

PROGRESS.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAR. 16.

CIVIC POLITICS.

The T. R. A. are discovering that some of the gentlemen in whom they reposed confidence last year are now finding it expedient to make excuses. They have had speeches from two of them, Messrs. Baxter and Lockhart, and they must have been highly entertaining. It will be a difficult matter for those gentlemen to persuade the people that they did not change their minds after they were elected.

An old cartoon by CHARLES KEENE, which has as its victim GEORGE FRANCIS TRAIN, sold last week for \$33. On the margin Mr. KEENE wrote to the editor of Punch, "Will this do, or is it libellous?" The editor evidently considered it would not do, as it was never published, and Punch was spared the wrath of the man whose wrath is more to be dreaded than that of potentates.

The New York Advertiser seems to be as untrustworthy in its reports of Nova Scotia news as some of its New York contemporaries. It makes a humble apology to Mr. ZACHARIAS A. HUBLEY, of Worcester, Mass., whom it charged with intent to defraud certain insurance companies, under a claim for damages by reason of an accident which happened in Nova Scotia in 1893.

MAX O'RELL says: "In going hastily through a country don't ask me what my opinion is; ask me my impression. If I wanted opinions about Canada I would go to well-informed Canadians." The observant Frenchman would probably find that the opinions about Canada that he would get from different Canadians at the present time would be widely divergent.

DEBS threatened he would do it, and he did. At a late Chicago meeting he charged all that the acts of violence and crime committed during the PULLMAN strike were traceable to the General Manager's Association, just as he promised he would. Now he has got that off his mind, he can become a peacelike citizen once more.

THE BIBLE AND INGERSOLL. Abbe HOGAN, in an article in the March Donahoe's, discusses INGERSOLL's recent question, "What has the bible done for commerce, for agriculture, for all the arts and comforts of life?" The Abbe says that an appropriate answer to this question would be to ask, for instance, what Mr. INGERSOLL has done for the improvement of Boston harbor, and that Mr. INGERSOLL's reply to this question would naturally be, "That is none of my business."

The maxims of SOLOMON, the lessons of CHRIST are applicable and calculated to benefit every kind of work, and every kind of worker. The direct influence on literature and art of the bible is in itself enough to stamp INGERSOLL's question as essentially foolish.

It is clear that a better answer than Abbe HOGAN gives to the man who thrills his listeners, oh treacherous times, smashes their doctrines—and secures their dimpled smiles, would be a straightforward one. If, however, an evasive reply be used, it would be the counter-question, "What have INGERSOLL's lectures done for commerce, for agriculture, for all the arts and comforts of life?"

Dr. JOHN WOOD, the eminent aesthete, artist and authority on art, should be an even more popular man with the New Woman as Dr. PARKHURST, or any other of the pampered masculine pets of the day. Dr. WOOD says that the modern woman's figure differs decidedly from the typical woman of Greek art. This at first sight might be thought to be a rather doubtful compliment, so much as it becomes the fashion to think the typical Greek woman the most perfect in form of any typical woman of any age. But Dr. WOOD follows up his first statement by saying that the modern Caucasian woman has more tapering limbs, that is, smaller wrists and ankles, and a deeper and finer chest. In carriage, too, the modern woman excels. She has a more erect position and a flatter back. Score a few more for the New Woman.

The world is getting braver and better. A gratifying instance of protestant tolerance was the respect paid by those of that faith to the great Canadian statesman who conscientiously gave up his religion for that of the Roman Catholics. A gratifying instance of catholic tolerance is that shown to the young Ottawa lady who has gone over to the Presbyterians from the church of her uncle, Archbishop DUCHAMEL. The world is getting broader and better.

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The United States post office department has decided that the statute prohibiting the use of postal cards for donation purposes covers the case of poll-tax collectors. Any government which puts further obstacles in the way of poll-tax collectors than are natural in the course of human events, is a government without a heart.

The California legislature, which made the big theatre hat illegal, has since defeated a woman's suffrage bill—which was wise. If the way is opened up to the admission of women into that body, the time may come when a Californian will not be able to wear a knife in his boot.

The march of modern improvement is taking the poetry out of everything. In lumbering, to cite a certain instance, the portable mill is surely conquering the mill run by the water of the brook. Where the log used to be taken to the mill, the mill is now taken to the log.

Society, which suffered a direct loss in the recent death of WARD McALLISTER, has now suffered an indirect one in the death of M. WORTH. WORTH has successors, however; McALLISTER has not.

The Ladies' Home Journal is bringing Mrs. SHAKESPEARE to the notice of the world. Now we will have some cryptogrammer ciphering out that she was the wife of Lord BACON.

VERSES OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Reminiscence. The full moon stopped before your tent, That night I saw you stand; In slat z z v l, O Persian maid, And took your dainty hand.

In Memoriam. ANNIE WENMAN (MRS. JAMES T.) HALL. May 21st, A. D. 1894.

