

THEY ARE ALL POPULAR.

HALIFAX IS HAPPY IN ITS MINISTERS.

Perhaps the Eleven Leading Preachers are in the List Below, But Different Congregations Have Different Opinions—Why They are Liked.

HALIFAX, Jan. 25.—This is a city of churches and religious organizations and though it is not particularly noted for its church-going population, yet Halifax can present as good a showing in this respect as any other city of its size. En passant every one of the 1,200 or 1,500 imperial troops in this garrison are compelled to attend divine service once every Sunday, in some church or other, unless they are on duty. Though there are many pew-holders who are seldom seen within the church doors, and though there are far many more young men and others who never hear a preacher's voice, still fairly large congregations assemble twice each Sunday in the thirty-eight churches of Halifax. As a rule there is not seen "the beggarly array of empty pews."

Here, as in other cities, the preacher who is correct, faithful and eloquent, is sure to become popular. His merits are soon discovered and his church is filled. No city has a company of harder working ministers than Halifax, and as a rule they are a talented lot of men. It is safe to say that the ministers who rise above their fellows in this city, in popularity, are eleven in number. The man will not be far astray who says that the eleven most popular clergymen in Halifax are:

1. Rev. A. Gandier, presbyterian.
2. Rev. Dyson Hague, episcopal.
3. Rev. F. W. Wright, methodist.
4. Rev. Canon Partridge, episcopal.
5. Rev. D. M. Gordon, presbyterian, (now on the staff of Pine Hill college.)
6. Rev. E. P. Crawford, episcopalian.
7. Rev. Allan Simpson, presbyterian.
8. Rev. A. C. Chute, baptist.
9. Rev. John McMillan, presbyterian.
10. Rev. J. A. Rogers, methodist.
11. This number is left blank, for the pulpit of St. Andrew's is vacant, and the congregation are so determined to get "a good man," that it is not a risky matter to leave a place for him among the eleven most popular ministers. The committee in St. Andrew's which is scanning the horizon for a possible pastor, are wide-awake men. They are bound to get the very best minister possible, and there are reasons why it is of vital importance that a minister second to none in talent and popularity should be inducted into St. Andrew's church. The proximity of St. Andrew's to Fort Massey church is only one of those reasons. Rev. A. Gandier's pulpit is but a stone's throw from that of St. Andrew's.

While it is easy thus to enumerate the eleven who are in the clerical front rank in this city, a further classification is possible. Of those eleven mighty men here are four who are mightiest, taking one from each denomination. This quartette of clergymen consists of:

1. Rev. A. Gandier, Fort Massey church.
2. Rev. Dyson Hague, St. Paul's church.
3. Rev. F. W. Wright, Brunswick street church.
4. Rev. A. C. Chute, first baptist church.

When Rev. Mr. Gandier was called to Fort Massey church more than a year ago he found the congregation in a comparatively languishing condition. The audience occasionally dwindled down at the evening service to scarcely more than a score of people. There had been some lack of harmony, too, in previous attempts at calls, and the best feelings imaginable by no means prevailed. Rev. Mr. Gandier came down from Brampton, Ont., and at once he captured the hearts of his hearers. He was a graduate of Queen's college and a disciple of Principal Grant, which was not altogether in his favor. But Mr. Gandier only had to preach once to rule in the love and esteem of those who heard him. Now, twice each Sunday, the church is crowded, and at night the stranger who wishes a good sitting must be early at Fort Massey. Mr. Gandier's preaching is frank and straightforward. He is not afraid to call things by their right names, and has the faculty of arresting and holding attention from the text to the benediction. He makes his points clear and forcible, and is impassioned and eloquent. There is just the flavor of sensationalism about his preaching. It was a good thing for presbyterians, and for the cause of the pulpit generally in this city, when Rev. A. Gandier, B. D., accepted the call to Fort Massey church. The salary paid is \$2,500, but there is nothing more certain than that the congregation would gladly give \$1,000 a year more rather than lose their pastor. Fort Massey church last year contributed nearly \$10,000, almost one-half of which was for religious work outside the congregation.

