

PROGRESS.

VOL. VI., NO. 290.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1893.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

MEETING WAS POLITICAL.

THE RECEPTION AND ADDRESS TO JOHN V. ELLIS.

A Tremendous Turn Out to Meet the Released Editor—The Fund that was Raised to Meet His Costs—Many Contributions from the Upper Provinces.

It is something of an old story now to talk about the return of John V. Ellis to this city, but as very many of the readers of PROGRESS know nothing of the case except through the columns of this paper, some reference will be made to it.

Mr. Ellis went forth from the York county gaol last Sunday morning, and until Monday afternoon spent the time very pleasantly among his friends in Fredericton, calling upon those who had called upon him, and endeavoring to acknowledge in many ways the courtesies extended to him. His arrival was timed in St. John at about six o'clock on Monday night, and the preparations made for it exceeded any demonstration of the kind for a single individual for a long while. Band music was provided. The ship laborers and young liberals walked in procession, torch lights illuminated the scene, and there was plenty of speech-making, shouting and cheering. The scene at the station beggared all description, and when Mr. Ellis and his party stepped from the car and made their way from there to the barouche, they were the recipients of one continual ovation. The same occurred from the station to the house, where the imprisoned editor for the first time addressed the crowd. He had very little to say except to thank them for their kindness, and for the reception they had given him as the representative of a principle.

Then there was a meeting at the institute in the evening, at which an address was presented to Mr. Ellis. This savored more of a political character than any of the previous proceedings. The address began, "We, the Liberals," and many conservatives, who were in no sympathy with the severity of the judge's sentence, were unable to sign it on this account. Still there was a large number of signatures to it, but all of them of the same political complexion.

Very little, if anything, was said about the fund at the meeting, which did not go to show, however, that it was not progressing favorably. PROGRESS understands that Senator Lewin, the treasurer, has been in receipt of many contributions from the upper provinces, and from all the other provinces, to say nothing of continuous subscriptions received by the various members of the committee in this city.

A number of contributions still found their way into PROGRESS office this present week, which have been handed over to the treasurer, and it may be stated here that any further contributions for the same object might be sent to him direct, since in starting the fund this paper accomplished all that it set out to do.

Senator Lewin tells PROGRESS that the fund now amounts to about one thousand dollars.

A number of letters accompanying the money are very amusing. One of them from a certain portion of Charlotte county, says: "I send in my little two dollars towards the J. V. Ellis' contempt of court fund. I wish the contempt of court that I have could be measured by dollars and cents. I would be the wealthiest man in the Dominion."

Another letter sent by a little girl from the North Shore says: "Please find enclosed four dollars—two dollars from my father, and two from myself. We get the Globe and like it very much. I hope Mr. Ellis will get enough of money to pay all of his fine."

Why Not Publish The Names.

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS:—While I am in full sympathy with your suggestions to lighten the burden so unjustly put upon Mr. Ellis, I must say I think the names of the subscribers to the fund ought to be published. The people and the judiciary, should know who protests; and a large part of the moral effect is lost, by the names not appearing in the columns of your paper. A SUBSCRIBER.

[PROGRESS agrees with "A subscriber" thoroughly but must respect the wishes of many of those who subscribed, and it would hardly be fair to publish the names of some and omit the others.]

TROUBLE WITH THE BAND.

Bandmaster Hayes Said They Wouldn't Work and They Didn't.

FREDERICTON, Nov. 15.—For a great many years it has been the custom for the band of the Royal Regiment of Canadian Infantry to play the Episcopal church party to and from the Cathedral on Sunday morning. A large crowd would always gather at the foot of Queen street, at the close of the services in the different churches to hear the fine music which the band discoursed. One fine Sunday, not long ago, the usual large number collected at the foot of Queen street but they found no band; it had not accompanied the party to church that morning, and has failed to do so since. A good many people were disappointed and have been trying to find

out ever since what has become of the band on Sundays. A local paper advances a reason for the band's not turning out—and one which is generally believed about the city, viz: that the party accompanying the band is too small; and that the majority of the men attend either the baptist or methodist churches. It also goes on to say that the band would be quite willing to play to and from either of these churches, if the powers that be would allow them to do so.

Now this about the party going to the cathedral being too small is all buncombe. Suppose the number of episcopals is small what difference would that make to the band? Probably a good many of the men who attended the cathedral did so because the band accompanied them, as men generally prefer marching with music. It would probably surprise a good many to learn the real reason why the band doesn't play now-a-days.