An Arrival at Billville. The brass bands at the station— The firs were from the dome;

The Witch of Warnie. There leev'd a witch on Warnie braes, Her cheeks were red as bonny;

The Women's Mite. Some charitable women who have not a great deal of money to give away have what they call their penny purses.

He had a Reason. An old lady walking in St. James' Park, London, the other day saw a boy throwing a lot of bread in the water.

Where Cripples are Unknown. There are no deformed or crippled Chinamen. If a child is born deformed it is at once made away with.

A Restaurant with no Waiters. An international exhibition is to be held during the summer at Amsterdam.

A Boy's Fish Story. Charlie went fishing one day, and when he came home his father said: "Charlie, how many fish did you catch?"

He Knows all the Bible. There is now at La Rochelle, France, an old man of the name of Jules Zostot, who possesses a marvelous memory.

A Schoolboy's Puzzling Question. The late Professor Tyndall always encouraged schoolboys to ask him questions.

TIN CAN AND SQUIRT GUN.

An Anecdote of Hon. George E. Foster and John Thomas Bulmer. Apropos of the recent visit of Hon. Messrs. Foster and Costigan to this city, PROGRESS recalls an amusing little incident which occurred in a certain Nova Scotia town some years ago when Mr. Foster met in gladiatorial combat, figuratively speaking, Mr. John T. Bulmer, that eloquent exponent of prohibition in the sister province.

In conclusion, said the eloquent speaker, "I wish to say that it is perfectly useless for the honorable gentleman to array himself against the cause; why, he might just as well come to this province with a squirt gun and tin can to fight a vast forest fire, as make any attempt to stop the onward march of prohibition;"

SUNLIGHT AND SHADOW. A Walk on King street at Noon on a March Day.

March is here. It is a curious month. It is even more of a curious and fickle month inconsistent month than April, which the poets have classed as the most inconsistent and fickle month of them all.

It was King street at noon one day this week that this anomaly struck a PROGRESS representative. He was in the shadow of one of the street's magnificent buildings, and he was cold. The breeze was of the variety addressed by Shakespeare when he sang his famous lyric, "Blow, blow, thou winter wind, thou art not so unkind as man's ingratitude"—one interference being, of course, that though the wind was not quite so unkind, it was unkind enough.

But Germain street was soon passed, and once more the wind was cold, and the air was cold, and the scribe was cold. One might imagine oneself in the changeable climate of some of the western states, where a man dies of sunstroke through not being able to get his turban off quick enough.

It was a strange sight to watch the people going up and down King street that March noontide. One minute they were shivering, the next minute they were warm. One minute they were slipping, the next minute they were getting soaked. All the length of the street there could be seen pedestrians slipping or wading, tasting the delights of spring or "holing the cranreuch cauld" of winter, according as they were in sunlight or shadow.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES.

Donahoe's for March has an interesting article on what the writer terms "the present political chaos" in the United States. "The Social Aspects of Religion" will interest people of all denominations. That pleasing St. John writer, Mary B. O'Sullivan, discusses the fashions this month. The illustrations are up to their old-time excellence, which they have not been for some time past.

Professor Zweiber is rather a dissipated old man who gives lessons in music for a living. A friend, feeling a kindly interest in the old man, took him aside and said, "Professor, if you were to stop drinking and keep sober, you would be engaged to give lessons in some first families in the town, and make a great deal of money."

Some time ago, a foreign letter came directed to "Patrick Mahoney, First House in America." The letter was from Ireland, and, after the usual inquiries, the clerk learned the time that the vessel bearing the letter arrived. As an experiment, he placed it in the hands of a carrier, who was instructed to deliver it at the end of Pier. The house was a sailor's boarding-house, and strange as it may seem, Patrick Mahoney was found. When the letter was opened, the only contents were found to be a draft for \$100.

There is now at La Rochelle, France, an old man of the name of Jules Zostot, who possesses a marvelous memory. He knows by heart all the verses of the Bible. You can ask him at random any of these verses; no matter whether it begins a sentence or is a continuation of the preceding verse, his memory is never defective, and he will recite the lines. Some men

One of them wanted to know why the part of a towel that had been dipped in water was darker than the dry portion, and the man of science remarked that no man had ever asked this question, and very few would have been able to give the correct answer.

A condition of moral degeneracy is commonly attributed to newboys, but there are exceptions. A physician who recently moved up New York took an evening paper from a small newsboy and dived into his pocket for the change.

"That's all right, Doc," remarked the little chap. "I won't take no money. Don't you remember Jimmie you cured last winter with the fever?"

"But that's all right, Jimmie," he said, "and you must certainly let me pay you for you paper."

A good story is credited to Lord Rosebery. On one of his shooting excursions in Scotland he was accompanied by a gillie, with whose skill and service he was much pleased.

"I thought it right to tell your lordship that I've got another son. Good day, your lordship."

A French physician employed a very ingenious artifice. When he commenced practice in a town where he was not known, he pretended to have lost his dog, and ordered the public crier to offer with beat of drum, a reward of a hundred francs to whomsoever should bring it to him.

