PROGRESS.

EDWARD S. CARTER,......EDITOR.

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ST. JOHN, N.B., SATURDAY, MARCH 4.

ELECTIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

That the principle of ward elections for the choice of aldermen is a bad one has been shown so repeatedly that the fact need not be emphasized now. Such a system leads to the worst results by fostering sectionalism, and leading to a grab from many quarters without any regard to the prosperity of the city as a whole. The evidence of this is found in the rapidity with which the civic debt has piled up, and seems destined to continue to increase until some better system is adopted. The aldermen for each ward feel bound to secure what they can for that ward, or in a broader and more conspicuous way, the North and West Ends are continually clamoring lest they fail to get what they consider their legitimate share of the spoils. A man sent to the council ought to feel that he represented the whole city, but too many seem to have the idea that their first duty is to secure all that is possible for the limited district in which their constituents have votes.

The bill which it is intended to send to

the legislature, proposes to do away with ward elections, and have the council elected by the citizens at large. This would seem to be a good move, but as the bill was at first prepared there was one feature of it which suggested a difficulty. It was that which required an alderman to be a resident of the ward he represents. This would seem to be an unnecessary limitation, and were it to become law might not always operate to the best interests of the citizens. As regards the present council, several members would be disfranchised. Among them would be Ald. McCarthy, one of the best men at the board, together with the aldermen of Wellington and Stanley ward. Why residence in a ward should be insisted on, when residence in a constituency is not required in the highest representative body in the country was not quite clear, and the bill was therefore amended so that the alderman must be either a resident or _ * xpayer in the ward he represents. This would seem fair enough, and will overcome the objections of those who feared that the majority of the council might be chosen from one or two of the largest and most influential wards. What seems to be needed badly is a reduction of the number of wards. The North End, for instance, could afford to make the county a present of Stanley ward, and divide the rest of the territory into say three districts. Carleton might be made one ward, while the old city could manage very well with five wards. This would make nine districts in all, a fully sufficient number for a city the size of St.

The question of how far elections at large will lead to corrupt bargaining among the candidates, has been discussed by some who have taken an inteaest in civic reform. There is a chance, it is claimed, for much of this to be done. A candidate in one ward, for instance, may make a combine with candidates in other wards to stand by him, and he will stand by them in return. This of course is possible, but the man who is running an election will generally try to save himself by putting on or taking off any name that he finds best suited to his purpose. In the cities of the United States where aldermen have been elected at large, the elections have been run on party lines, which fact has greatly simplified matters. It is not likely that there will be party lines at the St. John civic election in the near future, but whatever may be the case, the election at large must be an improvement over the old ward elections.

The submission of the bill to the common council, before it is sent to the legislature, is a matter of courtesy rather than a routine which the promoters feel is necessary. While bills affecting the city's rights are supposed to come through the channel of direct from the citizens, and bearing evi- the earnings for months of an ordinary dence that a large body of the ratepayers | wage worker. Then comes the funeral make.

that petitions in favor of the present bill are being very generally signed, but it remains to see how the council will treat the matter. Some of the aldermen, however, are on record as in favor of the principle on which it is grounded, but it is quite certain that a number of them are not.

AS TO FISH AND FAITH.

One of the well known contributors to PROGRESS is at a loss to understand the relationship between fish and piety, and discusses the matter as it appears from her point of view. Being fond of fish, and believing the majority of people to be so, she thinks that something less savoury should be the symbolism of penitence. This, of course, is the humorous view of the subject, but it may be that a good many worthy people who are not informed in matters of catholic faith may really be at a loss to see where there is an evolution of penitence or | it. piety brought about by one diet more than by another.

So far as Progress understands the ecclesiastical discipline, there is no virtue attached to fish more than to other food. It is quite true that the fish, as a symbol, is held in reverence, as well on account of the great fisherman, St. Peter, as because it has a signification in connection with the Blessed Sacrament. These allusions, however, have no reference to it as an article of diet on days of fasting or abstinence. They claim that, in New York, funerals The command of the church is not to eat | are "in most cases vulgar and disfish but to abstain from the eating of flesh | honest," and that " most families put themmeat. That fish is used is wholly a matter of custom, which has been handed down from the earliest days of the Apostolic | thus stated : Church.