The band doesn't march out because it is not supposed to do so, or in other words, marching out is prohibited. The band is not supposed to do so. While the school is allowed to keep up and maintain a band if they choose to at their own expense and practise in their own time, it is not supposed to interfere with any of the duties that the men may have to perform. The number of available men for drill is so small, that fifteen or twenty men cannot be spared for a band. As attending church on Sunday morning is considered a parade, the bandsmen's proper places are in the ranks with the rest of the soldiers. But it is only a short time since these rules began to be enforced. It is not very long ago, that bandsmen were privileged characters. They used to promenade the streets with different head-gear from the rank and file, and also used to wear fancy braided tunics with wings on the shoulders.

About a year ago Major General Herbert paid the school a visit and the winged tunics and staff caps dropped out of sight as if by magic. Bandsmen soon began to learn that they were no more than ordinary soldiers.

They were further impressed with this idea when one day shortly afterwards they received orders to leave their instruments at home and bring their rifles instead. They did not relish this much but they had to grin and bear it, and Bandmaster and Bugle Major, Charles J. Hayes, was mad.

He thought it beneath the dignity of the band of which he was the honored leader, to have to drill in the ranks with private soldiers. But notwithstanding all this the band still played to church on Sundays. It was not till General Herbert's visit this fall that the Sunday turnout ceased altogether.

When Bandmaster Hayes got word a few days ago that the band members must also do their share of guard duty, which they had formerly been exempted from, he resolved to kick. If he was mad before he was hopping mad now. He was never going to submit to such an injustice. He sought an audience with several of the officers and gave expression to a very strong opinion of the whole business. It is said he even went so far as to shake his cane threateningly at them. Whether it was the bandmaster's eloquence, his threats or his cane that caused it, the order that the bandsmen would have to go on guard has been rescinded.

It is also believed that when Col. Mansell gets back, and a council of war is held, that the band will once more be heard discoursing sweet music on Queen street Sunday morning as of yore, provided the G. O. C. doesn't happen along about that time. FRED. RICTON.

Champion Window Smashers.

There are men belonging to the St. John fire department who have a record as window smashers, whether they have otherwise gained a reputation or not. There are times, of course, when it is necessary to break windows to let out smoke or to gain an entrance, but there are very often occasions, where there is little or no fire, when the raising of the lower sash will accomplish all that is wanted. The window smasher never stops to think of this however, but dashes up with an axe and proceeds to demolish all the sashes with the air of a hero. He wants the crowd to know that he is there and that he is a jumping terror when the gong strikes off. A good deal of unnecessary damage to property is often done by men who are paid to prevent damage. It is time the smashers were taught better.

The New Secretary.

Dr. Geo. E. Coulthard of Fredericton has been appointed secretary of the provincial board of health in the room of Dr. J. Z. Currie. The latter has been a very efficient officer and the affairs of the society while in his hands have been properly administered and faithfully carried out. Dr. Currie intends removing to Boston, where he will continue the practice of his profession. The new incumbent, Dr. Coulthard, is a skillful physician, well acquainted with hygiene and a man who has a multitude of friends. He will make a very suitable secretary and the work of the board will be safe under his control.

TOO SMART FOR A BANK.

ALGERNON CROFTON OF HALIFAX OBTAINS \$7,000.

By Means of Forged Credentials—Married Only a Few Days to a Bright and Beautiful Girl, a Niece of Sandford Fleming—Much Sympathy for His Friends.

HALIFAX, Nov. 16.—The chief topic of conversation in the clubs and hotels the last few days is the successful swindling operations of Algernon Crofton and his capture in Texas. He is a son of F. Blake Crofton, of this city, and that gentleman has much sympathy from his friends in the disgrace that has befallen the young man. On a forged draft at Chicago the other day he stole \$7,000 from the Bank of Montreal at Winnipeg, using stationery and letter head paper taken from the Bank of Montreal at Toronto to carry out his scheme. Crofton, under the alias of Butler, presented his draft at the First National Bank of Chicago, the president of which is J. B. Forgan, formerly of Halifax. Crofton was unknown to that bank, but he handed in letters of identity, which also, of course, were forged. The amount of the draft was too large, however, to pay to a man with whom the bank officials were not personally acquainted, and instead of paying the money they sent the draft, with the letters identifying Butler, (Crofton) to Winnipeg. There the bank officials were satisfied with the evidence, and the money was sent to Chicago to be paid. Then the Bank at Winnipeg sent the draft to Toronto. They at once saw the fraud. But Crofton had drawn the money two days before, and was well on his way to Mexico when the fraud was discovered. The police were set on Crofton's track. He reached Mexico before them, and had it not been for his carelessness he might yet have been free. But he had succeeded so long that he became reckless and was caught. One secret of Crofton's success in his gigantic forgery was that he had in possession some of the bank stationery obtained while an employee of the Bank of Montreal at Toronto.