Rev. Dyson Hague, the rector of St. Paul's Church, is easily one of the four most popular ministers of Halifax. He is one of the best preachers in the city and no minister is a harder parish worker. The leisure time at Mr. Hague's disposal is hardly worth counting. St. Paul's Church has no fears for the future while Rev. Mr. Hague remains its rector. Mr. Hague's preaching is of the deeply evangelical and practical character, as became a brilliant graduate of Wycliffe college. He fraternizes heartily with the methodist, presby-

terian and baptist ministers of the city, and probably feels considerably more at home with them than with his brethren of the high church party. Mr. Hague's strength lies not only in his pulpit, church, and community, but he is an incisive writer. His works on unity and the protestantism of the prayer book, for instance, have given him a place among Canadian authors.

The methodist representative minister who deserves a place in the first four on account of his popularity is Rev. F. H. Wright, the pastor of Brunswick street church. Mr. Wright is a Halifax boy, and one of whom his fellow townsmen may well be proud. His preaching is fluent and eloquent; his ideas well thought out and original. It is not long since Rev. Mr. Wright began his pastorate in this city, and the methodist people, as well as the community at large, will apparently keep him in Halifax as long as the rules of his church will allow.

Rev. A. C. Chute is pastor of the historic First baptist or Granville street church. Mr. Chute may not be what is called a brilliant preacher, but his sermons are earnest, thoughtful, carefully prepared and clothed in well-selected language. All his discourses leave their work for good in the minds of his congregation. Rev. Mr. Chute's sermons on special topics are notably good. The praises of the sermon he preached after the announcement of Sir John Thompson's death, were in everybody's mouth.

This quartette of Halifax popular ministers is made up of young men, Mr. Chute the senior, and all comparatively recent arrivals to the ministerial ranks in this city.

A minister who, about Easter, will leave Halifax for Fredericton, had a right to a place among our foremost ministers. No man is better loved, had greater talents, or will be more missed in Halifax, than Rev. Canon Partridge, D. D. He has been a tower of strength to the church of England in Halifax, and New Brunswick is to be congratulated on gaining such a man, as St. George's parish, and Nova Scotia churches, are to be commiserated on losing him.

The presbyterian pulpit of Halifax lost one of its most polished orators when Rev. D. M. Gordon was appointed to a professorship in Pine Hill College. Mr. voluntarily took his present position at a financial loss to himself equivalent to about \$1,000 per year. He has already begun grand record in the school of the prophets, and the theological students cannot express all the admiration they feel for him.

Rev. E. P. Crawford, of St. Luke's, is the "highest" churchman in the city. He came here from Hamilton, where he had a protracted conference, and it seems the people won in that struggle. All is perfectly harmonious in St. Luke's, however, and there is no danger of Rev. Mr. Crawford's going too far to suit the tastes of the people of that parish.

Rev. Allan Simpson is a man who has the reputation of preaching more good sermons than any other minister in Halifax. If his discourses are not what would be called "brilliant" they certainly never are poor. Day in and day out Mr. Simpson's pulpit efforts are good to say the least.

Rev. John McMillan is the hard-working and enthusiastic minister of Chalmers church. There is no better bible leader in Halifax than Mr. McMillan, and his people would not exchange him in any capacity for any other minister in the city.

Rev. J. A. Rogers is the solid, scholarly pulpit orator of Halifax methodism, and as pastor of Grafton street church he occupies an influential position.

Such then are the four popular preachers of Halifax, and also the ten men who stand in the front rank of the ministers of this city. Probably they can safely bear comparison with any ten in the other cities of Canada. The only pity is that the people who hear them preach do not profit more from their labors, a regret which, no doubt the people themselves heartily share.

Why He was Restrained.
It was the first night of a new play, and the latter was a disastrous failure. With the exception of one man, everybody was hooting, hissing, or doing something or other to express their entire disapproval. The solitary exception was accented by a gentleman sitting close to him.
"Man, man, why on earth don't you hiss this terrible piece?"
The gentleman replied that he had come in with a free pass, and so could not very well complain.
"But," he added, "if this piece keeps on for another two minutes, hang me if I don't go out and buy a ticket and join you."

CAUSE AND EFFECT.
Death the Invariable Result of Neglected Kidney Disease.