So far as PROGRESS is aware, it is not claimed by catholics that fish provokes piety, or that the eating of it is in any sense a penitential act. The command to abstain from flesh meat on certain days and seasons is grounded on the physiological fact that the constant indulgence in it excites the animal nature of man, and that in avoiding it he mortifies his body and chastens his soul so that he may enjoy a higher spirituality. A gross overfed body is not consistent with a soul seeking a closer communion with its God. Fish, plainly cooked, while more palatable and nourishing than mere vegetable diet, is yet not a food which tends to animalism, and being in most countries easily within reach of all classes, has taken the place it holds as a food for seasons of prayer and penitence. Any other food, not flesh meat nor of a luxurious character, might and very often does take the place of

it in many households. It is not the eating or refraining from eating this or that at one time or another which, of itself, makes one better or worse. It is of little avail to fast or abstain unless one's nature is striving to rise to a higher conception of the great truths of revealed religion. To eat fish for fashion's sake is as valueless as the society way of keeping Lent outwardly and all the while distracting the mind by preparing for increased gaiety at Easter. Fashionable "fasting" is usually a very meaningless thing among protestants, because it is fashionable and has no great principle beneath it. Unless it have the accompaniment of prayer it brings little virtue to those who profess or practice

Among those who are not bound by any law of a church the question of fasting is one for each individual to decide for himself, and whether he eats fish or flesh, it is not for his neighbor to judge his conscience. If he who eats fish believes that his doing so makes him better than his neighbor who eats meat, he needs much discipline to quell the pride and vainglory in his heart. It is not the act of fasting or the article of diet that leads to sorrow for sin and a purpose of amendment. How far such acts may be helpful to the heart which seeks to be lifted up, can be best known by individual ex-

CHEAPER FUNERALS WANTED.

It is as true in a material as in a spiritual sense that a great many people cannot afford to die. They cannot help themselves, it is true, and they do die, but from a purely financial point of view it costs too much for a man to be buried. The last journey of all is to many the most expensive of all, and the burden oftentimes comes upon those who are ill able to bear it. The modern funeral is too costly.

There is a horrible mockery in the fashion of expensive funerals. At a time when men should learn that death levels all in the humiliation of the grave, when the instability of wealth and the folly of human pride should be most clearly taught to the living by the presence of the dead, the ghastly ostentation of the modern funeral intrudes itself. In the great cities the visit of the grim messenger to the house of a millionaire means a display in which no detail is omitted which can show how wealth gives expression to its grief. The poor clod of clay, embalmed that it may not see corruption, is decked in gorgeous apparel as for a festal day. It may be James A. Herne's charming picture of New that jewels that would give food to many a starving wretch adorn the stiffened corpse and are buried with it. The body itself is incased in a luxuriantly appointed casket, either of rare wood or adorned with costly fabric and gold mountthe council, yet the legislature could not ings, while heaped around is a profusion of refuse to entertain any such bill coming flowers which of themselves would represent

desired it to become law. It is understood | cortege with its elaborate hearse and train of coaches. It takes its way to the cemeterv, where there is a marble palace to receive the remains, as if all these precautions could prevent the dust returning to the dust in common with the clay of poorer

Even then the expenditure for the dead does not cease, The large item of mourning apparel has yet to be considered; and this may cost as much as the caprice of fashion shall dictate. The luxury of woe comes high, but people must have it.

The rich may have a right to spend what money they please in advertising their wealth and their woes to the rest of the world, but when fashion forces those who are not wealthy to distress themselves by an expenditure beyond their means, the necessity for a general reform in burial customs becomes apparent. The remedy is easy if people can be persuaded to adopt

For two years past there has existed in England a Burial Reform Association, which has made steady gains in its influence on society. A similar organization has recently been formed in New York, with Bishop POTIER as one of the leading promoters. Among others interested in the project are such well-known men as Bishops LITTLEJOHN and STARKEY, and Rev. Drs. DaCosta, Morgan Dix, Madison C. PETERS, STONE, TAYLOR and ARMITAGE. selves at the mercy of the undertaker to an extent that is ridiculous." The objects are

The exercise of economy in the funeral. The use of plain hearses. The disuse of crape, etc.

