

PROGRESS.

EDWARD S. CARTER, EDITOR.

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WILL THE UNION EXPLAIN?

Before the people of England have had time to recover from the tumult of an election, a new excitement is threatened them, and curiously enough it emanates from this side of the water. It is no new thing to have the institutions dear to the nobility denounced and threatened. The advocates of disestablishment cause no surprise when they assail the church, and triumphant democracy may even hoot at the pensions allowed the royal family. The people most interested have got used to this sort of thing and are no longer worried. When it comes to an endeavor to regulate the social observances of the QUEEN, herself, however, it may be found to be quite another question.

The movement in question appears to be part of a carefully planned programme to be carried out by the Women's Christian Temperance Union, of St. John. The matter has been kept very quiet apparently, but in an official manifesto of that body, published in Tuesday's Globe, the following plank is spiked into the campaign platform:

This Union is not in favor of the fashions decreed for the Queen's drawing room. It believes that, viewed in the light of the present age, those fashions should be abolished as not in accordance with Scripture or propriety.

These are bold words, and should they be made the keynote of a new issue between the contending factions in Great Britain, nobody can tell where the matter is likely to end. It is a significant fact that on the day the Union's ultimatum was published an Ottawa despatch gave currency to the rumor that LORD STANLEY intended to resign his position as governor-general, though there are yet nine months before his term expires. No satisfactory reason is given for his haste to get away from Canada, and it is only a matter of conjecture that the W. C. T. U. has pressed its demands upon him until he felt it necessary to seek the quickest mode of escape from the cross-firing of Downing street, London, and Canterbury street, St. John.

The Union also endorses the demand of the Dominion convention for "twenty thousand white ribbons" who will "have courage enough to resolutely discontinue the present immodest style of evening dress and the very impure fashionable street-sweeping dress," and it is here that PROGRESS humbly admits that it cannot understand just what the Union does want. The manifesto distinctly condemns an entertainment advertised by placards on which the lady performers are obviously destitute of either evening dress or street-sweeping trains—the latter being wholly out of question with the attire depicted. Progress can understand why people with an eye for impurity might find something objectionable in the style of the young ladies on the placards, but what there is "impure" in a street-sweeping dress passes all comprehension. One can have an idea of grades of impropriety in the abbreviation of a skirt, but where to draw the line against impropriety in the extension of it seems a much more difficult task. The Union, possibly, has a clear idea on the subject, and it will now be in order for it to make the point more clear to the public.

TAUGHT BY THE THERMOSTAT.

What appears to be a very useful appliance was described in PROGRESS a few weeks ago. It consisted of an electric heat alarm, on the principle of a thermometer connected with a battery. The thermostat, as it is called, is placed where there is any danger from an excess of heat, either by the operation of machinery or by accidental fire, and at a certain temperature the rise of the thermometer causes an alarm to sound. Warning is thus given in good time, and precautions are taken to avert the threatened danger.

Without any desire to advertise this particular heat alarm, for there are rival inventions designed to accomplish the same end, PROGRESS has an

idea that the real value of such appliances is but dimly comprehended, and that beyond the everyday uses to which they are put there is a wide and as yet untrodden field. The thermostat is now put into factories, steamers, hotels, etc., to show when the bearings of shafting are getting hot, or when apartments are overheated from any cause. Probably, on the same principle it could be attached to a railway train in winter, so that when the brakeman fills the stove full of coal, locks the door and goes off to have a smoke in the baggage-car, he as well as the roasting passengers would know when the temperature gets up to 150°. So, too, it could be put into churches so that the clanging of a gong would let the sexton and ushers know that while they were enjoying cool breezes at the door the congregation was sweltering in the body of the edifice. Then, too, the thermostat might be of use in the St. John post office and other public buildings where steam heat is used in the winter, and the employees' lives are threatened by the amazing temperature. Indeed, its application in this respect is practically unlimited, but beyond all this, are applications of the principle which must be made ere long, when scientific knowledge has taken another step forward in this wonderful age.

Before these applications can be made, the thermostat must be developed into an even more delicate and perfect apparatus than it is. Anybody who has seen the original Morse telegraph instruments in the Western Union telegraph building, in New York, will understand what development there has been in the key, relay and sounder as we find them today. So with the thermostat, while the principle will remain the same the instrument itself will be made much more accurate and complete in all its details. So completed it may be no unimportant factor in hastening the advent of a brighter era for the world.