LOWER JORDAN BAY, N. S., Jan. 21.—The majority of human ailments can be traced, either directly or indirectly, to a diseased condition of the kidneys. Kidney disease may not be suspected, for the reason that these organs have few nerves of sensation, and may be even in a condition of advanced disease before the true condition is discovered. Ninety per cent. of all diseases may be prevented by using Dodd's Kidney Pills. Samuel Locke's case, which caused such wide-spread interest throughout this province, is a case in point. The price at which Dodd's Kidney Pills are sold places them within reach of all. They may be procured from all dealers at fifty cents per box or sixty boxes or \$2.50. Take no imitations.

IT WILL BOOM THE CITY.

THAT IS ONLY ONE REASON WHY ST. JOHN SHOULD HAVE

An Industrial Exhibition This Year—Interviews With Messrs. W. C. Pitfield and Ira Cornwall Concerning It—Both Gentlemen Enthusiastic—An Appeal to Business men.

Shall St. John hold an industrial exhibition the present year? is a question that is just now of a great deal of importance to the people of the city and province. There ought to be but one answer, and that should come instantly, spontaneously, and with substantial unanimity from all classes of citizens. No time should be spent nor words wasted in discussing ways and means how not to do it, but an exhibition next fall should be considered as a foregone conclusion, and every effort should be put forth on the part of the people to second and support the association which is moving in the undertaking, and to cooperate with the public-spirited individuals upon whom the management devolves in making the enterprise a grand success.

At a recent meeting of the exhibition association, Mr. W. C. Pitfield was chosen president, and Messrs. A. L. Law



President W. C. Pitfield of the Exhibition Association.

and Ira Cornwall vice-presidents. The advisability and prospects of holding an exhibition this fall were thoroughly and earnestly discussed, and the matter was referred to a special committee of the directors, for further investigation and consideration. This committee met Tuesday evening last, and it is understood they have decided that an exhibition this year is both desirable and practicable, and that only a sufficient assurance of financial support from the citizens is needed to induce the association to go ahead in perfecting the necessary plans of organization and putting them into execution.

Mr. Pitfield, the new president of the exhibition association, is eminently qualified for this important official position, as he is not only widely known as a young man of enterprise, great energy and capacity in his private business, but he is also prominent among the business men of St. John who are especially noted for their public spirit and patriotic pride in their city. Vice-president Cornwall is the secretary of the board of trade and is an energetic business man of much experience in the executive management of exhibitions and in general exposition work. Mr. Cornwall thinks the prospects hopeful for an exhibition, which however, he says, now rests with the citizens; their substantial encouragement is awaited, and he believes that it will be forthcoming. President Pitfield in conversation with Progress said:

"Personally, I am in favor of holding an exhibition this year—heartily, enthusiastically in favor of it. I am a firm believer in the policy of advertising our resources, our products and our wares, and in keeping our city and the enterprise of our citizens prominently before the Canadian people. The city of St. John not only can compete, but does compete, with any market in Canada, in the extent and variety of goods manufactured or held in stock, and in quality and prices, for the general trade of the Dominion as well as the maritime provinces. But it is not enough that we should make this claim—we must substantiate it; we must not only tell the facts, we must demonstrate them. And the best means, by far, is an exhibition.

"Decidedly," said Mr. Pitfield, "I am in favor of an exhibition; the majority of the association are in favor of it; and I believe that a majority of the citizens favor it. All that is now wanted to ensure the undertaking is money. The association

officials are willing to do their share of the work and shoulder their full measure of responsibility; but they can't do it all, and accept the whole responsibility. If the people will show their public spirit and good will by subscribing liberally, and if the city council will give a reasonable grant and a small guarantee fund, we can hold an exhibition that will be an honor to the city and give a new impetus to every line of its commerce and trade. But we do not want to give an exhibition unless we can give a good one and make our plans for organization upon a suitable scale and in ample

season; and we do not propose to undertake anything that we cannot carry out."

The direct benefits to the city that would result from holding a great fair and exhibition are too well appreciated by the citizens generally to require enumeration or elucidation. Suffice it to say, in answer to an erroneous idea which has been advanced by a few individuals, that it is by no means the transportation and hotel interests alone which are benefited, but that almost every line of trade or occupation, every mercantile establishment, every place of business of whatever character, and in fact practically every individual, not only feels the quickening impulse of new life and activity but shares in the distribution of the money that is brought into the city and left here by exhibition visitors.

