

# PROGRESS.

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## PULLING LIVE WIRES

FOR THE JUDGESHIP OF THE PROBATE COURT.

Mr. Sturdee Led in the Race all the Week—Other Candidates Cropping up—The Recommendations of St. John People for Sturdee—Some Rumors.

The wire-pulling in connection with the filling of the judge of probate vacancy has been conducted most vigorously. As early as Monday at noon it was understood that Messrs. H. Lawrence Sturdee, John L. Carleton, E. L. McAlpine, Geo. McSorely, and H. H. McLean, and three other gentlemen were in the field. No stone seems to have been left unturned by those whose chances appeared good, and it is stated cablegrams were addressed to Premier Blair in the interest of certain of the claimants.

Early on Monday it was taken for granted that Mr. Sturdee had the inside track. His friends pointed out that he had always been a good party man and that he had fought and bled for his party in the last bitter contest in the city and county of St. John. They also reminded those with whom they talked that Mr. Sturdee had gracefully waived his claims to the position of police magistrate of the united cities, when he learned that the position was wanted by Mr. Ritchie; and again, that he had stood aside in connection with the regestrarship of deeds and wills in order that Mr. McLellan might be properly looked after by the government of which he had for years been so prominent a member. Besides, they showed that Mr. Sturdee, Mr. H. J. Thorne and Mr. John H. Parks were really the dispensers of local government patronage in this section. Mr. Thorne, they said, was strongly in favor of Mr. Sturdee's appointment, Mr. Parks was not opposed to it, and there were reasons to believe that Mr. Sturdee, in his official capacity as one of the three dispensers of the patronage, might be counted upon to favor his own appointment to the vacant judgeship. In addition to all this, it was claimed that he had behind him, outside of the immediate friends of other candidates, almost a solid support among leading friends of the government.

Later the Sturdee supporters were disquieted by a report that Hon. Mr. Pugsley was to use his influence in favor of his brother Mr. G. R. Pugsley, and that the latter would resign the regestrarship of Kings county so that Dr. Taylor, M. P. P., might have the office. Afterwards this report was re-modelled, and the revised edition of the story was, that Mr. A. I. Trueman, official reporter of the supreme court, was to be appointed judge of probates, and that he would hold it until a general election, when he would resign it in favor of Mr. G. R. Pugsley. Other rumors were that Hon. Wm. Pugsley would himself take the judgeship, or that his brother would take it, and that the Kings county regestrarship would be given to Mr. McCready of the Telegraph.

In the meantime the different candidates kept hustling for all they were worth in their efforts for themselves. Some few of them "pulled to pieces" all their rivals. They considered Mr. Sturdee's chances the best, and set about to destroy him. According to them he was not popular either in or out of the profession, and should not get the position, anyway, as he had been well looked after already in the way of plums directly or indirectly from the government fruit trees. He had made \$4,000, it was said, in a short time as receiver of the Grand Southern railway and \$1,000 as provisional liquidator of the Maritime bank.

Mr. McAlpine pressed his claims upon what he had done for the party. In St. John and in different other parts of the province he had stumped in the interest of the local government, and claimed to be able to "arouse the democracy" as no other man in New Brunswick is, or ever has been, able to do. He now wanted this position and thought he should get it. A friend of Mr. McAlpine's said to him: "What you have done and are capable of doing are just the reasons why you should not be appointed to the judgeship. You are too young a man to be shelved at present when your party, particularly in Dominion matters, are so badly in need of men." Mr. McAlpine appreciated the compliment, but continued his efforts for the judgeship.

Mr. John L. Carleton put in his application so that no one might be in a position to say that he had been an applicant he might have been appointed. Like Mr. McAlpine, Mr. Carleton, although a young man, has eloquently served his party on the stump, and if Mr. Sturdee was out of the race, would undoubtedly have as strong claims for the judgeship as any one of the others.

On Wednesday there was talk of a dark horse in the person of Mr. C. N. Skinner, M. P. It was said that his private business was such that he would have to abandon politics altogether, and that having held the position of judge of probates at one time, there

would be no trouble of his getting it again if he wanted it.

Just as PROGRESS went to press the news came that Mr. C. N. Skinner had been appointed judge of probates.

### THE TALK OF A FRIEND.

Mr. Ritchie's Endorsements Got Him into Financial Embarrassment.