Algernon Crofton's audacity is astounding. He is, of course, well known in this city, of which his father and he have so long been residents. He first entered the service of the bank of Nova Scotia in this city. Then he obtained a position in the bank of Montreal at the Toronto branch. A few weeks ago he was in Halifax, previous to his marriage. He was often with "the boys," and caused surprise by the amount of money he seemed to have at his disposal. It was not uncommon for him to shake dice for \$20 and similar large sums. He explained the flash state of his finances by saying he had made money in a bucket shop and in other speculative ways, and that he had thus run up his gains into the thousands. "Whether he had before worked a similar game to that for which he has now been arrested is not known, but he was certainly at the time planning his \$7,000 haul, and possibly he was spending his prospective booty.

It is not often that a man works such a swindling scheme as Crofton's on the eve of his marriage to a bright and accomplished lady. But that was what happened in this case. Only a few days before Crofton presented his forged draft in Chicago and received the \$7,000, he was married; and the ill-gotten money, probably, was partly devoted to the expenses of his wedding trip. The young lady, who too late, has found out the character of the man she loved, is a niece of Sandford Fleming, of this city, the great pioneer engineer of the C. P. R. through the Rocky Mountains.

As already stated F. Blake-Crofton and his family, and young Crofton's friends in this city have the sympathy of all in this terrible trouble.

DISPUTE NOT ENDED.

Halifax Doctors Still Quarreling About Hospital Matters.

HALIFAX, Nov. 14.—The article which appeared in PROGRESS, of November 3rd, giving particulars of a row in the Victoria general hospital, between Doctors Reid, Farrell and McKay, was very much talked about by the medical men of this city and especially among those on the staff of the hospital. The doctors are very busy asking how PROGRESS got hold of it, when it was kept so quiet and away from the city press. It appears a meeting of the hospital board was called to consider the actions of Doctors Reid, Farrell and Page after the row took place between Doctors Reid and McKay, when the former felt like "knocking the brains out" of Dr. McKay. Dr. Reid, however, did not undertake the contract and Dr. McKay's brains are still within that skull which requires a 7½ hat to cover it. A largely attended meeting of the doctors connected with the hospital took place and a resolution was moved by Dr. Black to the effect that Dr. McKay's doctors were considered by the staff to be correct.

The action of the staff in thus endorsing Dr. McKay and censuring Drs. Page and

Reid puts those doctors in a rather awkward position.

After the article appeared in PROGRESS giving particulars of the row, another meeting was called at which a question of privilege was raised to find out how PROGRESS got hold of the facts. A number of doctors took part in the discussion, some going so far as to say that some of the doctors themselves must have written the article. They are agreed that it was against the interest of the doctors that their actions should be made known to the public through the press.

There is another question, which is agitating the medical fraternity of the Victoria hospital, and on which there is a wide difference of opinion, viz., the creating of a special department in the hospital for the treatment of women and children. One of the doctors is desirous of being made head of this department, but this is opposed by the surgical portion of the staff, while the medical portion are in favor of such a course. A resolution was offered requesting the local government to establish this department and to appoint Dr. Curry in charge. A vote was taken on the resolution which resulted in a tie, and there the matter stands for the present. The result of this contest will probably furnish interesting reading for PROGRESS in the near future, and it will be kept fully posted.

WHAT WILL DALHOUSIE DO?

Her Students are Champions but Her Funds are Low.

HALIFAX, Nov. 16.—Dalhousie college has gloriously won the football championship, once more signally defeating their old pals the Wanderers. If the college were as well off in other respects as in the football arena, there would be double cause for rejoicing. The fact is Dalhousie, while doing a noble work educationally, is in great financial straits. The current income last year was no less than \$1,000 behind the expenditure. This state of affairs cannot long continue. The college authorities made an effort last summer to raise a fund to meet this great current deficit, and were partially successful, but it was only a partial success. It seems to be an easier matter to train a football team for the championship than to teach the friends of Dalhousie to give her some of their money. And possibly it is a good deal easier for some of the college dignitaries to spend day after day watching the football matches than to spend the time, as it might well be spent, in taking measures for the relief of Dalhousie's financial distress. What is the reason for the apathy of Dalhousie's friends in regard to their college's pecuniary well-being? There must be something wrong with the college heads.

THEY ABUSE THE PAPER.

That Exposes Wrong and the Doers of the Wrong.

