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THAT DIVIDED CHURCH.

THE EASTER MEETING WAS NOT HARMONIOUS.

More Disagreements in the Church of the Good Shepherd at Fairville—Failure to Administer Communion to a Member—A Policeman at the Easter.

The Easter elections usually supply some interesting tid-bits of gossip each year. If there has been any breeze of discord in the church it usually finds its culmination on this occasion and the events in a general way mark the milestones in the history of the church.

There has been some pulling in different ways during the year just past in the church of the Good Shepherd at Fairville, as *PROGRESS* readers are aware. It was over the missionary in charge, Rev. Mr. McKeil, and it culminated on Easter Monday night when the two opposing parties met in single combat over the election of the Church wardens and vestry. The champions of Mr. McKeil and the high church won, but they had to engage in some strategic play in order to do so.

At every Easter election two auditors are chosen who at the close of the next business year go over the books and at the same time the vestry clerk draws up the list of those eligible to vote at the Easter meeting. In order to vote a person must have been attending regularly for six months and must have contributed at least a dollar towards the support of the church.

This year the auditors spoke to Mr. Lordly, one of the wardens, about the matter, and they arranged to meet at the residence of the vestry clerk, Dr. M. MacFarlane, last Saturday night. They were there at the appointed hour, and waited two hours and a half. At the end of that time Mr. Lordly came in and said that the rector was using the books and they could not see them.

Therefore the accounts this year were not audited and the men in opposition to Mr. McKeil had no means of knowing who were or who were not eligible to vote. At the election a number voted who had attended the services only two or three times, but the rector ruled that they should have the right. Being friends of his he had a kind eye to their laxness in attendance.

His followers made a very good canvass for him and among those they brought in were eleven orangemen from Pisarino who would be supposed to be not in sympathy with high church rules. Mr. James Ready was said to be influential in bringing them in he being in sympathy with Mr. McKeil.

On several occasions the opponents of the clergyman and his friends have felt his displeasure but "the most unkind cut of all" came on Sunday when Mr. McKeil would not administer communion to the warden, Capt. Hamlyn.

As a result of the troubles in the church the finances are not in the best state possible. There was a deficit this year of over \$300 and the Sunday contribution has fallen as low as 94 cents. The report which the rector had to make concerning finances was not a very encouraging one. One of the humorous touches of the evening was when one of the assembly nominated for delegates to the synod a couple of worthy gentlemen. The rector said, "Oh, that must be a joke," and would not accept the nominations. The wardens who were elected were A. Lordly and Fred Engalls. The opposition candidates were Dr. MacFarlane and Wilfred Betts, and had it not been for the eleven Pisarino men they would have been elected. The Fairville members of the church are low church in their beliefs. The Pisarino men would not have candles in their church and boasted that they would not at the Easter meeting, and yet they were willing to vote for high church forms in the Fairville church.

The low church men, however, have one thing to congratulate themselves upon and this was drawn attention to at the meeting. Pressure was brought to bear during the year upon the clergyman to make the services more evangelical. They had succeeded to the extent of obtaining the dismissal of the acolytes and the quenching of the candle flames. But the candles still remain and are a sore point to many in the church.

There are numberless little things which Mr. McKeil has done to wear away the sympathy of his congregation. His manipulations of things and his methods have savoured too much of the wire-puller and electioneering man to retain him in their favor. Another fact in connection with the accounts which showed his spirit concerning them was a remark which he made to his chief supporter, Mr. Lordly. This Mr. Lordly has repeated and he is to be believed in this matter. He told Mr. Lordly to on no account let a certain one of the auditors see the books. As previously stated Mr. Lordly faithfully followed his master's instructions.

Several men also were not qualified to vote present. The clergyman admitted that they were not qualified, but ruled that they could vote on the ground that their voters would annual each other.

Another of the many slight incidents that give color to this whole affair and make it such an exhibition of fine work was one that just leaked out. It appears that Officer Hennessy was present and was ready at call if Mr. McKeil should need him. Once before he asked the officer to attend service and render official aid if needed, but the guardian of the peace would not consider the request. This time he appears to have done so, but the developments showed that he was not needed. But a man must have wholly lost faith in his church when he deems the presence of an officer necessary at an Easter Monday meeting.

CONVERSING BY SIGNS.