PROGRESS has reason to believe that the suit of the Sisters of Charity against Police Magistrate Ritchie will be settled out of court. A friend of the magistrate in a talk with PROGRESS said: "Mr. Ritchie, in this case, is as much sinned against as sinning. No one can blame those having in charge the Orphan's home for making every reasonable effort to secure the funds that had been left to that institution. The fact that there is a balance due of some thousands of dollars is because Mr. Ritchie was generous beyond his means to some personal friends. He endorsed for them to a very considerable extent and had to take up nearly all the notes. In doing so he became temporarily crippled in a financial way and had to leave over the payment of some of his own obligations including that for which suit has now been brought. Without ever having spoken to Mr. Ritchie on the subject, I have reasons to believe that long ago he made provisions by which, if anything were to happen to him before recovering himself financially, not one dollar of the amount due under the McCourt will, would be lost to the orphans. I believe there is little doubt but that he will soon be able to pay over all that is due. It is impossible for a man with a salary of even \$2,500 to live and pay in a year or two several thousands of dollars that would not now be standing against him but for the generosity on his part, to which I have referred. The public may depend upon Mr. Ritchie's doing the correct thing in this and any other matter with which his name has been mentioned lately."

### WANT TO SEE THE PICTURES.

How Curious People Make Life Unpleasant For The Photographers.

"Curiosity is largely developed, nowadays," was the philosophical remark of a photographer, one day this week. I will have to go out of town to-morrow, and the curiosity of some person or persons is the cause of it. I was away last week, taking a photograph of a large building and I left all my plates in one of the rooms for a time before coming home, and when I started, brought them with me. I did not think anything about them until I began to work, when I discovered that they were all spoiled.

"How do I account for it? Curiosity of course, for I don't suppose anybody would spoil them on purpose. Some of the boys probably wanted to see the pictures and took out the plates to have a look at them. Once exposed to the light, of course that settled it."

"Oh! yes, such things as that often happen. I remember one time I was out in the country and a St. John business man who was with me was greatly interested. He bought an outfit and I gave him some pointers. A short time afterward he spent about one month in the country and came home with a boxful of plates."

"When he tried to develop them, he was discouraged. He could not make anything out of the whole boxful. One day he came to me the picture of a disappointed man. 'They are no good,' he said, 'and I don't know the reason, because I followed directions to the letter.' Sure enough there wasn't a good plate in the lot."

"He learned afterwards that the servant girl, knowing that her employer had been out in the country taking photographs, thought she would like to see some of them, and looked through the boxful of plates."

### They Want Saturday Afternoon.

At the last meeting of the St. John athletic club the lacrosse enthusiasts asked for the use of the grounds on a stated number of Saturday afternoons during the season. The cricketers have had this day all along, and when the request was made got up in arms to oppose it. The opposition was so intense that the matter was dropped for the present, but it is said that the lacrosse players will make another effort. Saturday is about the only day in the week that would suit the lacrosse players, as many of them find it impossible to get away from business during the week. The lacrosse element in the club is growing in strength, and will probably do some voting when they get a chance.

### Get It While You Can.

During the month of May a large number of PROGRESS subscribers begin a new year. A number of them have already inquired in the dictionary can be obtained by old subscribers and it we have the "sets of fiction" yet. To both questions the answer is "Yes." The dictionary offer is open alike to old and new subscribers and the book can be obtained by any one who enclosed a post office order for \$3.95 with their order for a years subscription to PROGRESS.

## AFTER A LARGE PLUM.

WHICH IS NOT IN SHAPE TO PULL YET.

No Change in the Governorship Yet—The People Whose Chances are Talked Of—Why Mr. Adams Kicked—His Recommendations Overlooked.

The fight over the governorship is becoming rather exciting. A few weeks ago it looked as though the appointment of a new Lieut. Governor for New Brunswick would be made before now. Present indications are that Sir Leonard will enjoy the office for some considerable time yet. In the meantime it may be stated that Sir Leonard is not in the third year of a continuous second term, as stated by the daily press. He is just a year and a half beyond his regular term. The predecessor of the late Sir Alex. Campbell, governor of Ontario, Mr. Beverley Robinson, held the office for full two years beyond his regular term, and the government may not appoint a successor to Sir Leonard until the second year is completed.

Who are the candidates and what are their chances for the governorship? PROGRESS has already given some information on this point, but the situation has become more interesting of late.