Suppose, for instance, that an instrument on the principle of the thermostat were made so as to be conveniently applied to the brains of a public speaker, so that when he reached a certain stage of heated debate a gong would start up and continue ringing until he cooled down and became rational. It would pay the province and the city to supply such instruments to certain legislators and aldermen, while some ministers of the gospel who now are occasionally referred to in PROGRESS would be, if less noted, much more respected by their congregations and the public. Suppose, too, that a thermostat—possibly it ought to be called a chronostat—were made so as to have a time limit and give an alarm after a certain number of thousands of sounds had been made by a speaker. Such an invention would again be invaluable in the common council, it would be invaluable at the meetings of the board of trade, and it might not be wholly out of place in some of the church pulpits. No self-respecting man would undertake to talk against time while a chestnut-bell in the form of an electric gong accompanied his remarks.

Then, again, men who like to taste of wine which maketh glad the heart of man, but are able to take too much of it, might provide themselves with a safeguard by a special thermostat, or chronostat, by which, at a certain stage, a small electric bell about their persons would begin its tintinnulation, and not cease until the system became cooler by abstinence or a judicious administration of plain soda or appollinaris water. No matter how much a man might feel that he needed just a little more, the expert evidence of the bell would convince and convict him to the contrary. He could argue down a barkeeper who told him he had enough, but all argument would be in vain with the bell. So, too, if he were spending an evening with too hospitable friends, the bell would put the song of "We won't go home till morning" into a state of innocuous desuetude. No man who calls himself a gentleman would want to bore a company by having an alarm clock going off in his pocket during the hours intended for social converse. He would, of necessity, ask permission to retire, and to avoid attracting a crowd would be wise to go home in a cab and thus escape all observation.

When the thermostat is still more fully developed every man who earnestly desires to be better than he is will find use for one of the appliances. It is the custom of some men who realize their own liability to err, to wear beneath the clothing a small cross armed with sharp points. When tempted to sin, or having hastily sinned in thought, word or deed, they press this monitor until the flesh is made to suffer and their minds are turned from what has led them astray. As it is well known that the emotions have a marked effect on the nervous and circulatory system, why could not an extremely delicate thermostat be made to warn men in time of gathering passion, envy, hatred or uncharitableness? How many cruel, wicked words would be unsaid, how many life long separations would be avoided, if we could but be made to pause before we speak or act upon the impulse of the moment. Could the principle of the thermostat be thus applied so as to regulate our hearts and consciences, the world would be brighter and better for all of us. There are, as there always have been, many, very many, whose lives on earth are and will be burdened with sorrow, because

of what has been said and done, which would not have been said and done had conscience checked in time and been heeded. So it is that though, through the faith and good works which are the fruit of earnest repentance, they are not without a hope of light beyond the darkness of earth, yet their mortal pilgrimage is but little cheered by what the world esteems as happiness. They can understand the symbolism of the thermostat. They can wish, but too late, that they had understood it in the past.

JOURNALISTS, OR WHAT?

The Toronto World is of the opinion that "the gentleman who calls himself a journalist, and who has for years been exposed to the shafts of his brother wits of the pen is really worthy of sympathy." It contends there is no other word in the English language that accurately defines a man who earns his bread on a daily newspaper, that the words, "editor" and "reporter" do not cover the ground, while "newspaper man" and "pressman" are indefinite, and in the case of the latter, misleading. It favors the use of the word "journalist."