The disuse of emblems and flowers, except a few The discouragement of all eating and drinking at

funerals. Only immediate members of the family to accompany the remains to the grave if there be no re-

ligious services there. The early interment of the body in soil sufficient and suitable for its resolution to its ultimate ele

The use of rapidly decaying material for coffins. No family vaults. Mortuaries for the dead in crowded districts.

Give the poorest proper burial. Such an association, with branches everywhere, seems the best means of accomplishing burial reform. It is needed in every nmunity. There is too much needless expense, an expense which pinches the living to give a foolish ostentation to the laying away of the dead.

"Why should we advertise our grief?" is a pertinent question. Why should it be thought necessary to go to a useless expense in order to appear as respecting the dead? A funeral should be considered too solemn and sacred an occasion to be converted into a display, and the truest respect for the departed may be shown by the most simple accessories. By all means, let there be an encouragement on all that savors reform in relation to the burial of the dead and the outward display of mourning for

In the extract from an English paper published in Progress last week, on Queen VICTORIA's title, two erroneous statements were made, to which a wellinformed correspondent has since called attention. One of these was that "HENRY tho Eighth" was the first and last English sovereign to be called 'Dread Sovereign' and that JAMES the First, in the dedication of the translation of the Bible is only "High and Mighty Prince." The correspondent thinks it is curious that the writer should not have noticed the opening words in that dedication, in which the words "Great and manifold were the blessings, most dread sovereign," etc., are addressed to King JAMES. The omission is the more singular, as the extract was taken from as good an authority as London "Tit-Bits," or "Cassel's Journal," it is not quite certain which.

By a Ruse.

Some years ago the Abbe Liszt was stayin Rome, but he was not easily induced to play when in the salons of the Italian nobility. A young princess, who was desirous that the Abbe should favor her at her party with a display of his musical talents.

resorted to a ruse. She had noticed that when Liszt was present at a social gathering her friends had taken special care to open the piano, and in such cases it was almost impossible to get the artist to touch the instrument. At her own soiree she locked the piano and

put the key in her pocket. Liszt was spared on that occasion any request to play, and all the evening no mention was made of his art. This unusual attitude evidently surprised him Presently he began to walk to and fro in a nervous

manner before the locked instrument. At last he could no longer conceal his excitement, and personally requested the princess to give him the key of the instrunent. Then he played.

Few dramatic productions given in Boston this season have met with such instant and complete success as "Shore Acres," England life now being played at the Museum. Miss Hampton gives a most charming portrayal of a high spirited country girl, who, like her tather, cannot brook opposition. It is one of the best things she has done since she has been a member of the Museum company.

If the world only appreciated a man's okes as much as the woman does who loves him, what an immense fortune he could POEMS WRITTEN FOR "PROGRESS."

My Mother's Grave. Oh, mother dear, I kneel beside Thy grave of many years; I gaze upon thy resting place, Nor, can I check the tears,

That fall as free as summer's rain, Above thy lily breast. Oh, mother! could'st thou speak to me, Oh, that I thus were blest.

But pay, 'tis not that I should know The mother's love I crave. Cold death has c'aimed her many years, Within the silent grave,

Has lain long. the one I loved, Now freed from earthly pain. Oh, mother! I shall pe'er behold, Thy loving face again.

I weep, but weeping it is vain; I call, thou answer'st not. Thy gentle voice, is ever hushed, Beneath this very spot.

Thy body lies, so cold and still, Thy dear lips, bare the seal Of death: that cruel one, who doth And ever will, reveal,

Himself alike, to rich, and poor, Of low, or high degree. Nor careth he, whate'er their lot, Or station, it may be.

They tell me, when death's messenger, Thy spirit, called away. And when thou knew, that thou must go, Tears, on the fair face lay.

Oh, mother dear, why were they shed, Why didst thou sorrow so? Oh, why to leave a world like this Thy heart, such grief should know.

Was it the parting, from thy home, And from a husband true? And didst thou grieve to leave behind, Thy little children two.

Oh, mother dear, methinks 'twas this, Which caused the tears to flow. A mother's place, can ne'er be filled, Such love, we ne'er can know.

My brother, he was but a babe, And I but three years old. Thou knew the sorrows of tais world, Thou knew, that it was cold.

