

PROGRESS.

VOL. V., NO. 254.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1893.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

THEY HAD A SQUABBLE.

AN AMBITIOUS REFORMER IS SAT UPON BY THE ALDERMEN.

How They Scolded and Interrupted Over a Motion They Did Not Understand—Mayor Peters Makes a Declaration that He is Ashamed of the Council.

The aldermen are still holding back from entering actively on a campaign, but two of the board are reported as not intending to run again. These are Ald. Jack of Queen's and Davis of Brooks, whose places seem likely to be filled by Messrs. T. N. Robertson and C. B. Lockhart respectively. Officers may deem it advisable to resign if the T. R. A. bill becomes law and the election is by the citizens at large.

The mayoralty campaign is coming to a focus, however, and the cards of four candidates appear in this issue of PROGRESS. They are all brief and give no indication of the talking powers of the aspirants. Mayor Peters takes only about 50 words to announce that he is in the field, and seems to rely chiefly on his record. Mr. Jones also refers to his record, which goes back to a year when Mayor Peters was a boy, 30 years ago. Mr. Tutts states that he comes after due deliberation with many taxpayers. He enunciates a brief but sweeping policy of retrenchment and reform. Mr. Sturdee has ordered a place kept for his card, but the copy has not reached the office at the time of writing.

Just one month remains before the conflict. In the meantime the T. R. A. candidate is to come to the front. So far, his name is not disclosed, though several individuals have been mentioned each as the possible choice of the nominating committee.

The aldermen do not appear to be dismayed by the proposal of the T. R. A. for reform and on Thursday, for the third time in a period of a few months, the mayor made an official declaration from his chair that he was ashamed of the council. He said it in a tone which indicated more of sorrow than anger.

The subject matter of his remark was an undignified squabble which arose over a bold attempt of a Carleton alderman to infringe upon the powers and prerogatives of the director of public works. It came about in this way:

In January last Ald. Baxter, of Brooks, introduced a resolution to the effect that as the street department was \$30,000 in debt, no further expenditure be made on the streets, except in emergencies, unless by order of the council. Also that the director of public works and the chamberlain report to the council monthly as to the work done, the number of men employed and the expenditure. This resolution was referred, and finally came up for discussion in the public works committee last Tuesday. Unfortunately for Ald. Baxter, the paper containing the resolution was not at hand at that meeting, and the committee discussed and recommended only the section regarding the monthly reporting. The alderman, however, subsequently got hold of the original paper, and at the council meeting on Thursday he moved the omitted part as an amendment to the motion which the report of the board recommended. The wording of it was that no further expenditure be made, except in emergencies, unless by order of the council. This would not prevent the council from ordering all the work they thought was required, but it would give the aldermen and the public some idea of what was to be done. When he moved the amendment on Thursday, however, most of the council appeared to take the idea that the passage of the motion would stop all expenditure and allow the streets to go to ruin for want of repairs. On this mistaken theory they argued and grew indignant for nearly one hour. Then they defeated the amendment by a large majority.

So far as could be judged, most of those who spoke against the amendment did not know the effect of it, while those who may have understood it were opposed to it on the ground that the idea came from a Carleton man. Ald. Davis appeared to oppose it because it came from his colleague who was "rushing legislation" and putting it out as an "advertising placard." He thought that some of Ald. Baxter's motions were open to grave suspicion and doubt.

Ald. Davis spoke a number of times during the fracas, but his remarks were usually made to the men who had the floor, and to the mayor, when the latter called him to order.

Ald. Shaw did not think the matter worth discussing, and asserted that Ald. Baxter was trying to get a reputation for economy. Thereupon Ald. Baxter retorted that Ald. Shaw need not be afraid of getting such a reputation.

Ald. W. A. Chesley made a long and vigorous speech. He seemed to think that the passage of the amendment would of necessity stop all work on the streets. Ald. Baxter had had the "check" to propose that the \$25,000 to the credit of the general revenue should be applied to the ferry indebtedness. Why should it not be applied to the street indebtedness? Why should they not stop running the ferry,

instead of stopping work on the streets? They might as well reduce the efficiency of the fire department, or take away half the electric lights, and see what the people would say. There was more business done on the Strait Shore road than in all of Carleton, and there was more money paid for wages there, but it was in a terrible and scandalous condition. So was the Douglas road, and the City road.

"Why don't you put in a word for Brussels street?" asked Ald. McKelvey.