HALIFAX, Nov. 16.—There are people in Halifax, as everywhere else, probably, who are far more severe in their condemnation of wrong-doing being made known than of the wrong-doing itself. There is little harm in their eyes in doing questionable things or immoral deeds, so long as it does not come to the ears of the world at large. But there is nothing more reprehensible to them than giving publicity to those evils, even if by so doing the wrong may be abated and the wrong doer punished. This applies to those people who abuse PROGRESS for its outspoken exposure of what it sees to be bad in men and institutions in this city and elsewhere. Instead of striving to be better or to abate the evil, or to frankly confess their own shortcomings or mistakes, they simply abuse the journal that points out the wrong. But that is only the way the wrong-doers and some of their interested friends act. The great body of the people commend the independence and fearlessness that enables PROGRESS to place its finger on the sore spot and say: "There is the disease."

His Taxes Were High.

Mr. Simeon Jones and the Misses Jones have gone to New York to live, and an announcement in the daily papers and in PROGRESS of this week states that his flourishing business in this city has been transferred to the management and ownership of his sons. This really makes little difference, since for some time the Messrs. Jones, jr., have been taking an active part in the business. It is understood that Mr. Jones has taken a suit of rooms at the Hotel Plaza at a weekly expense of \$120. This perhaps is no business of the public, but it is an interesting fact viewed from the statement, it is said, of Mr. Jones, that it will not cost him much more to live in New York than his taxes in St. John have amounted to.

The Telephone in Church.

Among the deaths in St. John this week was that of a gentleman who had been an invalid for some time, and much to his regret, unable to go to church. A short time ago, to overcome the difficulty, he had a telephone put in the church and connected with the house, so that by listening during the hours devoted to public worship he could hear the prayers, the sermon and the music. The idea was not only good but, in this part of the world it was quite novel.

THE PEOPLE WANT ONE.

PROMINENT RESIDENTS SAY AN EXHIBITION SHOULD BE HELD.

Cash Prizes or Diplomas—Agriculture Made More Prominent—Another Building Necessary—Home Manufacturers should Take a Leading Place.

That there should be an exhibition in this city in the autumn of next year is the general opinion expressed by all the leading business men.

Mr. Fraser of Scovil, Fraser & Co., believes that it is almost a necessity of trade that one should be held. Although the last one did not entirely pay expenses yet it was a benefit to the merchants, hotels, hack drivers, trains, in fact all lines of business. If it did not pay directly, he said, it did so indirectly. It brought people to the city and if they did not purchase largely at the stores, they at least saw the goods and the opportunities afforded for getting supplies when they needed them, and for some time after orders came in, that altogether likely would not have been sold had there been no exhibition. It afforded an opportunity for wholesale and retail dealers to become better acquainted; it induced people to visit the city, and through the last exhibition, many visitors who came here and liked the place have come back each year since, thus benefitting the hotels largely and in minor ways many other lines of business. Mr. Fraser thought there would be very few dissenting voices to the question of an exhibition next year.

Mr. B. R. Macaulay, of the firm of Macaulay Bros., had no hesitancy in declaring it to be his opinion that not only should there be a provincial fair held here next year, but that there should be one every year. Agriculture should be made more of an issue in the exhibitions held here, he said. He believed that large cash prizes should be given for best butter and cheese exhibits, and that the money devoted to prizes for home produce should not be scattered over a large number but confined to special lines of farm manufacture such as in dairy work. He thought the idea of giving diplomas, while very good in some ways, was not so beneficial as giving money prizes.

Previous exhibitions, he said, had given a great impetus to October trade; the plan of cheap excursions by which two persons could visit the city at the usual fare for one increased traffic in every department. The city was advertised, its stores and factories got an increase of business, money was brought into the town and spent here and both city and country shared in the cash thus distributed. "Yes, said he, I am in favor of an exhibition next fall as early in October as possible, and there should be one each year."

Mr. W. S. Fisher, whose interest in the city's affairs needs no assertion, was seen and expressed his opinion in regard to the exhibition, giving some very valuable ideas in regard to the matter. He said that in the first place the exhibition should be held. He cited the beneficial results that follow, educationally and industrially. Manufacturers are brought into rivalry and seek to produce the best article at the cheapest cost.

Exhibitors learn from one another helpful facts, the newest ideas in production are spread abroad and the general proportion between cost and quality of goods is diminished.

And here the second point in regard to this exhibition is suggested. It should be of a provincial nature. The benefits discussed in the previous paragraphs are general, are not confined to any particular place, but should be shared by all. It should be an aim of the agitators to have a provincial exhibition, so attention might be drawn to unknown parts of the province and capital diverted to those places.