How Two St. John Gentlemen Spent a Pleasant Half-Hour.

There was a gentleman in St. John who loves to stroll along the wharves and watch the vessels in the harbor. Of all craft, there are none more fascinating to him than a tug-boat; and he was intently watching one on a recent afternoon.

He was throwing the whole of his poetic soul into the contemplation of that tug. When it had steamed out of sight he saw another gentleman a short distance away watching him. As in the old Town's Reader, "he looked at the gentleman, Mr. Speaker, and Mr. Speaker, the gentleman looked at him. And Sir, they both looked at each other." This performance was kept up for some time, until one gentleman bowed. The other promptly followed suit.

Then they again looked at each other. Finally the first gentleman made a sign. The other made another sign. They conversed in the language of signs for some time, but it is doubtful if either understood just what the other's signs meant.

The man who had been watching the tug-boat, had some blank paper in his hand. The watcher of the two watchers is unable to inform the reader as to whether this gentleman is a marine artist or a poet. After the second gentleman has got tired of signalling, the approached the other man, took a pencil out of his pocket, and wrote on the paper, "Are you from Sussex?"

The other, who had indeed lived in Sussex before coming to St. John, nodded.

Then there followed a long conversation on paper. Many questions were asked, and many answered. The two men were getting quite intimate, when the man who had formerly lived in Sussex got the following message from the other man:—"Are you John Smith?"

"Why," roared the Sussex man, "he's a dummy!"

"Well," said the other, "aren't you a dummy?" Then, realizing the absurdity of his question, he laughed. So did the man from Sussex.

"Why," said that man, "I thought you were a dummy. That was what I was writing to you for."

Then they both laughed, and shook hands, and laughed, and talked of many things, but in the language of the tongue.

The Dr. Parkhurst of St. John.

A well-dressed man considerably under the control of John Barleycorn gave an interesting oration on Charlotte street, near the Y. M. C. A. rooms, Wednesday evening.

"I am the Dr. Parkhurst of St. John," he said, "and I am going to show up the infamous police system that prevails in this fair city. Are you aware, ladies and gentlemen, that I am the Dr. Parkhurst of St. John?"

Nobody disputed the orator's right to his self-imposed title, but he continued:—"I assure you, ladies and gentlemen, that I am the Dr. Parkhurst of St. John. It is time that the rule of the police should stop. Is it the sentiment of this meeting that the rule of the police should stop?"

Before those present at the meeting could take a vote upon the question, a policeman came around the corner. Walking up to his sworn enemy, he intimated that he would better move on, or he would be run in. The reformer seemed to be convinced of the justice of allowing the police to rule, for there was not a sneaker in the city after the officer accosted him than the Dr. Parkhurst of St. John.

Where Sports Assemble.

There are many strange combinations in the uses of things. The bucket shop adjoined the office of a religious paper. A room in Palmer's chambers where once justice was dispensed is now given up to the evading of justice. The most warlike scenes that used to be enacted there were till before the lawyers who sat before Judge Palmer. Now there are regular boxing bouts there and the room is fitted up in the most modern style of sporting club arrangement. Mr. John Powers is now the presiding genius of the room.

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HALIFAX'S TURN NEXT.

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF THAT CITY'S CAMPAIGN.

The Prospects for a Warm Contest—The Liquor Dealers and the Temperance Men—Both Candidates are Popular—The Women Voters May Decide the Election.

HALIFAX, April 18.—On Wednesday of next week the civic election for mayor and aldermen will take place. The campaign has been, and will be, the most bitter civic fight in the history of Halifax, and it has more extraordinary features than any other civic campaign known here. Usually the candidates for the mayoralty seek the nomination as well as the office; in this case the nomination has been thrust upon them by their respective friends.

Mr. J. C. Mackintosh was spoken of a year ago as a candidate, but he preferred not to run then for reasons which it is not necessary now to enter into, one of which was that he would not be a party to break an arrangement which had been followed for a long time. He was especially determined not to run last year because a large section of our people had been but recently deprived of their religious



J. C. MACKINTOSH.

representation in the local legislature. This year Mr. Mackintosh's friends, without regard to party, sect or creed, insisted on his acceptance of a nomination for the mayoralty. They would not take no for an answer.