"Do you know," says one "that a famous physician has come here, a very clever fellow? He must be very rich, for he offers a hundred francs for finding his dog." The dog was not found, but patients were.

An enterprising young woman who has lately opened an office announces that she is ready to render practical help to men and women of affairs to save them time announcements. She proposes, if people will give her opportunity, to act as representative, private secretary and intermediary, where discretion, diplomacy and good judgment are required; as a purchasing agent for the household, buying anything from groceries to wedding outfits and bric-a-brac; as a dispenser of charity where investigation is required; in fact, professionally to fill the office of a "capable person" in the community.

Too much assurance in speech sometimes results in a moment of magin and confusion. An eminent living physician has related a comic instance of a lecture in class at an hospital. The students had gathered about a man with a badly diseased heart. One of the poor fellow's eyes was enormously dilated. Some very interesting and coarsure opinions had been enunciated as to the connection between the two facts. The heart was said to dilate the pupil of the eye in this remarkable fashion. But suddenly the man himself upset all these confident theories.

The captain of an ocean steamer in most cases finds out when his vessel is approaching an iceberg from the men down in the engine room. That seems strange, but is a fact nevertheless. It appears that when a steamship enters water considerably colder than that through which it has been going its propeller runs faster. Such water usually surrounds the vicinige of bergs for many miles.

By combining many materials it is asserted that bricks of all colors can be produced. For instance, the addition of a small percentage of iron to the clay gives a beautiful mottled brick. The departure will exert an influence on architecture.

Artificial whalebone is now made from leather, which, after having been soaked for two or three days in sulphate of potassium, is stretched, slowly dried, and subjected first to a high temperature, and then to a heavy pressure, which makes it hard and elastic.

It has been lately discovered that the French on the approach of war, could call into immediate service a trained body of seamen outnumbering the English naval reserve by three to one. This embodies what is called in France the "Conscription Maritimee."

bers of the La Rochelle synod have caused him to go with success through a most difficult experiment on the subject. Castle, Home, and Yacht. Of the spider family we have a liking for living in or near a piece of water. One of most remarkable members is that known as the "rat spider."

Ben Butler on Harvard Professors. Gen. Butler tried a case before Judge Merrick, who was of the counsel for Dr. Webster for the murder of Dr. Parkman. Professor Horsford was on the stand as witness. Butler treated the professor rather cavalierly, and Judge Merrick asked Butler if he was aware who was on the stand. "Yes, your honor, Mr. Horsford," Professor Horsford, professor in Harvard University. "Ah, yes, your honor, I never knew but one professor at Harvard, and he was hanged."

The Keighley Board of Guardians recently advertised for a married couple to act as porter and cook at the work-house infirmary. One of the selected couples was Mr. J. E. Eastwood and Miss Hartop, both at present employed at the Penitentiary Workhouse, and in their application they promised to get married forthwith if they received the appointment. They were eventually selected for the vacant posts conditionally on their marriage.

A little more than thirty miles from the coast of Japan the Pacific Ocean is found to be over four 4,643 fathoms deep. Some officers surveying for a telegraph cable had their wire break at this depth with our reaching the bottom. This is said to be the deepest sounding ever made, and is so deep that the two highest mountains in Japan, placed one over the other in this abyss, would leave the summit of the upper one two-thirds of a mile below the surface of the water.

It is the custom for the Pema Indians of North America to select several promising youths of their tribe from time to time for repositories of their traditions, and they are carefully instructed in the historical legends pertaining to their tribe, being required to commit them faithfully to memory. They in turn instruct their successors, and thus preserve the traditions in the exact language recited by their ancestors at many years ago.

Mrs. Vanderbilt a Cyclist. Mrs. Willie K. Vanderbilt is going in for cycling; at first she went to an "academy" for her lessons, but now she practices under the same tuition in the great ball-room of her own house. "I haven't yet found a costume I'll wear in public," she said the other day, "but I'm having a lot of people make me designs, so I expect to have something tolerable before summer comes."

The New America rifle, which will soon be distributed to United States troops and militia, carries a small ball covered with a nickel plated steel jacket, and projects it at tremendous speed. Its design is to kill instantly, or to wound without causing great suffering from blood-poisoning and other complications. The theory is good, as well as humane. The wounded man, it is said, means a loss of three soldiers, the other two being required to carry him from the field.

Dgehal Naibo—"The Sinking Mountain"—an isolated Algerian peak, is now only about 800 feet high, and is known to be slowly but surely disappearing. In the time of the Caesars it was nearly twice its present height. Near the "Sinking Mountain" is a large, clear lake called Fezzara, which is said to have risen over a large city that sunk in the year 400 A. D.

A physician abroad has devised a vibrating helmet for the cure of nervous headache. It is constructed of strips of steel, which are caused to vibrate by means of a small electric motor. The sensation produces drowsiness, the patient falls asleep under its influence, and awakes free from pain.

Miss Alice French, "Octave Thonet," the story writer, said recently that she took great comfort in the fact that she could, if necessary, earn her living either as a typewriter and stenographer, as a photographer, or best of all, as a cook.

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