Thereupon Ald. Chesley did put in a number of words for that street, and returned to the Strait Shore road, where he asserted wagons got mired and had to be pried out with planks.

Ald. Davis interrupted the speaker once or twice to protest against being classed with the Carleton men in the general denunciation, as he was not in favor of the amendment.

Ald. Vincent also took the view that the amendments meant a stoppage of work on the streets.

Ald. Law considered the matter an electioneering dodge, by which dust was to be thrown in people's eyes.

Ald. Blizard, the father of the council, thought that Baxter was a young man who ought to be content with grasping Carleton, without trying to grasp the whole city.

Ald. McGoldrick was also in opposition.

Ald. McCarthy was the only man, apart from the mover, who spoke in favor of the amendment.

When Ald. Baxter was closing the debate, he explained what his resolution meant. He did not want the system of men buttonholing the director of public works on Prince William street, and then having laborers sent to quarry rock in some unknown part of the city without the department of works knowing anything about it. Ald. Blizard rose bristling with indignation to enquire the names of the men who buttonholed the director.

Ald. Baxter replied that he was speaking of a possibility, but that though Ald. Blizard was a member of the works department, there were many things done of which he had no previous intimation and in regard to which, if asked about them, he could give no information until he had made enquiry. Therefore Ald. Blizard sat down, looking less indignant but more thoughtful.

The whole wordy war was so marked by disorderly interruptions and "back talk" that at times it was more like a fracas than a debate. At one time, too, the members who were in the outer room made so much noise that the mayor ordered the door closed. "We can't run two councils at once," he asserted.

At the end of the squabble the mayor sharply reprimanded the disorderly alderman. He did not wonder the Tax Reduction Association wanted to reduce the council, and if the public could have been present that afternoon the number of signatures to the petition would be largely increased.

"They also propose to have a new mayor," suggested Ald. Baxter.

"They will not choose him from this council," answered his worship. "I am ashamed of the council," he continued. "There is neither argument, nor ability nor anything parliamentary about its debates. Your worship is altogether too irritable today," said Ald. Davis.

Then the council proceeded to the next matter in the order of business.

Will Try Conclusions Again.

The races last Saturday were well attended and complete, so far as fun and sport went. In spite of the fact that Berry's speedy horse, and McAvinn's ready mare were in the contest, Walsh's Johnnie Dick came to the front again, not without losing one heat however to Big Dan, the entry of Dolan Bros. The heavy gelding has been in the woods all winter and yet was as steady as a rock and, helped by circumstances, beat out the party. Mr. Berry claimed his horse was not in shape to go, and Mr. McAvinn that his mare left her speed in the barn. Under these circumstances, arrangements were made for another race which is announced for this afternoon, weather permitting, and the track is in condition. In the fast class, Roline and Lady D. are barred, being too speedy. Mr. Walsh's bay horse will be a new candidate, and, as he trotted the turf near '50, he should make the good ones hustle. It was hardly fair last week to place Roline with a record of 2.24 against Lady D. and Black Jack, but still it was an easy way to find out what she could do. Lady D. has surprised her owners and the public and added much to her reputation and value. She is by Island Chief out of an Abdallah dam.

Threw Open Their Doors.

The members of Clan McKenzie, O. S. C., had a good time "At Home," Tuesday evening with their wives and friends. It is not often that the members of the clan give themselves up to so much gaiety, but they know how to carry it off in a proper way. The arrangements were perfect, the pleasant enjoyment of the evening an entire success.

THE HOUSE OPENS AGAIN.

MR. JOHN P. BURCHILL OF NORTH-UMBERLAND, SPEAKER.

Mr. McNutt becomes Engrossing Clerk—Mr. Stockton Present in Full Dress—Mr. Pitts Representing the Orange Order—Topics Touched Upon and Talked About.

The legislature is opened again—and again the same government is in power with the same old leader though since last year there has been a general election and the people of the province have pronounced on the issues placed before them.

The legislature this year simply means the house of assembly: the legislative council is dead and the "old ladies" of the province no longer gossip in her legislative halls. One or two of them indeed who always found fault with the term have vindicated their right to object by persuading the people to send them back again and



THE NEW SPEAKER.

two at least, Messrs. Hill of Charlotte and Flewelling of Kings are still in the ring.

But the council is gone forever; the chamber of obstruction is silent; the voices of the Hon. Thomas R. Jones, or Barbarie of the North, no longer shake the plaster, and make life miserable for the cornices. Instead, the Hon. Thomas proposes to run in the race for the council chamber of St. John, and if he gets there, terrify with his frown and his thunder the audacity of those aldermen who have more wind than reason.