Thou knew, without a mother's love, How lone our lives would be, Ah, mother! thou hast passed from earth But not, from memory.

Sixteen long years, thy form so fair, Has lain, beneath the sod. This, is the first time, mother dear, I near thy grave, have trod.

And now I come, with flowers sweet, To place above thy breast. I come to thy neglected grave, Thy body's place of rest.

And with my hands. I smooth the turf. New sod I also lay. And fragrant roses, red and white. I bring for thee, today.

Thou dost not know, oh, mother dear, Thou can'st not, hear my tread. Though to my voice, thine ear is deaf, Thy spirit, is not dead.

Nay, it has reached that Haven blest, Beyond this world of care, And with the Saints who dwell with God Its glories, now doth share.

A robe resplendent, pure, and white, Such unto thee, is given, A diadem thy brow adorns, A mansion, there in Heav'n.

Then mother dear, tho gh I have wept, Full many times for thee. And though, mayhap, in future days, My tears may oft flow free. Yet thou art happy, thou art blest,

This, is assurance sweet, 'Twas God's will, thou wert called away, In Heaven, may we meet.

ANNIE VESTA ADAMS Composed July 26th, 1892.

Why art thou not e'er In life's uncertain way As true and as loyal As in its young day? Thou art e'er advancing Nearer the grave. But stop not romancing

Thy ambition to crave. Life e'er leadeth but to death, By the world's weary way; And e'en one fond heart Will brighten thy day.

Away with false ambition, And all causeless strife, Hail man as thy brother, And share love with life Why art thou e'er toiling Piling treasure on treasure? Pause thou to drink From love's gladdening measure Thou art losing, by thoughtlesness,

Friend, kindred, wife-, But pause not in amassing The curse of thy life. Oh can ye not see? Oh are ye e'er blind? Some hearts are appealing,

Some hearts would be kind

List ye who are fathers, Who are husband's to these: Grant thou their longing E'er reaction flows. Oh, man, 'tis not dross That enkindles the soul! 'Tis love that leads onward To life's one true goal:

Love true not can lust it 'Tis as pure as its name; Love is e'er to be trusted For love loveth fame. FRANK S. BLISS

My City, In a rift of Fundy's shore, By the tumbling water's roar, the city, chosen city of my heart; And here, ships from all the world May be seen with sails unfurled, Anchored safely in the smiling, prosperous mart. And the forest's fragrant store,

When the frost-bound days are o'er, Comes afloating to my city's ready hands; And the softly-tossing net Which the fisher-folk have set Yields a tribute sent afar to many lands. And this city on a rock Has withstood full oft a shock,

But with native strength of heart,

Disregarding fortune's dart, She has risen to her honored place once more. Oh, dear city by the sea! Not the second place for thee In each son's and in each daughter's loving breast; But with pride and joy aglow, Unto thee shall praises flow,

And each heart's allegiance none from thee may St. John, Feb. 21, 1893.

FREDERICTON.

MARCH 1 .- Mrs. A. S. Murray gave a very pleasant whist party on Monday evening, for her nieces, the Misses Lascelles. The early part of the evening was taken up with whist, and after supper dancing was indulged in till the 'wee' small hours.

Invitations are out for an "At Home" at the residence of Mrs. W. K. Allen, for tomorrow afternoon. Mrs. Luke Stewart is expected to return home Mrs. John on Friday.

Mrs. John Burpee who has been the guest of Mrs.

Wark, returned home on Saturday.

Mr. George F. Gregory, left on Monday for Wood-

Judge and Mrs. Steadman hope to leave in about two weeks for Florida, but at present the judge is

Among strangers recently arrived in the city, is a Mr. and Mrs. W. T. H. Fenety, and a bouncing boy rules the realm in Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Davis' home.

Mrs. W. K. Allen entertained a large number of the friends of Miss Lillian Glasier, to a snow-shoe party on Friday last. After the tramp the party re-urned to Mrs. Allen's, where an elaborate supper was served, and dancing was kept up till a late hour.
Mrs. Alf. Street, who has been visiting in Toronto,
the guest of her sister, Miss Tilley, and Mrs. T.
Carleton Allen, who has been visiting her sister,
Mrs. Widder, in London, Ont., returned home to lay.

