are asked to give the details of their estimate, and on this the sum to be allowed is figured out. This has not been done in this instance. Nobody directed the city engineer to do it, and no other official considered they had anything to do with it.

The city engineer was questioned by this and that member of the board as to his masterly inactivity, and his answer to all charges of omission was that he had received no

Cane Seatings, long selected Cane; Duval, Union street.

directions to do this or that. He appears to consider his functions purely ministerial rather than executive. He does a thing when he is told, and if he is not told the fault rests with those who ought to have told him.

Whether that somebody is the chairman of the board of works, the director of public works, or some other civic dignitary does not seem settled. About the only thing certain is that there seems to have been no particular responsibility placed upon anybody up to this stage of the proceedings. Inspector Brown is apparently the only man who has any direct connection with the matter, and beyond what he does or is supposed to do there is a happy-go-lucky sort of style so far as the city is concerned. Some surprise and a little indignation was expressed at the meeting at the slipshod way in which things had been allowed to run. There seems to be an impression that whether the board was negligent or not the city engineer ought to know enough to do the work implied by his position, without waiting to be told about it. He seems to think, however, that as the specification was so worded as to give him the least possible amount of authority, he was on the safe side in waiting for orders.

In the meantime the contractors have put in their claim, and it will no doubt be allowed, though the wharf question may imply some delay. It is a good thing they can make monthly claims, otherwise they might have completed their contract before the board of works found out that none of the officials felt any special responsibility in the matter.

So far as can be learned the contractors are business men and understand what they are about, but there is considerable doubt whether the representatives of the citizens are in the same happy state and condition.

FISHERMEN DO AS THEY PLEASE.

How the Law is Violated down the Bay in Defiance of the Warden.

There is a great run of herring in the bay of late, and the fishermen are reaping the benefit. The regulations forbid the driving of fish with lights, but the hardy toilers of the shore in the vicinity of New River and Lepreau are reported as independent of any law save their own. Night after night of late, including Sundays, the boats have been out with torches and myriads of the fish have been forced into the estuaries to be scooped up by dip nets, while winnows of them have remained along the shores after the tide has gone out. There is a fishery warden in the vicinity, but he might as well be in Labrador for all the power he had to enforce the law. He went out in his boat the other night to stop the illegal driving, but was ordered to go home or have his head pounded by the oar of the lawbreaker. He retired, considering probably that his salary of \$30 a year and \$4 a night for extra work did not justify him in risking his life for the cause. The cruiser Dream is supposed to protect the fisheries, but there appears to be more attractions for its officers around St. Andrews and Beaver Harbor than around the less social shores further to the eastward.

Should Buck be Hanged?

An editorial in PROGRESS last week referred to the case of Buck, under sentence of death for the shooting of a policeman in a scuffle. A letter has since been received from a Moncton lady stating that a petition is in circulation to have the sentence commuted, and asking if PROGRESS approves of it. It does. To the unprejudiced mind there is nothing to show that Buck ever intended to kill Steadman; but Steadman was popular, and when his ignorant assailant, with a doubtful record, was tried by a jury actuated by sympathy on the one hand and prejudice on the other, there could be only one result. It may to some people seem perfectly right to avenge Steadman's death by hanging a man who apparently has no friends and possibly does have a bad record as a vagabond, but that is not the view of PROGRESS.

Everybody was Delighted.

It goes without saying that the amateur minstrels filled the opera house with an appreciative audience, Wednesday and Thursday nights and that everybody who went was delighted, and would be glad to go again. To give our boys such a notice as their merits deserve would require more space than can possibly be found this week, while to attempt to tell of some of good things without special reference to many more of them would be satisfactory neither to PROGRESS nor anybody else who is interested in the success of this popular local organization. The entertainments were an aggregate of great successes, and if that is said everybody who knows of what the St. John boys are capable knows enough to imagine the rest.

Should Go to Hear It.

The city cornet band will have its concert at the opera house, Tuesday night. As so many citizens have heard and been delighted with their music, freely given in the past, there should be an overflowing house at the benefit concert.

Umbrella Fittings New; Duval, Union St.

Print Binding; Duval, Union Street.

Cane Seatings, long selected Cane; Duval, Union street.