Now that the council is gone the people who clamored for its death, so long and so loudly are apt to forget the fight which was waged against it. Ever since A. G. Blair has been premier it was the central plank in his platform and session after session the same great question came to the front.



ASSISTANT LAW CLERK, WM. WILSON.

Opposition met it down stairs and obstruction met it up stairs, until nature finally gave him such assistance as made his task possible. Death claimed a number of the old councillors and men were appointed pledged to vote themselves and their colleagues out of political existence when asked to do so.

What with broken pledges and a seeming forgetfulness of the condition of their appointment the life of the council was prolonged much longer than it would have been



ENGROSSING CLERK, L. C. MCNUTT.

had the intentions and conditions of the government been observed but the end came at last and with it the triumph of the administration was complete.

The opening of the house was the same as usual with the absence of the procession up two flight of stairs and the bowing and scraping before the throne in the upper chamber. The governor did his business for the first time in the history of the pro-

vince solely with the representations of the people.

As was announced some time ago Mr. John P. Burchill was the choice of the government for speaker and the leader of the opposition in the absence of any better candidate, or one more likely to be elected from his side of the house, seconded the motion with all the grace he could muster. The good qualities of Mr. Burchill were dwelt upon and if the opinion of the house had been taken, the verdict would have been that the new speaker is a jolly good fellow, well calculated to take care of the dignity of the house and keep the members in order—unless he has parted with his beard since PROGRESS saw him, the above is a good likeness of him.

Mr. Stockton must have remembered when he rose to address the house that he did so as the seconder of a motion and not as the mover and when he looked about him, remembering his statements about election day in this city, the difference between supporters on paper and supporters in the flesh must have been painfully apparent to him. Still what supporters gathered about the opposition standard chose Alfred Augustus again as their leader and he rose in his place with all his affability and silky beard.

There has been some hustling among the office seekers since the winter opened and the result is that Mr. L. C. McNutt, the editor of the Farmer, comes to the front with the appointment of engrossing clerk in his hand. Mr. William Quinn had the position last year, but it was vacated by his death. McNutt is known to all the members of the house and well liked. He is fortunate in owning a newspaper that will permit him to devote part of his time to other work or will permit him to accept office under a government, no matter how friendly disposed he may be toward it. From the standpoint of "value received," however, Mr. McNutt deserves the appointment.

So far as PROGRESS knows, the appointment of Mr. Pugsley as law clerk and Messrs. Wilson and Richard as his assistants, have not been gazetted, but that is, no doubt, a matter of time. The duties of the new officials have not been defined and the public will await the tidings with some interest. If they, however, call for ability, the gentlemen mentioned have enough of it to spare some to the work of the government.

Considering the fact that Mr. H. H. Pitts sits in the house it is a pity that Wilson could not also be present to check any excitable notions on the part of the Orange representative and to remind him that he too knows something about the order and what it professes to be. Mr. McKeown and Grand Master Fowler also being among the undesired, the duty of upholding the dignity of the order falls upon Mr. Pitts and it would, perhaps, not be unsafe to predict that the "dignity" may fall with a dull thud.

Mr. McDade has grown to be a part of the house, almost. He has been there many years and the work of reporting the house debates has been carried out so satisfactorily by him that it is quite probable the position is his so long as he wishes to retain it. Last year he was assisted by Mr. F. H. Risteen, the well known court stenographer and writer and the same arrangement is in effect this year.

The Funny Man at St. George.

The regular correspondent at St. George, "Max," writes that some St. George notes which appeared in the last issue of PROGRESS, over the signature of "Germain," are a fabrication from beginning to end. The notes in question were accompanied by a note signed "John Barry," and only a portion of them appeared. It remains to be learned whether Mr. John Barry was the funny man who perpetrated the hoax, or whether somebody forged his name, and inquiries have been instituted for that purpose. PROGRESS tries to take every precaution in dealing with matter sent by occasional correspondents, but when a name is sent which is recognized as one belonging to a well known family, it is not always possible to prevent a fool or a mischief maker from imposing on our good faith. Such instances are happily rare, and the same man never does it again.

At the Davenport School.