But the chief characteristic that should be sought is in connection with the bringing of the industrial and agricultural exhibit together. At the last fair the stock was shown at Moosepass, which proved rather a drawback, and took considerably from the value of the show to visitors. He believed that the ground to the east of the barrack ground should be acquired, and a building erected there in which the stock could be exhibited. This would be a great convenience, and would enable visiting farmers to inspect the stock, where previously they were unable.

Another point to be emphasized is a larger display of home manufactures and the monthly meetings of the manufacturers' association will probably result in this. Then the last but not the least question is that of its permanency. Should not it be an annual fair? Many towns, such as Fredericton and Charlottetown, have their annual exhibitions and why should not St. John? "It is agitation that tells," said Mr. Fisher, and it will be kept constantly before the public.

A Customs Will Provision.

When the appraisers were valuing the effects in the Duflerin hotel left by Mr. Fred A. Jones, they found among them a basket of champagne, which had not been opened. They were somewhat surprised

at this, and upon examining it found a card attached to it with the inscription "Mr. F. A. Jones, with the compliments of John Horn & Co." One of those present then remembered that through a curious provision of the late Mr. Horn's will, which excited much comment at the time, each of his customers was to receive, every year, a basket of champagne with the compliments of the firm. Of course the provision of the will had been strictly carried out, and every year a basket of champagne has found its way to those favored customers. It is not understood whether that section will provide that the champagne shall be sent abroad to any customers who may have moved away from the city, but if it does, Mr. Jones of New York will be equally favored with Mr. Jones of St. John.

BONNESS AND SOME SEIZURES.

What Observer Thinks of the S. R. C. and His Business.

ST. STEPHEN, November 15.—PROGRESS has the happy faculty of getting the most interesting news, the spreading of which amounts to a public benefit. The article by "Bonness" created much comment here among men of principle and lovers of fair play. The average opinion is that King should be dethroned and the special reviving commissioner placed in stocks. As to the seizure of Todd's horse and buggy there is but one opinion and that is of its entire legality. The public are much interested in the result, for Bonness has declared that the seizure could be made invalid. We wait to know whether Mr. Clarke Wallace can be so easily hoodwinked. Should this seizure not hold good, the public will think Bonness has a strong pull on Mr. Wallace and one in the wrong direction. Todd is to some extent a horse trader and in declaring the horse at the customs, could not have made the mistake which he and Bonness claim. It is all sham the public know it and so should Mr. Clarke Wallace, and if Bonness has been using his official influence in protecting his son in law, then one is justified in saying that he is working rather for his family than for the government he is employed by. The official who made this bold seizure deserves promotion whoever he may be. Were the smuggler any one else than the son in law of Bonness the fine would have been paid or the horse and carriage sold before this. For six weeks the horse has been industriously eating his head off in the vicinity of St. Stephen. Why this long delay and who is to pay the bills? The public at large have but little idea of the power and privileges given to an S. R. C. In the event of his making a seizure in person, he duly reports to head quarters and if the party seized thinks his treatment unjust he makes oath to his statement which is forwarded to the same head. The defence of the latter is sent to the S. R. C. for perusal who simply denies it, confirms his own and eventually collects. Here is the one most interested, acting as a judge and jury on his own actions, he knowing that two thirds of the fines, etc., will be pocketed by him and one third less all expenses by the government. The writer does not wish to discuss this system, its injustice is self-evident. But if we are to have it, the public can demand that the most sharp, active and upright men be given the position, not those noted for being very unscrupulous nor of those who on assignment pay one cent on a dollar and make a standing joke of it after. The public here wish for a full, strong and impartial enforcement of the laws against smuggling, and demand protection from such men in office. It costs the accused money to defend himself while to the S. R. C. the costs are nothing, win or lose. If the officials were required to pay the costs in event of the case being decided against them, there would be less persecution than there has been. Rather than incur the expense of fighting the government, more than one innocent man has quietly paid the squeeze. Bonness and Co. are not supposed to be in accord with the government, the supporters of which in this county now require men who can tell the truth, able official prosecutors not persecutors. The position is one that men of character and ability would take and work for the benefit of the government to a greater extent than at the present. OBSERVER.

"The Record's" Appearance.

The "Daily Evening Record" appeared Tuesday afternoon, and on that day and since has been a bright and newsy sheet. It is four pages, seven columns to the page, has a generous advertising patronage, and is well looked after from a local standpoint. There is no doubt that its reception by the public was a very favorable one indeed. The demand on the first night could not be supplied, and since then the sales have far exceeded the expectations of the publishers. It will be enlarged at an early date.

Too Much Pull.

"What are they going to do with Inspector King" asked a well known citizen this week, "nothing" was the reply of another and then he added with significant emphasis "Too much pull."