It is an open secret that the government would much prefer to appoint Sir John Allen, and may do so. His appointment would have been made some time ago but for fear of the troubles it might lead to in other directions. In the first place, there would likely be friction as to whether Judge King or Judge Palmer should succeed to the position of Chief Justice. It is stated that Judge Palmer has been pressing his claims to the governorship, and has received assurances that he will be made either governor or chief justice. The greater fight it is expected would take place over the question of who should fill the vacancy on the bench. Dr. Barker expects to be the next judge, and it is stated that he will consider himself badly treated by his party if he does not get it. Mr. Skinner, M. P., is understood to be pulling the strings for the governorship, or failing in that, for a judgeship. County Court Judge Landry is pressing for promotion to a seat on the supreme court bench, and his claims are being forwarded by the leading French conservatives all over the dominion, as well as by the friends of many other county court judges in the different provinces who are anxious to break down the tradition against promoting a man from the county court to the supreme court. If not promoted to the supreme court, Judge Landry, it is said, would have a fair chance for the governorship. Should he be offered that prize and accept it, the prediction of Mrs. Landry's deceased father—which prediction was made 40 years—that his daughter would some day be the lady in charge of government house would have become verified. The claim of Mr. Richard Lawlor is being pressed and his appointment to the bench urged on the grounds that he is a Roman Catholic and a North Shore man, which two facts are considered strongly in his favor. Then again, the friends of Dr. Richard F. Quigley, of this city, feel that as he was passed over in the admiralty court judgeship, he should receive a judgeship if one becomes vacant.

Hon. Peter Mitchell, with a foresight of what party troubles might happen by the appointment of Chief Justice Allen to the governorship, is working like a beaver to secure the governorship, for himself. He has succeeded in working up a boom in his favor all over the dominion. Many conservative papers and nearly all the independent journals are supporting his claims and knowing ones say that greater things have happened than Mr. Mitchell's getting the governorship.

Sensor Boyd is not yet out of the race for the governorship, and the latest aspirant is Mr. Temple, M. P.

Should a Roman catholic not be appointed to the bench there is an impression that the governorship will be offered to one of that faith, and in that connection the names of Hon. John Costigan, Senator Dever, Mr. Burns, M. P., and Judge Landry are mentioned.

### WHY MR. ADAMS KICKED.

His Recommendations Were Not Heeded on Two Occasions.

Many persons seem anxious to know why Mr. Michael Adams has soured on the dominion government, and why in dealing with the Harris purchase he referred to St. John as "a city of beggars." The latter expression was no doubt one of Mr. Adams' reckless figures of speech and was not intended to convey the impression that the words might reasonably suggest. Mr. Adams has not been feeling too friendly towards the government since they refused to appoint Mr. R. F. Quigley to the position of judge of the admiralty court. It is also known that he became further incensed against the government for not accepting his recommendation to elevate Mr. Lawlor of Chatham to the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Wetmore.

The Harris land purchase gave Mr. Adams the opportunity to have his say against the government, and as the public knows he struck out from the shoulder. Those who are behind the scenes say that Mr. Adams has been out with the government for some months, and that he was so indignant as far back as the Colter-Vince election, that he refused to stump Carleton county in the conservative interest.

### TOLD AFTER HIS DEATH.

Characteristic Traits of the Late Judge Skinner's Character.

An intimate friend of the late Judge Skinner tells PROGRESS that there was a certain unwillingness on the part of his family to his going on the trip which almost amounted to a premonition that something would happen.

When the unwelcome news flashed over the wire Saturday evening the streets of the city were thronged with people. Thousands were passing to and fro, and the intelligence seemed to pass along the line with lightning rapidity. Little groups of people stood here and there in a moment waiting for news, doubting the authenticity of the report and asking for more particulars. There were none. The telegraph offices knew nothing but what had reached the people. Both Mrs. R. C. and Mrs. A. O. Skinner with other members of the family were at the boys' club entertainment. The news of the judge's death was kept from his wife as long as possible, but the agitated countenances of her friends told her that something had happened. In reply to her anxious queries to tell her what had happened the reply was: "It is the very worst news you could hear." It was a sad termination to a pleasant evening.

Those who knew Judge Skinner well can tell many anecdotes of his life. He was more methodical and orderly than any gentleman in his profession. Whatever he did was done in a systematic way—his room and desk, unlike that of many professional men, were always the picture of neatness, and his books and papers were arranged so that he could always place his hands upon the volume or document he wanted.

A young lawyer told PROGRESS Monday how, when he opened his office a few months ago, the first gentleman who called upon him was the judge of probates. "Now, Mr. —," he said, "anything I can do for you, any assistance I can give you in matters of probate, or anything else, will give me great pleasure." And he meant what he said. The words were no idle empty expression as the lawyers know full well.