The Davenport school, through the kindness of Father Davenport is enabled to offer four scholarships, of the value of \$100 per annum, for two years, to resident boys who are the sons of churchmen. A nomination to King's College, Windsor, has also been granted by the governors of that institution. The Davenport school is now in a very flourishing condition, and its efficiency has been very materially increased since Rev. P. Owen-Jones became head master, last autumn. It has a fine staff of teachers, and is in all respects thoroughly organized and in a condition to do thorough educational work. The Easter term will begin on April 8th, and any particulars as to the institution and its facilities may be had by addressing the head master.

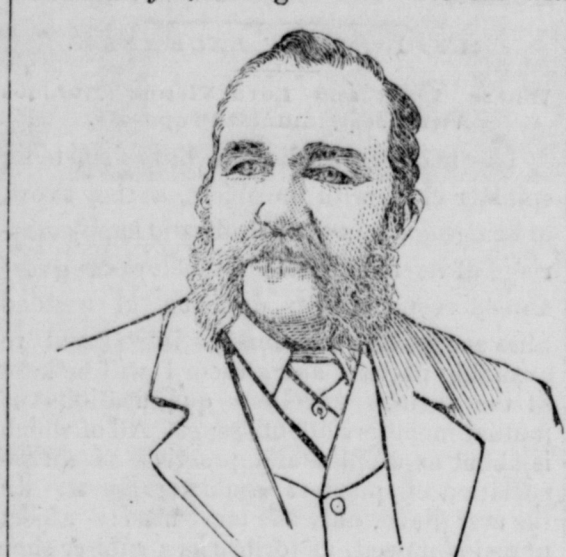
HER CHANCES GOOD YET.

THE GRAND JURY FIND A TRUE BILL AGAINST MRS. STEVENS.

Not Forced Into It by Any Direction of the Judge—The Postponement of the Case Is Likely to be a Point in Favor of the Accused.

Nobody was surprised when a Moncton coroner began an enquiry into the cause of the death of Mabel Hallett Stevens. The rumors current were numerous and ugly, and some of them went much further than, in the face of the facts afterwards learned, they should have gone. It was due both to the friends of the dead girl and to Mrs. Stevens, as well as in the interests of the public, that there should be the fullest enquiry.

In the face of the facts the evidence disclosed, nobody was surprised when the coroner's jury charged Mrs. Stevens with

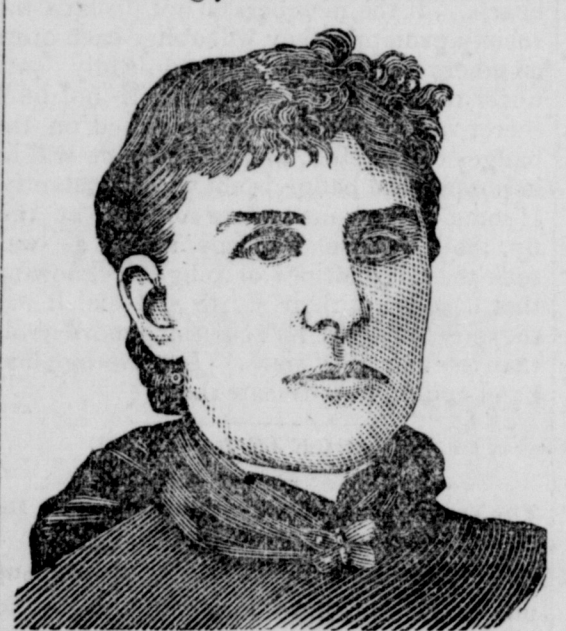


ROBERT HALLETT, FATHER OF MABEL. From an old Photograph.

manslaughter, nor was anything else expected than that the preliminary examination would result in the committal of Mrs. Stevens for trial in a higher court. It was felt that, apart from all local and personal feeling, the matter would be fairly dealt with and finally determined by the grand and petit juries.

But a good many were surprised that, in the face of Judge Landry's charge, the grand jury found a true bill. Probably even Mrs. Stevens was a little disappointed.

The county of Westmorland is a shire where people are apt to divide into parties on the merits of any notable criminal case. When Timothy McCarthy "came to his death" about fifteen years ago, in a manner that has never been made clear to the public to this day, there was a division into Osborne and Anti-Osborne parties. One of these strongly affirmed the innocence of



JANE STEVENS, THE ACCUSED.

the Osbornes, while the other was equally certain as to their guilt. This espousing of theories at the outset was one of the reasons why the facts of the case were never made more clear, for prominent officials engaged in the investigation were misled, and sent astray by their well-meant, but most unwise partizanship.

So it was in the case of "Buck," though it is only fair to say that in Moncton, at least, there was a practically unanimous opinion that he ought to be hanged, while the feeling in favor of a less extreme penalty was very general outside of Westmorland county.