The latter is a good enough word when properly applied, but among the all round newspaper men of America it has fallen into disrepute through the assumption of the title by all kinds of snobs, who as a rule, base their pretensions on the foundations of ignorance and impudence. One of the now leading papers of Boston, for instance, used to draw its supplies of green reporters from Harvard college, and in some cases the sons of wealthy men were willing to work for little or nothing for the sake of getting a foothold. Now and then some good material was found among them, but there were many other instances where the gilded youths knew more about useless theories than they ever could be taught of practical newspaper work. Some of them may have carried off honors in the dead languages, but when their copy of an everyday local story was handed in to the news desk, the blue pencil showed they had but a dim conception of expressing plain facts in decent English. These were the class of fellows who posed as journalists, were gorgeous in cuffs, collars and ties, wore ornate badges and would be as likely as not to present an elegant journalistic card in seeking the particulars of an accident from a crowd of North End Italians. They considered that their social standing and education entitled them to be ranked as above the ordinary reporters, and as they would hardly claim to be editors at the outset, they spoke of the profession of journalism and called themselves journalists. Men who knew every detail of newspaper work, from setting the type to writing the leaders, and who could be assigned to any department of the work as required, naturally felt disgusted with the twaddle about the aims and missions of journalism as enlarged upon by people with no practical knowledge, and so it was that the word "newspaper man" was used as the term which covered the work of the men who made papers. It was not a handy word, but it had a much more honest sound.

A journalist is defined by WEBSTER to be "the conductor of a public journal or one whose business it is to write for a public journal; an editorial or other professional writer for a periodical." This does not mean that every reporter is a journalist more that that every journalist is a reporter, but to be a good reporter requires a great deal more ability than to be a journalist in the sense in which the dudes of the business use the word. There are, however, all kinds of reporters, and there is a vast difference between those who never get beyond police court news, local items or tiresome accounts of meetings and those who can write stories of actual life that will be of interest wherever read. The reporter reaches a larger audience than the editor, for only a portion of the public read editorials while everybody wants to know what is happening in the world. The reporter who knows his business and works for the sake of something more than his salary, has a just claim to the title of journalist, if he will accept it, as in the majority of cases he will not. He is either a reporter or, if his duties also include "inside work," he is a newspaper man, which is a broader term. When he has charge of a paper or a leading department of a paper he is in a stricter sense an editor. Yet as a terse, graphic term, including every kind of newspaper work when done by men who know their business, the objectionable word "journalist" is the best that can be found. It is a pity that it is not in better repute.

The daily newspaper men of St. John do not appear to be addicted to the use of the word "journalist," though judging from the fact that most of them describe themselves as editors they are rightfully entitled to it. It may be said, however, that where they specifically state what they edit the average citizen is liable to get confused. There is a general principle that a paper can have only one editor, in the popular sense of the word, though there may be as many editorial writers as are required. Naturally, therefore, when the directory shows that both JAMES HANNAY, and J. E. B. MCCREARY claim to be "editor of the Telegraph," and both have had their names put in equally large and black capitals, one is puzzled

to know which is the editor and which is the other man. This is especially perplexing, as the other editors of the paper are all described by their titles. PARK MELVILLE is "associate editor," JAMES ANDERSON is "shipping editor" and HARRY S. CROSKILL is "city editor," while the sole "reporter Telegraph" appears to be JOHN B. JONES, who, it may be added, is now acting as an editor also.

The same doubt occurs when it is found that both R. A. PAYNE and S. DUNN SCOTT claim to be "editor Daily Sun," while, singular to say, nobody is described as editor of either the Globe or Gazette.

It will thus be seen that while the respective St. John papers have either a feast or a famine of "editors," the "journalist" has yet to come to the front.

Business appears to be dull in medical circles nowadays, or else there are too many doctors to allow the sickness to give all a fair share of the profits. At the recent meeting of the Medical Society in this city, one of the doctors complained of the practice in vogue among druggists of repeating prescriptions as often as customers came to them, although no second medical certificate was given. This means that a doctor does not get an extra dollar from his patient every time a bottle is refilled, in addition to the druggist's extra charge at "prescription rates." Just how the doctors intend to prevent this willful economy on the part of the public is not stated. As PROGRESS understands the law, a prescription is the property of the person to whom the doctor gives it, and while it is usually retained by the druggist, the latter, strictly speaking, is entitled to no more than a copy of it. He can have it filled as often as he pleases, and if it kills him it is his own fault—providing always that the doctor has not made a mistake. About the only remedy for this grievance of the doctors is that suggested by another speaker, that every medical man should be his own druggist.