Only a few hours before he started on his holiday trip he showed a friend his scrap book indexed and containing valuable facts concerning public men of the province. When a man died, the fact as recorded in the different newspapers found a place in the judge's scrap book. And thus by degrees he collected a large number of interesting obituaries and much valuable information. He could always settle any dispute as to the date of the death of public men and his "scrap book" was frequently referred to in this connection.

### Sailors on a Time.

Ten or twelve sailors, from one of the vessels in the harbor, and an accordion made things lively on Milledge's lane, back of Fort Howe, Sunday afternoon. A crowd of sailors are interesting anywhere, and a rollicking set like the one that climbed the hills Sunday would not fail to attract attention. As they went along a crowd of curious people followed them, and when they reached their destination, the number that expected to see a circus was as large as the attendance at free shows usually is. Out in the country the sailors lost no time in getting ready to have some fun. The musician got comfortably seated and made the woods ring with the music of the accordion. Then the sailors formed sets and danced until they were tired, while an amused crowd looked on.

### When Life Insurance is Appreciated.

The fact that life insurance is becoming more and more appreciated by business men in St. John is clearly shown in the cases of the late Judge Skinner and Mr. R. P. McGivern. The former carried about \$12,000. Mr. McGivern was insured for a large sum, but the exact amount is not known. One of his policies in the Mutual Life of New York, is now worth \$11,500, one half of that sum, it is said, being from the profits of his original insurance in that great company.

## OUT OF THEIR WAY NOW.

BRUNSWICK BELYEA OF HAMPTON FREED FROM PERSECUTION.

His Illness and Death Brought on by a Brutal Beating. Confinement in Jail and Persistent Persecution—A Recital of Recent Events.

Brunswick Belyea of Hampton, the subject of such persistent and brutal persecution at the hands of the "rum ring" and its tools, is dead.

He died last Saturday after a severe and painful illness of some weeks—an illness brought on, many say, by the brutal beating he received last winter at the hands of the "hangers-on" of his opponents and their never-ending prosecution and persecution.

He was buried Sunday, and the large and respectable concourse of people was a thorough rebuke to the hounding of his persecutors, an eloquent but silent expression of the opinion of the people.

It is safe to say that, but for recent events Belyea's funeral would not have been as largely attended as it was. His course in life had not been such as to gain respect from the people who followed him to the grave. But he was a man, and as such entitled to impartial and fair treatment.

The pages of PROGRESS have told the story before this. The readers of the paper know the facts from the start to the finish. They know that Belyea had at one time a saloon next to the Vendome hotel, and that the temperance people, resolved to stamp out the violation of the Scott Act as far as possible, made information against him. The remarkable trials before Magistrate Peters are still fresh in their minds. The part assumed by the Rev. Mr. Grant, the use made of the Sussex friends of temperance by the Vendome faction in order to crush out opposition to their own business, the imprisonment of Belyea after he had stopped the sale of liquor and in direct violation of the agreement with his prosecutor without whose knowledge the application was made are all brought to mind by this event.

In the same connection the wonderful twists and turns given the law by the local legal luminary will be remembered. It was he who set the remarkable precedent of committing one man to jail for an offence of which another man was also found guilty and walked the streets in freedom.

Columns might be written in simply recalling a series of acts so unfair and so manifestly unjust that the very men who had been hardest on Belyea from a temperance standpoint turned in his favor and denounced the treatment he received.

He was brutally beaten one night at the station, kicked and maltreated, two of his ribs broken and otherwise severely injured; his property was in part destroyed while he was confined in Hampton jail, from which he only escaped by an order from a just judge. Then his trouble had but begun. After a series of lawsuits he was thrown into the jail in St. John for the non-payment of court costs. He laid there for more than 40 days, during which time his new house in course of construction at Hampton, and adjoining the Vendome, was burned to the ground—the work of incendiary enemies. His release by the assistance of PROGRESS and the relating of the whole story, which for the first time through this paper drew the attention of his relatives to it, are quite recent events.

Although broken and shattered in health, his property burned and destroyed, Belyea had hardly returned to Hampton before his persecutors trumped up a forgery charge against him. The inquiry into it was postponed by the illness which terminated in his death.

The obstacle of the "ring" has been removed, but the temper of the people is such that they will not stand any repetition of the scenes and debauchery that have disgraced Hampton during the past year.