But the true purpose and value of the exhibition are away above and beyond the immediate money-making point of view. They lie in the opportunity afforded for extending the wholesale trade of the city and establishing new or closer commercial relations; for cultivating a better business acquaintance between the city and the country towns of its tributary section; for exhibiting to the world the natural and manufactured products of the city and province, and showing how these may be increased with profit by the aid of new enterprise and capital; and for giving visiting strangers a chance to see and enjoy under the best of conditions our beautiful city with its picturesque surroundings and charming summer climate, to the end that these people may tell other people about us, who in turn may come to see for themselves, and from among them all there may perchance be not a few that will come prepared to buy our goods, or invest in our industries, or take up a permanent residence among us.

These are some of the considerations which should decide the business men of St. John not to let the year 1895 pass by without witnessing an industrial fair and exhibition in their city.

Mrs. Dodge as an Inspirer.
Mrs. Mary Mapes Dodge has the credit of having given Mrs. Burnett the idea worked out so delightfully in "Little Lord Fauntleroy." It is now asserted that we also owe to her the "Jungle Stories" of Rudyard Kipling.

"Progress" is on sale in Boston at the King's Chapel news stand, corner of School and Tremont streets.

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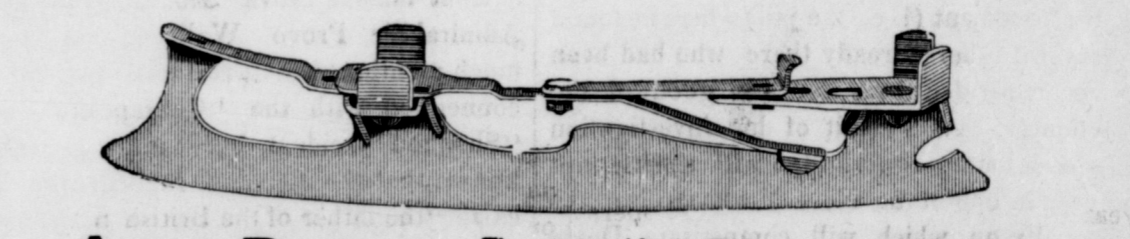


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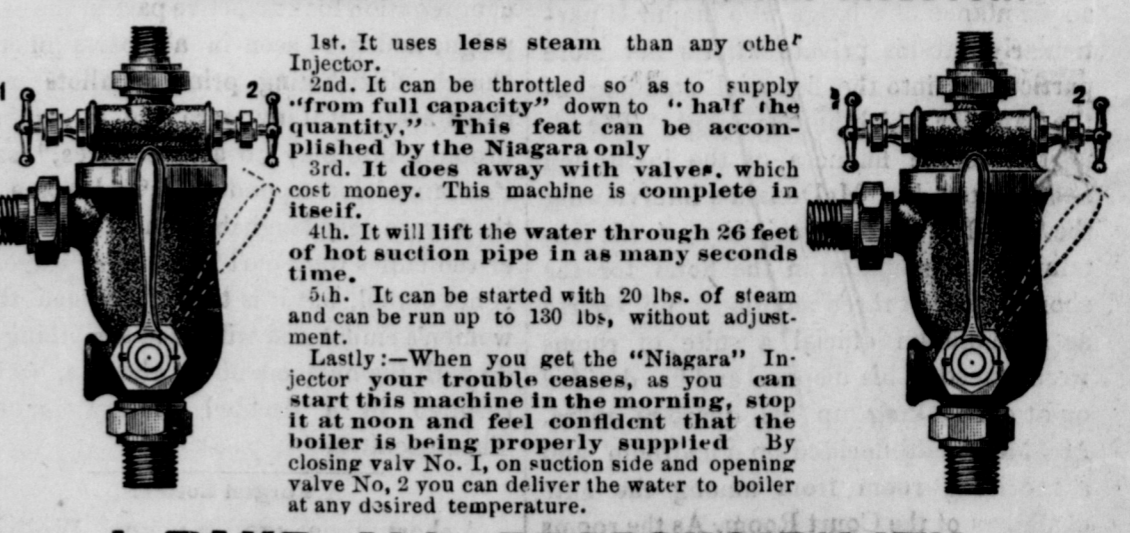
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