It is stated that by the revised criminal code, prepared by SIR JOHN THOMPSON, the purchaser of a lottery ticket is made liable to a fine of \$20, while the value of prizes at raffles in connection with churches is limited to \$50. This seems a little inconsistent. There is no moral difference between a lottery involving thousands and a raffle involving tens. The principle of trying one's luck to get more than an equivalent for money paid, at the expense of others less fortunate, is the same in both instances. If a lottery is wrong so is a raffle, whether for church purposes or not. If a raffle is permitted why should a man who takes his chances in a bigger lottery be punished for risking his money in the venture? Either the whole system is right or wrong. Which is it, and why does the government make a distinction?

Among the wonders of the Chicago's world's fair is promised "an exact duplicate" of NOAH'S ark. Considering that the men who have studied the subject most carefully are yet in some doubt as to what the ark was like, it will be hard to prove that the Chicago copy is true to history. One thing may be said, however, nobody can prove that it will not be like the original.

JOYS AND WOES OF OTHER PLACES.

Rumor with Its Throat Tongues. It is rumored that S. Nichols intends to add a wing to his house and to run a first-class hotel.—Berwick Register.

Something to Talk About. Three funerals in one afternoon is more than our town is accustomed to see; this was the number last Wednesday.—Woodstock Press.

Poor Prospects for the Hay Crop. The roadmaster has looked after the grass this summer in a creditable manner, and not allowed it to grow promiscuously in the streets.—Fion. Globe.

Commodore Stewart and the Pirate. A young Nelson thief visited Beaubien's Island on Sunday, sneaked on board a yacht in the absence of the crew, and stole the contents of the larder. His parents ought to feed him better.—Chatham World.

The Office Boy, as Usual. A mistake made by the office boy in counting quires last week left us short in number to complete our mailing list; we did our best to remedy the error by running off enough to make up the deficiency by printing the inside only.—Woodstock Press.

The Invasion of Clementsport. There was quite an excitement in our village last week, owing to a rumor that the notorious robbers had landed from a skiff and intended to raid the stores. A staff of police were put on the watch for several nights, but nothing occurred out of the ordinary.—Bridgetown Monitor.

The Revolution at Aylesford. M. N. Graves is painting his hotel white; this will be a great improvement to its appearance. Farnsworth & Co. are giving their store a fresh coat of paint, and not before it was badly needed. R. E. Zohrab is painting all his buildings a pretty green; no color could be more appropriate.—Berwick Register.

Digby is Marching On. Mr. R. P. Saunders has erected a substantial high board fence in the rear of his restaurant. F. H. Dakin has been newly painting his house on 1st Alley. It looks bright and cheery. Fred. Some fine, well grown new potatoes were brought to town last week by John Ross of Broad Cove. The Royal hotel is receiving a handsome coating of paint from the hands of Mr. Peter Dunkley.—Canadian.

Even Halifax Has Woes. Within half-a-dozen yards contiguous to Cornard street, near Robie and Chestnut Place, it is said that in the "dumps," where the city deposits its ashes, no less than 18 dogs, from "cur of low degree" to a Newfoundland, have been buried within the last three weeks. Though dead, they are not forgotten by the neighbors, as a most "disastrous" stench arises from this canine cemetery, and permeates the whole vicinity.—Recorder.

OVER THREE HUNDRED EXPECTED.

The Christian Endeavorers Will Hold Their Maritime Convention in St. John.

The third annual convention of the Maritime Union, Y. P. S. C. E., will meet in this city next week, opening on Thursday afternoon and closing on Sunday night. Through the kindness of the trustees of Centenary church, that edifice will be placed at the disposal of the Convention. It is from the variety and extent of its several apartments, eminently adapted to the necessities of such a Convention as this is expected to be. Some three hundred delegates from all parts of the Maritime provinces have signified their intention to attend. A large committee has been at work for some time securing homes for them, and they have found the majority of citizens willing to entertain them. Among the prominent Endeavorers coming are: Rev. Nehemiah Boynton, of Boston, a Trustee of the United Society; Prof. Andrews, of Mount Allison Wesleyan college, Rev. Anderson Rogers, of Windsor, N. S., Rev. John McMillan, of Halifax; Rev. Dr. DeBlois, of St. Martins and others. Rev. F. E. Clark, D. D., of Boston, president of the United Society, has been sent for and may attend during a portion of the Convention.

