

PROGRESS

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WAR IN REAL EARNEST.

THE TELEGRAPH THROWS DOWN THE BLOODY GAUNTLET.

It Boldly Exposed the True Cussedness of the People of the United States and Arranges for Immediate War—The Plan of Campaign Announced.

The war cloud has overshadowed other events to such an extent that even the winter sports have had a vacation while the question of standard time has been almost forgotten. The American eagle has screamed and the British lion has growled a defiance in reply. The first named symbol has found its exemplification in the person of President Cleveland, and the last in the person of the editor of the St. John Telegraph. Lord Salisbury, the British press, and possibly the British people, may be heard from later. We don't want too much of this kind of thing at a time.

It seems to be all the fault of Cleveland. He ought to have known better than to insist on the application of the Monroe doctrine to the Venezuelan boundary question, for the Telegraph was waiting for just such a chance to declare war, or to threaten that it would be declared, which amounts to next to the same thing. The war of 1812 is still a live topic for indignation in the columns of that aggressive journal, and time should have been allowed for the wound to heal before fresh provocation was given. Instead of the exercise of such prudent precaution, Cleveland rushed blindly to his fate, and he has already begun to catch it.

Not personally, it is true, and there's the pity of it. Had the president been called a big bloated boaster, an exchange man or anything of the kind, people might have said it served him right, but this is one of the instances where a man does not sin unto himself, but draws others down into the vortex with him. In this instance, Cleveland has dragged down about sixty million unfortunate people, very many of whom have never even heard of the strained relations between the editor of the Telegraph and the United States of America. It is in the stern necessity of things however, that they should now be compelled to suffer by an exposure of their weakness as a people and general cussedness as an unchristian nation. If Cleveland had only held his peace, the world might never have known how bad the people on the other side of the line really are for the Telegraph has disclosed some things that even those who thought they knew the Americans well never dreamed of in their philosophy.

According to the Telegraph, a large majority of the people of the United States want a war with England and will probably get it. The reason for this national thirst for blood is that "the children of that country are taught at school to regard everything British with the most bitter hatred, and that their school books are full of falsified history, and of teachings which are calculated to make envy, hatred, malice and revenge when directed against Great Britain or Canada, seem virtues. The Americans send missionaries to the heathen, but we venture to assert that there are more people who have all the vices of the heathen in the United States than in any other country on the face of the globe. Nowhere outside of an Apache or Sioux camp can a more vindictive spirit be found than that which is instilled into the minds of the children of this "great Christian nation" through the medium of their public schools."

This is a sad state of affairs and it is a pity that the folly of Cleveland has compelled such a disclosure, which might otherwise not have been made. That a nation of 60,000,000 people should have school books at variance with the Telegraph's history of the war of 1812 is bad enough, but that they are taught envy, hatred, malice and the like, that they grow up to have all the vices of the heathen, and that they are akin to the wild Indians in the vindictive spirit instilled into them in the public schools is very dreadful. Speculation is lost when one seeks to consider what a different state of things might have been had their instructions been given in that fair, impartial and judicial spirit which give such value to the Telegraph's discussion of international affairs.

Whatever may have been Lord Salisbury's policy, the course taken by the president in Washington and the newspaper in St. John leaves little hope of a peaceful solution of the question, it left to these two great powers to decide. The Telegraph seems to have counted the cost, however, and is already prepared for war with a plan of campaign extending across the continent from Woodstock to Winnipeg. It has instructed the British government to provide 120,000 modern rifles and a corresponding quantity of field guns, and proposes to put 150,000 Canadians in the field with an auxiliary army of 90,000 British regulars. It has further instructed the government as to the disposition of the forces so as to most effectually repel the invader. It points out

that 45,000 militia and 15,000 regulars on the New Brunswick frontier will prevent an inroad on the maritime provinces. This looks like war in earnest.

The Telegraph has not yet stated what it proposes to do in case of war, in addition to bombarding the Yankees with editorials. At least one of the proprietors would be required at the front in his capacity of captain in the Fusiliers, while the advice of the editor on the art of war and his intimate knowledge of the bad qualities of the people of the United States would make his presence at headquarters a prime necessity as well. It seems at this juncture a little unfortunate that Major McLean has retired from the active direction of the paper, for though he would also be at the front, yet he has so many railways under his control that he could very nearly accomplish the feat of being with the frontier forces and in the editorial chair at the same time. The Major knows as much about running a railway as he does about running a newspaper.

It would even up matters a little, however, when the Sun force would be depleted by the going forth to war of Major Markham, in all the glory of a uniform of the eighth Hussars. The Major would have the financial advantage, however, in the fact that his official pay would be in the vicinity of \$5 a day, while that of Captain Edwards of the Telegraph would be about a dollar less. This would be another instance where the Sun got more than its share of government money. Besides, the Sun has also Captain Baxter on its staff, but as he belongs to the garrison artillery he might be able to stay here to defend the city, and draw his pay just the same. So long as there was no greater hardship than this, the position of captain on active service would be even better than that of an alderman, who gets only \$100. Captain and Alderman McRobbie, however, would have to go to the front, for he is in command of the Springfield contingent of Colonel Domville's Eighth Hussars.