In the case of Mrs. Stevens there have been two clearly defined parties, and though



DR. J. D. ROSS, Medical Adviser to Mrs. Stevens.

the press generally has asked for simple justice in the matter, one or two rank partizan papers have espoused the cause of Mrs. Stevens as though it were to be considered a party issue.

The Moncton Times and St. John Sun have published in full the charge of Judge Landry to the grand jury. Such publication will not be inconsistent with the attitude they have taken from the first that

Mrs. Stevens was a much injured woman. It is yet too early in the week to hear a report from the small-bores of the Chatham World and Sackville Post, but as they have been apparently unable to understand why there should have been an inquest in the first instance, they ought to derive a good deal of satisfaction from Judge Landry's charge. These papers will doubtless be as amazed as the general public that, in the face of that charge, the grand jury should have put the county to further expense by finding a bill.

Judge Landry is an eminently fair man, and one in whose hands the cause of the oppressed and persecuted is likely to be safe. Any prisoner brought before him will have all the rights the law allows. In this instance he gave a clear definition of what was manslaughter, and he also went to some length to define what was not manslaughter. In no particular was there any animus manifested towards Mrs. Stevens, yet the jury found a true bill against her. This was the opinion of twenty out of the twenty three.

And the jury was not drawn from the possibly prejudiced citizens of Moncton, but from the body of the county.

Mrs. Stevens was present and pleaded not guilty to the indictment. She did not sit in the dock, of course, but beside her counsel. Then as the attorney general could not attend this court the trial was postponed until the court which will open on the 6th of June.

Mrs. Stevens remains at large on bail as before. She appeared in court in company with her husband and sat between him and one of her counsel, Mr. W. W. Wells. Mr. H. A. Powell is also retained for the defence.

The grand jury was out from early in the afternoon until midnight before it came in with its presentment in this and one other case.

Any prejudice that may have been felt against Mrs. Stevens at the outset is likely to be wholly abated by June. She will have every possible chance for an acquittal, if an unbiased and fairly directed jury thinks she is entitled to one.

PASTOR SHORE WANTS TO KNOW. He is Anxious to Find Out How "Progress" Got All Its Information.

Rev. Godfrey Shore has come to the front again, and has had something to say about PROGRESS. There was a meeting of the St. John presbytery on Tuesday and his proposed resignation from the Carleton church was discussed. Mr. Shore, who is now in Ontario, wanted to resign under conditions, and these were that the claim of Jarvis Wilson against him, for \$65 be taken off his shoulders, that his salary be paid in full without deducting \$28 charged for moving his furniture, and that he must be satisfied that the deacons' council "had nothing to do with the publication of the articles about his not paying honest debts." He also wanted the privilege of preaching in the Carleton church for two weeks when he came here to take away his furniture.

It is understood that all the conditions will be complied with, except that Mr. Shore will not be allowed to fulminate from his pulpit for the two weeks desired. There is a fear that he would try to fire too many hot shots.

The statements made by PROGRESS were discussed, but so far as investigated, as in the case of the claim of Jarvis Wilson, it was found they were correct. It is understood Mr. Shore has written to a friend in Carleton that he intends on his return to obtain from PROGRESS the name of the person or persons who furnished the various items of information.

If such is the case, he has an exceedingly large contract ahead of him.

They Sounded Alike.

A fisherman went the rounds of the drug stores one evening recently asking for "Sardine Paint." He was politely laughed at in three or four of them and informed that there was no such thing. Finally he entered a King street store and put his question in a half hesitating sort of a fashion. "Yes, we have it," was the prompt reply. "How much do you want?" "Well, I guess ten cent's worth will kill all my corns," was the answer, and he soon walked out with that quantity of iodine. He had got the names mixed and "Sardine" was a handy substitute.

Enter Now or Not at All.

Mr. James W. Power, promoter of the cash stakes, open to the Maritime provinces, calls the attention of horse owners to the fact that entries close March 15th. at Halifax. Nominations must be accompanied by \$5, and particulars of horse's breeding. The stakes are for one, two, three and four year olds, owned and bred in the Maritime provinces previous to January 1st 1893, and will be trotted on the track offering the most money, August 23 and 24.

In Aid of the Orphan.

The young men of St. Joseph's society announce an entertainment in the Opera House St. Patrick's night in aid of the R. C. Orphan asylum. The programme embraces some attractive features which will be sure to draw a good house.