The growth of the movement during the eleven years of its existence has been marvellous. From two societies with a membership of 68 in 1881, to 18,500 societies and a membership of 1,000,000 in January, 1891. The secretary of the Local Union, Chas. J. Morrison, has been receiving the names of delegates for over a week and still there are more to follow. All meetings are open to the public and the session of the convention will give a wonderful impetus to C. E. work in this city. The Local Union here has nine societies with a membership of over 400. Their officers are John J. Purdon, president; Rev. H. W. Stewart, vice-president; Chas. J. Morrison, secretary; Donaldson Hunt, treasurer. These with the presidents of the societies form an executive committee. The president of the Maritime Union, Rev. W. H. Heartz, of Yarmouth, the general superintendent, John S. Smith, and the general secretary, W. B. MacCoy, of Halifax, are expected early next week, to assist the local committees in carrying out the necessary details.

A Few Sample Letters.

From time to time paragraphs appear in the newspapers commenting on the mistake that so many foreigners make of confounding St. John, N. B. with St. John's, Nfld. and St. John's, Que. One can easily understand how such a mistake in addressing an envelope might arise from the slip of the pen, or from the ignorance of the clerk, but recent letters received by PROGRESS would indicate that one place is mistaken for another by employers as well as clerks. In this same connection an amusing story is told of a lady of this city, now in the country, who, upon hearing of the fire, wrote and asked if her husband was all right. This is equalled if not surpassed by the two following letters received a few days ago from well-known concerns in the United States:

JANESVILLE, Wis., July 7th, 1892. EDWARD S. CARTER, St. John's, N. B. DEAR SIR: Our Mr. ... sends you your valued order for ... As your city has since been visited by the terrible fire, we thought it best to write you before shipping the goods, as you might possibly be among the number who were burned out. We hope and trust that you escaped without loss. Awaiting your reply, we are, Yours very truly,

NEW YORK, July 16th, 1892. EDWARD S. CARTER, Prop. of PROGRESS, St. John, N. B., Can. DEAR SIR:—The writer has just received a cipher cablegram from Mr. ... directing that your debt for his services for the second quarter of the present year be canceled, complimentary, and that a receipted bill in full be sent you, in view of losses you must have sustained through the recent great conflagration in your city, and while assuring you of his sympathy, trusting that others may lighten your load a little in the same manner. Respy for— E. W.

Should Ensure a Good Crowd.

In announcing their moonlight excursion for Monday, August 8th, the Y. M. C. A. orchestra takes pains to state two things clearly, that there will be no dancing, and every effort will be made to exclude the rough element which has marred the enjoyment of so many outings this summer. No doubt the orchestra will be able to sell all the tickets allowed by the managers of the boat, three hundred.

They Make a Specialty of It.

A valuable piece of furniture is often thrown aside after it is broken, because people do not know where to send it, or do not want to take the trouble to inquire. Messrs. Amland Bros. have a repair shop on Waterloo street and are doing a large amount of this kind of work. They make a specialty of it, and endeavor to make articles sent to them as much like new as possible.

The Location is All Right.

The blue clothing store, corner of Mill and Main streets, is having a great run this summer. Its establishment was a lucky stroke on the part of the proprietor, who has not over-estimated the importance of Main street as a business thoroughfare. All varieties of ready-made clothing are kept in stock, and popular prices is the rule of the store.

Pretty Big Strawberries.

Large Strawberries are not much of a novelty this summer, but Messrs. M. H. & G. F. Sharpe of Havelock, Kings county are growing some that attract attention. One picked this week measured 4 1/2 inches. The Messrs. Sharpe average about five crates a day.

You Can Get It at McKay's.

The latest Delinitor has been received by Geo. H. McKay and contains a fund of interesting information for women. It is one of the most popular of fashion magazines and is always sought after.

NEARLY HALF A CENTURY AGO.

How St. John's, Newfoundland, Suffered by Fire Once Before.

The generous gift of nearly \$9,000 sent from Newfoundland to the relief of the fire sufferers in this city, in 1877, will be repaid, with something in addition, by the sums given by the city of St. John and the citizens, which already amount to more than \$9,000. This city could do no less than return the principal of the amount received fifteen years ago, and while it does not claim to add interest, it sends at least a few hundred dollars to the good.

Slight references have been made by some of the papers to the great fire at St. John's in 1846, and the following from the Morning News, of this city, in that year, will be read with interest as showing the extent of the destruction at that time:

DREADFUL FIRE.