On the other hand, it was not generally known that Mr. David McPherson was to be brought forward till Mackintosh was fairly in the field. He had stated time and again that he would not run and when the news reached him in Boston that he was being brought out, he telegraphed to a friend declining to accept. But on his return to the city he was waited on immediately after his arrival by such a crowd of husters for the influence they represented, that he too, found it impossible longer to resist. So that McPherson, like Mackintosh, was forced into the fight. Subsequently, a proposition was understood to have been put forth by Mr.



DAVID McPHERSON.

Glassey, who is perhaps Mr. McPherson's most powerful supporter, that if Mackintosh would withdraw from the contest he and his friends would draw McPherson. It is hard to see what was to be gained by such a move as this, because both men were good, and if two good candidates were prepared to run it would hardly pay for both to abandon the field in favor of perhaps an inferior man. Mackintosh, however, as another evidence that his candidature was none of his own personal seeking, when the information of the proposed withdrawal was formally conveyed to him by McPherson himself, called a meeting of his chief supporters and placed himself unreservedly in their hands. They scouted the withdrawal proposition and insisted on Mackintosh remaining in the field. By this time McPherson had so far committed himself to the influence behind him that he was unable to recede and he faced the contest.

Though the candidates are on opposite sides of politics this civic contest is not a political fight. The issue really is "Rum versus Water." It is a fact that McPherson's candidature is alleged to have originated with, and that he has been most vigorously supported by the great majority of liquor men; and that the majority of consistent temperance men, and the best ele-

ment of the liberal party, are the most enthusiastic supporters of Mackintosh, while the conservative liquor dealers are enrolled in McPherson's behalf. Mackintosh has been a life-long total abstainer, while McPherson takes a drink whenever he wants it; as he has a perfect right to do.

The liquor dealers got full fair play from Mackintosh when he was mayor before. But the liquor men of Halifax are men who stand by their friends; and when they were badly in need of a friend, when McPherson was in office, he gave his casting vote in their favor. Like grateful men they have not forgotten that service; nor have the temperance people forgotten it either, so far as that goes.

Another thing that tells both in McPherson's favor and against him in this canvass is that he permitted the civic bar to flourish during his term and that he is alleged to have kept a plentiful supply of something good in the mayor's private office with which he entertained his callers with a generosity befitting the dignity of his position.

McPherson is a genial, kindly man, and no one has anything to say against him personally. He is a "bail fellow well met" with the boys. Mackintosh is one of those brusque sons of brusque Scotchmen, a shrewd man of business who proceeds on the even tenor of his way, who never had time or any great inclination to cultivate the wiles that go to make a man "popular." This contest is not so much a question of the popularity of the candidates as it is a battle between citizens backing Mackintosh and a clique of aldermen and others who are running McPherson, and it will likely be a close fight.

The shouters, the hustlers and the ward workers are mostly with McPherson. Mackintosh's friends are finding in this election campaign that it is work and votes that count and not prayer and sentiment without the work. Yet Mackintosh is depending on the quiet, silent reflecting vote, and the 24th will determine which controls the municipal government of Halifax.

A great variety of canvasses have been used and are being used, some of them coming back on the heads of those who started them, and used them. One of these scandals urged against Mackintosh was made by a young man who paid a quiet visit to St. John some time ago on a matter of great personal interest. When, figuratively speaking, he was taken by the throat by the man he had slandered, he got down on his marrow bones and denied he knew anything about the story he had circulated.

The election is as fruitful in cries as the ordinary dominion contest. Following the temperance slogan comes the religious cry. Mackintosh has been represented to the orangemen of Ward 6 as a man who, when he had the chance, gave everything he could to the catholics; and to catholics he has been called a backer of Chiniquy, and a P. P. A. man. While this was being said on the one side, it was but natural that his opponent's record should be looked into, and as a retaliatory canvass McPherson's action as a school commissioner has been trotted out by Mackintosh's workers. He is alleged, while on the board, to have expressed a desire to sweep religious emblems out of the catholic schools, and thus disturb the peaceful relations which existed between the great religious bodies of this city. As a matter of fact, as *PROGRESS* readers will remember, these amicable relations were actually endangered a couple of years ago by one of McPherson's most ardent supporters in the north end. It is not customary to mention these subjects in the public press, but a live paper does not ignore burning topics about which everybody is talking. But the campaign of scandal is subsiding, and thoughtful, calm public opinion is coming more and more to the front.