Mrs. Widder, in London, Ont., returned home to 'ay.
Mr. and Mrs. Albert Edgecombe, are spending a
week in St. John, the guests of Mrs. Edgecomb's
sister, Mrs. Finley.

After a two weeks' visit in St. John, Mrs.
Knowles returned home on Friday.
Mr. Addison Sterling, and his sister, Miss
Madge, are in the city, the guests of Sheriff
Sterling.

Sterling.

Mrs. Gordon is entertaining a party of little tots at the Barraeksthis afternoon, in honor of her daughter Helen's second birthday.

Mrs. Hilton Green returned home to-day from a pleasant visit to New York.

Miss Donald Fraser is visiting Miss Needham,

George street.
Mr. Jack Wetmore's many friends were pleased Miss Tuck, who has been the guest of Mrs. John Black, returned to her home in St. John on Friday. Mrs. L. W. Bailey is entertaining a large number

Misses Lascelles returned to their home in St. John on Tuesday.
Mr. and Mrs. Robt. F. Randolph have taken ing season.
Miss Bridges will entertain a number of her friends to a musical at her home on Waterloo Row, on Fri-

day evening.

Miss Jennie Hatt gave a large dancing party on
Thursday evening to the delight of her host of friends.

Mrs. T. C. Brown returned home from her visit to Sussex last evening. CRICKET.

HARCOURT.

MAR. 1 .- Mr. C. C. Carlyle, of Kingston, has been spending a few days visiting friends here and at Mortimore. Mr. James Webster, of Shediac, was here on Monday, and went east by yesterday's express train.

Mr. Phinney, M. P. P., was at the Central to-day en route to Fredericton.
Mr. C. J. Sayre, of Richibucto, arrived at the Eureka last evening and left for St. John by this

morning's express train.

Mr. David M. Doherty, a former Kent County boy, was at the Central on Friday evening, and proceeded to St. Nicholas River by private conveyance

to visit his parents.

Mr. J. Harry Wilson, assistant station agent, has been visiting at Richibucto, since Saturday last.

Councillor David McAlmon, of Kingston, and Messrs. Philip Woods and S. C. Weeks, of Richibucto, were at the Eureka to-day homeward bound.

Mr. J. R. Aver, of Sackville, was at the Central Mr. J. R. Ayer, of Sackville, was at the Central to-day. Hon. Robert Young and Mrs. Young were at the

Eureka to day going south.

Mr. and Mrs. James Brown drove to Richibucto on Monday and returned home yesterday. Mr. Robert Swetman, of the I. C. R. Moncton, and Miss Florence Graham, of Mortimore, were married at the Manse, Bass River, by Rev. J. H. Cameron, Monday evening. The couple left by train today for Moncton, where they will reside.

Mrs. S. M. Duncan entertained the scholars of the Sabbath school class on Friday evening, and a few enjoyable hours were spent. Besides a goodly sup-ply of the usual delicacies there was some fine music, oth vocal and instrumental.

There was a pleasant gathering at the Central Hotel on Saturday afternoon, when Miss Jessie Glenn entertained several of her young friends.

Miss Janie Pride is expected to return from Boston, U. S., in a few days.

Rev. J. H. Cameron, of Bass River, occupied the pulpit of the presbyterian church here on Sunday.

Mr. H. C. Creighton, superintendent of the Do minion Express Company, was at the Eureka to-day.

Mr. E. B. Buckerfield has returned from his extended visit to England.

Lex. tended visit to England.

CAMPBELLTON.

[PROGRESS is for sale in Campbellton at the store of A. E. Alexander, wholesale and retail dealer in dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, hardware, school books, stationery, furniture, carriages and machinery.]

Mar. 1 —Mrs. Clarence Brown and two children, of Jacquet River, are visiting Mrs. O. A. Barberie. Mrs. Alphonse Gamache, of Riviere du Loup, was visiting friends here last week.

Mrs. Hugh O'Keefe spent three days in Dalhousie Mrs. A. McLelian, Mrs. D. Desmond and Miss Devereaux paid the shiretown a flying visit last

Mr. W. F. Duncan returned from Moncton and St. John last Tuesday. Rev. Father Bannon, of Chatham, was at the prebytery on Wednesday last.
Rev. Father McDonald went to Dalhousie by Monday morning's train, returning in the evening, accompanied by Rev. Father Crumley.