ST. JOHN'S, N. E., IN RUINS—ALL THE CHURCHES AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS DESTROYED—ALSO NEARLY EVERY MERCANTILE HOUSE—SIX THOUSAND PEOPLE HOMELESS.

An arrival at Pictou from St. John's, N. B., brought papers containing accounts of a terrible conflagration, by which nearly the whole of that town was destroyed. The advices arrived in Halifax on Monday morning. The fire commenced at half past 8 o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 12th instant, in George's street, off Queen's street in the room occupied as a dwelling, above the cabinet maker's shop of Mr. Hamlin, and raged until 7 o'clock in the evening, by which time the destruction was complete. It extended rapidly into Queen street and Water street, consuming everything in its progress, all the intermediate buildings, oil vats, wharves, &c., as far as Messrs. Newman's. Here its ravages to the westward were stopped. From Warren's premises it took the buildings to the eastward, making a clear sweep of wharves, vats, &c. The house of E. & N. Stabb was blown up in an attempt to stop the fire, in doing which one artilleryman was killed, and another severely wounded. Queen's street and Duckworth street are destroyed.

In the vats of J. & N. Kent was the fat of 25,000 seals. The catholic church and the episcopal residence in rear of Duckworth street were saved. St. John's church, the Cathedral Church of England were burned to the ground. The court house, jail and all the buildings by which they were surrounded are consumed, also the commercial rooms, marine insurance office, Agricultural society's museum, Bank of British North America. The Congregational chapel saved. Ordnance store burnt, but the rest of the building saved. The nunnery school-house and nunnery burnt. Every printing office burnt, but part of the materials saved. Five or six thousand persons had to pass the night of that dreadful day in the open air in front of the Government house. A meeting of the citizens had been called, and measures taken to afford as much relief to the dependent population, as the calamity had left in their power. Provisions were scarce. It was ascertained that there were four thousand bags of bread and three thousand barrels of flour in the merchants' hands, and his excellency had issued a proclamation prohibiting the exportation of provisions, or the erection of buildings until after the meeting of the assembly. Fortunately for the merchants, though some of them have lost to a very large amount, most of their outport importations had been made, for which they will receive returns in the fall.

The churches and the public buildings which the fire had spared were being hastily fitted up to shelter those who had been rendered homeless. The only mercantile firm in St. John's now standing, is that of Messrs. Newman & Co. All the rest are destroyed. The legislature is to be immediately assembled.

The papers mention the loss of life of three persons, two of them artillerymen, occasioned by the blowing up of the house above stated—the other an old man, who had saved his bed and other articles from the flames, but who sunk under the weight as he was carrying them to a place of safety and immediately expired.

At the least calculation two-thirds of St. John's has been consumed, and the loss of property by this visitation is estimated at a million sterling. Two streets, each a mile long, and a number of detached buildings have been totally destroyed, and twelve thousand persons have been rendered homeless.

This dire calamity calls for the active sympathy of all classes throughout the provinces, and we understand a public meeting will be immediately called at Halifax, to devise some means of partially relieving a portion of the distress which must unavoidably exist.

Where Enjoyment is Supreme.

One of the most successful picnics that leaves the city is the annual outing of Brussels street Baptist church Sunday-school. Committees composed of workers who know just what picnickers want, and a large number of young people to enter into the spirit of the occasion and make strangers enjoy themselves, always ensure a good crowd aside from those connected with the church. The picnic goes to Lepreau this and July 26 is the date.

Strengthening the Business College.

Mr. J. H. Pepper has transferred his interest in the Shorthand institute to Messrs. Kerr & Pringle of the St. John Business college. Mr. Pepper has always conducted a splendid school of shorthand and his graduates have secured the best positions to be had. Mr. Pringle will take charge of this department in addition to his specialty, penmanship. The nomination should add much strength to the business college.

The Dark Side of City Life.

Police Officer Caples found a four-year-old son of James Foley wandering about Prince William street yesterday and took him to his home.—Telegraph.

The North End police report a lot on Camden street, owned by Messrs. Robert Rankin & Co., as unenclosed; also a lot on Sherif street, occupied by Mr. John Murphy. A dangerous hole is reported in the sidewalk on the Marsh bridge.—Telegraph.