An entirely new feature in this campaign is the women's vote. The names of over 600 women are on the list. The majority of these may decide the election. The Mackintosh men appreciated this fact early in the contest, which has been raging for six weeks now. The religious women of the city came to Mackintosh's assistance, and made an active canvass with their sisters on his behalf. The probability is that Mackintosh will get two out of three of the women's votes polled. The women as a rule are for temperance and righteousness.

This is a fair bird's-eye view of the mayoralty contest in Halifax which ends on April 24th. There are aldermanic contests in every ward except No. 1, something unusual. In Ward 1 it is certain to be Alderman Musgrave, for he has no opponent. In ward 2 T. J. Barry and W. J. Butler will fight to a finish. Ward 3 has C. S. Lane and W. B. Mahoney as candidates. In Ward 4 Alderman Hubley had the field to himself till the eleventh hour when Dr. N. E. McKay entered the lists. In ward 5 G. C. Hartley is opposing the re-election of Ald. Frank Eden.

Ward 6 sees a fight where none was expected. James Adams, manager of the street railway, is making it lively for Alderman Mosher, who has been in the council for some years.

IT WAS A "WATERLOO."

THE TAX REDUCTION ASSOCIATION "IN THE SHADE."

An Election the Result of Which Was a Surprise—Why the Most of the Members of the T. R. A. Ticket Were Defeated—Some Amusing Incidents.

It took only seven or eight hours for the voters of the city to administer a very severe reproof to the Tax Reduction Association on Tuesday last. About 3600 voters went to the polls and the burden of their song was, we are not pleased with the T. R. A. So they elected only two, possibly three, of the association ticket and some excellent candidates went down in slaughter.

It will, however, be a good lesson to the association. The whole reform scheme was promoted to strike a blow at ring rule and while it was engaged in this enterprise it succeeded. But when clique rule, self-interest and secret work cropped out in its own midst the citizens decided that it was not living up to its pretensions and so administered a rebuff. This was why *PROGRESS* and many good citizens withdrew their support. They recognized that under the reform regime excellent work had been done, but the principles of the association, not that body itself, were to be thanked for this.

This was the principal reason why the association lost support, but there were other reasons. Some of the unthinking ones expected taxes to come down one-half. They did not and so they became offended. As far as their financial record is concerned the council was a faithful one. But out of that very fact the association lost some support. Some of the association's representatives in the old council were not taken on their ticket this year, though these men had good records and had assisted in making the financial showing a good one. Ald. McCarthy was one of these, for instance. The T. R. A. are not the supreme arbiters of a man's record nor have they the control of the city's destiny, said the electors. The association will probably now learn that they should not attempt to force public opinion but rather to lead it gently.

It was not expected that there would be as much interest in the election this year as last, but this proved to be unfounded and the number of ballots cast was very nearly as great as in 1894.

These are the men elected:
Mayor—Geo. Robertson.
Ald. at large—D. J. Purdy, Ald. McCarthy.

Guys—I. E. Smith.
Brooks—Ald. Baxter.
Sidney—Ald. Waing.
Dukes—Ald. Blizzard.
Queens—C. McLaughlan.
Kings—H. V. Cooper.
Wellington—J. E. Wilson.
Prince—Ald. McRobbie.
Victoria—A. L. Law.
Dufferin—Ald. Millidge.
Lansdowne—Ald. Christie.
Lorns—(undecided)
Stanley—Ald. McGoldrick.

Including his worship nine, possibly ten of these, were members of last year's board of sixteen men. This itself is a clear indication that the city appreciates the work done by that council. It expressed confidence in that council and said to the T. R. A. that it was quite as well competent to choose its men as that body.

Of the five new men Mr. McLaughlan is a well known member of previous boards, and so are A. L. Law and T. E. Smith. Daniel J. Purdy and Hedley V. Cooper are new to civic politics. Mr. Purdy is a well known North end business man and Mr. Cooper is a young man, prominent in the K. of P. order and with plenty of leisure to devote to the duties of his new responsibility.

It is rather remarkable that all three chairmen of the boards are out of the present council. Ald. Shaw, chairman of works, retired, and Ald. McLaughlan and Seaton, chairmen respectively of the treasury and safety were defeated. Ald. Chas. McLaughlan was a former treasury chairman and will probably receive that honor again, while Ald. McGoldrick will likely preside in future at the safety board.