Mr. Kilgour Shives spent a few days in St. John

and Sussex last week.

Mrs. F. M. Anderson and family left for St.

Martins on Monday night. During the afternoon, a few of Mrs. Anderson's most intimate friends met at her residence, and presented her with a very elegant silver carving set, as a slight token of their affect tionate r. gard.

Miss Susie Clapperton arrived in town on Monday
and is the guest of her sister, Mrs. H. McIntyre.

Mr. Stockton Barberie of Dalhouse, spent a few

hours in town, on Monday.

Miss Nellie Williams left on Tuesday to visit re latives in Moneton and St. John. The ladies of the R. C. church, unanimously elected Mrs. D. O'Keefe as the president of their bazaar, which will take place during the summer.

Miss Minnie O'Keefe is visiting friends in Dal Miss Beattie returned home on Wednesday. The service held for the members of the presby terian Sunday school on Sunday evening was very Quite an excitement prevails among the curlers as to who will be the successful winner of this year's silver cup. Mr. Edward Price and Mr. Frank Matheson have been the most fortunate so far, and will play the decisive match this week. VIOLA.

RICHIBUCTO.

MARCH 1 .- Snow-shoeing is being indulged in to can be seen in all directions tramping over the snow banks of which there are at present an abundance.

Mr. David McLellan, of Coburg, Ont., but formerly of Richibucto, was in town last week.

Miss Smith, who was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm McKinnon for several weeks, has returned to her home in Shediac. Mr. Geo. W. W. Robertson left for Boston on Miss Janie Haines is home from Newcastle for

short visit.

Mr. Harry Wilson, of Harcourt, is in town the guest of Mr. aud Mrs. W. F. Brown.

Mr. S. C. Weeks, left on Monday for Amherst.

Mr. R. P. Doherty, D. D. S., made his monthly visit last week.

Mr. A. C. Storer, returned a few days ago from a visit to North Sydney. Mr. P. Woods, proprietor of the Commercia Hotel, is in St. John, this week. Mr. J. D. Phinney, M. P. P., of Fredericton, is spending a few weeks in town.

Mr. Andrew Loggie, left on Tuesday for his home in Dalhousie. Mr. Loggie has spent the past three

EEL RIVER STATION.

Mr. H. H. Fairweather, of St. John was here

FEB. 28.—Miss Blair who has been teaching school here for the past year, has resigned and ac-cepted a position in her brother's store. Miss McNair, of the Shannon Vale school, has also resigned her position.

Miss Jennie Currie entertained a few of her friends

on Friday evening last.

The many friends of Miss Jennie Miller will be enough." very sorry to hear of her severe illness.

Mrs. R. Parker and little daughter, accompanied by Miss Maud Lutz, of Campbellton, spent several days with Mrs. Robert Miller.

Miss Noble, of Metapedia, is visiting her sister, Mrs. John Moore.

Miss Belle Malcolm is the guest of her sister, Mrs.

enjoyed a very pleasant snow-shoe tramp.

Miss Hodgins, of Belledune, arrived last evening.
She is to take charge of the Summerside school which was lately occupied by Miss Maggie Dever-

most enjoyable time was spent, devoted to music and Mrs. Cowperthwaite and Miss Eddie re turned their home in Bathurst on Saturday morning.

The Rev. Mr. McConnell, methodist minister of Campbellton, preached in our mission hall on Thursday last.

MAUGERVILLE.

FEB. 28-Rev. H E. Dibblee spent last week at his home in Woodstock.

Miss Nellie Miles of Gibson has been spending a few days with her friend, Miss Belle Miles.

Miss Georgie Perley of St. John, was suddenly called home on account of the illness of her father.

Rev. H. E. Dibblee exchanged pulpits with Rev. Canon Roberts of Fredericton, on Sunday last. The latter gentlemen also preached in the Upper Hall last evening. last evening.

NEW GLASGOW.