### Wants \$20,000 Damages.

The court docket, published quite recently, contained an intimation of an interesting case, Bonnell vs. Walker, about which but little has been said. The information contained in that mysterious sheet, "McKillops," said that the amount sued for was the somewhat startling sum of \$20,000. The case is a somewhat curious one. Newspaper readers will remember the paragraphs which mentioned the fact that Mr. A. L. Bonnell's horse was bitten by a dog belonging to Dr. James Walker, and that Mr. Bonnell, who was driving home, was thrown from his carriage and severely injured. It appears that Mr. Bonnell's injuries proved to be very serious, and are of a permanent nature. It is alleged that the dog was a ferocious one, and that his owner was aware of the fact, and it is further alleged that even after his attack upon Mr. Bonnell's horse and the results therefrom, that no attempt was made to destroy or restrain the animal. Mr. Bonnell will undertake to prove his charges before a jury and demands \$20,000 damages for the injury done him.

## TROUBLE IN THE CITIZENS BAND.

It is not Likely to Play Ta-ra-ra Boom-de-ay This Summer.

The Citizens band is in a bad way. The members will hold a meeting tonight to decide whether their instruments will go to the auction room or make things interesting at picnics this summer. A number of the members have gone away, and those who remain do not seem to agree on some matters of vital importance. The leader of the band is in the Opera house orchestra and has little time to look after it.

Another prominent member has struck out in another direction and has been the cause of all the trouble. He has formed a partnership with an outsider to run summer concerts at the Palace rink, and had hoped to make an arrangement with the Citizens band to furnish music. Owing to his connection with it, he thought it possible to get them to cut rates; but when the proposition was made there was a kick all round. If the band was going to play at the rink, it wanted to make enough out of it to pay members for going down, and the sum named by the musician-manager did not come anywhere near it.

The band's failure to fall in line with the manager's ideas, made that gentleman anything but agreeable toward it, and the result has been disastrous. The City Cornet band was engaged for the concerts, and the Citizens, reduced in numbers and engaged in frequent and animated discussions, found very little time for practice.

Those who still remained loyal to the band, however, were determined to hold on to the instruments, and the band room is not the "open house" it used to be. When the band was in a flourishing condition the door was always open. Members came and went as they pleased, and made themselves perfectly at home. Now the door is carefully locked and the secretary carries the key.

The band is deeply in debt for uniforms and instruments. They have been paying it off, however, but so slowly that the time allowed them has long passed, and they still owe a large balance. They will now either sell the instruments and pay the balance, or each man contribute to a general fund and own his instrument. The meeting tonight will decide the matter.

It is said that a number of the members would willingly go back into the 62nd band, provided they got full pay for engagements; but the trouble between the officers of the battalion and the old members has never been adjusted.

### A Row Over Canaries.

The charwoman who spends her nights and early mornings cleaning the offices on Prince William street can tell a curious story of her still more curious partnership with a well known architect whose office she has looked after. Birds were a hobby of his, and the charwoman also possessed a feathered songster. They agreed to put them in the same cage and see what would result in the shape of young canaries. The result more than justified their expectations, but a difficulty arose—the architect did not want to divide the birds. The woman insisted on the agreement being carried out, and words led to blows. The result of the contest was a visit to the station house by the woman, who wished to lay an information for assault. The architect was ready enough to hand over all the birds to quiet the affair, which he eventually did through the influence of his business friends.

### Open Up the Whole Business.

The enterprising gentlemen who managed to clutch the Springhill funds subscribed for the widows and orphans, and divert it from its purpose, are not pleased over the criticism of the condition of things which appeared in PROGRESS of recent date. They would like to know the author of the article, and to that end instructed their attorneys to find out for them. The legal firm followed out their instructions and wrote PROGRESS for the information. Needless to say it was not given. The hint was also thrown out that some of the statements made by PROGRESS' correspondent were libels. If the people who have the funds in charge are of the same opinion they have a splendid opportunity to open up the whole affair. PROGRESS would not object at all, and the evidence under oath would be highly interesting.

### How They Were Treated.

The passengers who were delayed by the accident to the Allan line steamer *Caspian* were kept on board at the company's expense for about a week, and were then furnished with "Pullman" tickets to Rimouski and two dollars each to pay for the one meal they would require before reaching that place. Delay is very annoying to travellers, but it is somewhat pleasant when there is no expense attached to it.

### A Boys Brigade Concert.

The boys brigade in connection with the Brussels street church give an entertainment Friday evening and have prepared an excellent programme, in carrying out of which they will be assisted by No. 1 company of St. John's church.