There were many amusing incidents at the polling places and Dufferin ward was particularly rich in them. St. John's Tammany chieftain, Ex-ald. John Kelly, was there, and scored a magnificent victory for the citizens' ticket. It was their banner ward and the votes stood 3 or 4 to one. Count DeBury looked after the ward for the association, but he was powerless when opposed to the "boss". The voters crowded around the veteran campaigner and took his ballots and voted them. While the count was getting braced up to say something to an elector his opponent would have him out of his hands and voted. It is further said that in a remark which Mr. Kelly let fall he did not spare the dignity of the count.

In Guys ward there was an interesting incident One of Mr. Smith's workers ran in

a Chinaman to vote. He gave his name as Sam Wah, but others present said he was not Sam Wah but a man who worked with Sam Wah, and event hat he was some one else altogether. But all celestrals look alike, so they did not know what to do. They found out anyway that he could not have the privilege of a vote and so he sadly left the scene. The returning officer had been wondering how he would swear him anyway, for the followers of Confucius go through lengthy and wonderful rites in the process of swearing a man.

Mr. Geo. A. Davis was as irrepresible as usual while he sat behind the ballot box in Brooks and regaled the electors as they came in with anecdotes of how he made the money fly when he ran elections, etc. He also told how he expected to be prime minister to Queen Lil when he reached Honolulu, where he goes shortly.

It is no mean undertaking to count the ballots and keep the tally correct. In some wards it is said that tallying was not as it ought to be. In Brooks an error crept out and Ald. McMulkin and Mr. R. C. Elkin will be kept on tenter hooks until next Thursday. The return from that ward as endorsed on the outside of the sealed return presented to Clerk Wardroper gives figures which show Mr. Elkin to be elected. But there is a discrepancy in the figures and Ald. McMulkin may have been the successful man. When the council meets on Thursday the envelopes containing the returns will be opened and the question is are they the same as contained on the endorsement. If they are the same the discrepancy and evident error remains and a recount would seem necessary. But it is said that there is no provision for a recount except in case of a tie vote.

"Where Breezes Blow."

The cities and towns of New England will be given a chance to learn something about St. John early next month. They will be flooded with guide books and if these do not take them by storm and induce many people to come to the city this summer it will only be because of lack of imagination to appreciate the attractiveness of the book and of the place it tells about. The title of the book is "Where Breezes Blow" and it is being published by Messrs. W. P. Mason and W. F. MacFarlane. With good mechanical work, a lot of splendid half tone engravings, and graphic description it will have telling results. It will be distributed free and with characteristic enterprise the lines of travel, hotel men, etc., are assisting in the publication of that which they know is the best advertising medium they can have.

The Watchman was Asleep.

Some young people who were returning from a party on Monday night were much amused when they passed a doctor's office, the door of which is never locked. There was the watchman snugly ensconced in a chair, to all appearances fast asleep. There was much tapping at the window, at which the officer drowsily looked up. The next evening the policeman realized the truth of Gilbert's adage, "Taking one consideration with another, a policeman's life is not a happy one," for he often saw the fingers of passers-by pointed at him, and heard the exclamation, "There he is!" "Oh, it's you all right," said one tormentor, "you're the cop that was asleep last night."

The watchman will keep awake all night in future.

She Thought She had Seen Him.

A St. John Sunday school teacher who, some Sundays ago, had taken particular pains to instruct her pupils concerning John the Baptist, his life and works, recently asked the class, in order to see what impression her lesson had made on their plastic minds:

"Now who was John the Baptist?"

There was a long pause.

"Why, my dear children," said the teacher reproachfully, "do you mean to say that you don't know who John the Baptist was?"

A chubby hand went up.

"Well, my dear, you tell us who John the Baptist was and what he did."

"Please, ma'am," said the little girl, "he was the man that baptizes people down to Lower Cove slip."

Didn't Cultivate Them.

A young lady dropped into a St. John floral establishment this week and began discussing the Easter sale of flowers with the proprietor, the quantity of each variety sold, etc., and finally the young lady ventured the remark: "You frequently have pathetic incidents here, I presume." The florist paused a moment, and then not wishing to appear ignorant in a matter which evidently related to his business replied, "Well, no; you see there hasn't been much call for them yet, but we expect to have a big run next season."

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