FEB. 28 .- A delightful party was given by Mr. John A. Bowman, at his mother's residence, west side, on Thursday evening last, to a number of his friends. Dancing and refreshments were indulged in, and the party broke up in the "wee sma' hours" all voting Mr. Bowman a capital host. Those present were, Mr. and Mrs. Rudd, Mr. and Mrs. John McDougall, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Fraser, Miss Thurston, Miss Sullivan, Miss Sinclair, the Misses Ross, the Misses Johnston, Mrs. Fraser and Miss Smith; and Messrs. Cavanaugh, Dorion, Marshall, McKay, Ross, O'Brien, Green, Jardine and Johnston.

Miss May McDonald, of Halifax, is visiting her aunt, Miss McDonald, of the Egerton; as is also Miss Gracie McLean, of Green Hill. The Gymnasium Club intend having a dance next

PENITENCE AND FISH.

Friday evening.

A Correspondent who cannot see the connection between them.

I have often wondered why there should be such an intimate connection between piety and fish! Why the one should be popularly supposed to be a sort of outward and visible emblem of the other? And why people should fly to a diet of fish as an expression of their penitence for past sins, and their praiseworthy desire to do better in future, is a mystery to me. Which of us ever decided to keep Lent with unusual strictness, without having well defined visions of unlimited penitence-and fishfloating through our minds? Somehow it seems almost impossible to separate the one from the other. They seem to have a natural affinity for each other, like beefsteak and onions, or biscuits and cheese. We seem to fly to fish as a sort of mortification of the flesh, a modern substitute for a hair shirt, or a steel girdle; and we almost consider, at least a great many of us do, that very little else is to be expected of us in the shape of penitence. We are sorry for our sins of omission and commission, and so are eating fish in recognition of our deep sense of error; so what more can we

Now, I think I am speaking within the

mark, when I say that most people are tond of fish; and I have only met one person in the whole course of my life who really disliked it. It is a most agreeable change at this time of the year, when mutton and veal are almost unattainable luxuries, poultry is not to be had for love, aud scarcely for money, and lamb is an unknown quantity; a delightful variation from the weary well worn and frequently tough theme of beef, and it usually meets with a very warm welcome from our jaded palates. Of course we can get rabbits in any quantity, and for the reasonable sum of ten cents a pair, but then every one is not fond of rabbit stew; and the people to whom it is served have an unpleasant fashion of first looking under the chairs and table, and then enquiring, with an overdone solicitude, after the health of the family cat, under the misguided idea that they are being witty, and saying something no one ever said before. So, on the whole, rabbits are not practical as a food variation, except in extreme cases; and this brings us down to a choice between beef and fish, and the great majority of us welcome the fish with open arms. Who can dream of comparing a boiled fresh codfish, served with egg sauce, or a baked ditto, with savory dressing, to a piece of tough steak, or even a reasonably tender roast? Not I, I am sure. And who, if they really wished to mortify the flesh, and disappoint the epigastrium, would not refuse the toothsome dish and dine on a slice of yesterday's cold boiled beef? Very few of us, I am afraid: and the real penance would lie in resolving to forego fish, and keep on eating beef, hot or cold, tender or tough, all through Lent.

What reader of William Black, can ever forget his delightful description, in "A Daughter of Hetti," of the minister's good, and somewhat sneaky son, who was such a model himself that he loved to tell of the shortcomings of his brothers, and of the time those same brothers, wishing to insure his silence on a certain subject, caught him, took him to a secluded spot on the home farm, and insisted that he should "say a swear word," under threat of condign punishment? "Deevil," said the tortured Watty, beginning to whimper. "Ha, ha! Watty, my mon," said the Whaup, "ye maum say a worse sweer word than that; deevil's no bad enough." "Dam," howled the victim, desperately. "That'll do," answered the Whaup. "Noo, if ye tell, I'll tell feyther I caught you down by the brook cursin' an' swearin' like a trooper." I am really afraid we shall have to try

some worse penance than fish for the good of our souls. Like "Deevil" its "no bad

PATTERNS Queen," a large 16 page 64 column illustrated magazine, published) into man, thousand new J. McConnell.

Last Monday afternoon a few of our young people enjoyed a very pleasant snow-shoe tramp.

Miss Hodgins, of Belledune, arrived last evening. She is to take charge of the Summerside school which was lately occupied by Miss Maggie Devereaux.

The Misses Miller entertained a few of their Dalhousie friends on Friday evening of last week. A Modern Queen Co., Centre St., New Haven. Ct.