Colonel Tucker would go to the front, of course, in command of the Fusiliers, and would be fairly well paid at the rate of about \$6 a day. This is believed to be considerably better remuneration than he got when in command of the Telegraph Publishing company, and would enable him to at least keep the wolf from the door, if not the enemy from the border.

Unless wiser counsels prevail, it seems very evident that the fight between the Telegraph and the United States will assume serious proportions, and there will be such a war as nobody ever saw before. The Yankees have had fair warning, and now they must look out for themselves.

HE DID NOT CATCH ON.

An Englishman who was not up on the terms used in this country.

Not long ago, the representative of an English insurance company came to this province to look into the matter of a claim and satisfy himself that everything was clean in respect to it. In reading over a statement made by one of the witnesses he had found what he considered a very suspicious circumstance and he determined to sit it carefully. The witness was quoted as saying that he "blazed" the trees in a certain locality. When the Englishman found this witness he said in very judicial tones:

"Why did you wish to conceal the evidence by which the place could be identified?"

"I do not know what you mean," was the reply. "I did nothing of the kind."

"Then why did you set fire to the woods?"

"I did not. I don't know what you mean."

"Why, here is the plain statement in your evidence, 'We blazed the trees.' What do you say to that?"

The Englishman seemed relieved when it was explained that when a man blazes a tree in this part of the world, he does it with an axe instead of a torch, and there was another lesson learned in the mysteries of American dialect.

Becoming Alarmed.

For some time past the merchants of St. George have been employing schooners to bring their freight from St. John, refusing to pay the high freight rates charged by the Shore Line railway. A prominent concern at Musquash also hauls its stuff from this city over the highway for the same reason. It is now stated that the Shore Line people are, trying to induce the St. George men to restore their patronage, and the reply has been that they must have low rates. The freight schedule is entirely too high to all points on the Shore Line, and in cases of small packages may sometimes amount to almost the cost price of the goods.

Not the Morley.

Through an advertisement, the concert given by the pupils of the St. John Conservatory, of music Thursday is referred to in the musical notes this week as the concert of the Morley Conservatory, the error being discovered after the forms had gone to press.

CREDIT WHEN IT IS DUE.

INDICATIONS THAT CHIEF CLARK CAN TAKE ADVICE.

He Has Had a Busy Week and He Has Made Some Raids apart from Those on Widows—How the Fines in the Jones Case Were Promptly Paid.

This has been a great week with the police, and they have got in some efficient work as far as it goes. PROGRESS wants to be fair with Chief Clark and give him credit when it is due, just as it points out where he makes mistakes calculated to bring the administration of justice into disrepute. It would do the same with any man in his position, for it deals with the chief purely as an official and not as an individual by this name or that name. The position he occupies is one with many opportunities for the use or misuse of authority, and when he goes beyond the law, or administers it in a way to call for criticism, it is due to him, not less than to the public, that his mistakes should be pointed out. If he is wise, he will profit by them. If he persists in repeating blunders, he can only expect that his acts will be the subject of comment.

That he can take advice from a friend is shown by the fact that some of his men visited a number of unlicensed places in York Point last Sunday, and succeeded in finding that more than Mrs. Julia Donovan kept liquor for sale. It is true Mrs. Donovan was also of the number, but as she was not alone singled out and as she admitted having liquor on the premises, she has no just cause for complaint in this instance, even though she has up to date been called on to pay much more than some who have done a larger and much less respectable trade. The drunken toughs who have been a nuisance in the vicinity of the railway crossing on Sundays have not been her customers.

Some of the raids made by the police were barren of results, but they succeeded in making seizures in four places, so that they made a better showing than for some time past. Having done this much in Kings ward, perhaps they can show their desire to be impartial by stepping beyond its boundaries. While a number of little places in York Point have been selling small quantities of liquor, more pretentious unlicensed places, well known to the police, have been selling vastly larger quantities at all hours of the day and night, and all day Sunday. Yet they are seldom or never visited officially, or if they are either, by some extraordinary chance, no liquor can be found, or if it is found and a fine imposed, the public never hear of it. It is things like this that make the public talk and suggest the possibility of a "pull" in certain quarters. PROGRESS has no wish to single out any one lawbreaker from another, but it is evident to anybody who reads the papers that the principal work of the police is done in terreting out poor women rather than prosperous men. There should be only one law for all classes.

The breaking up of the place of ill-repute known as the Dominion House was done none too soon. Such an establishment, posing as a hotel, in the business part of the city, was far more a place of danger to the stranger and the unwary than any recognized den in the slums. The police seem to have been aware of its true character for a long time past, but they have contented themselves by merely exacting tributes in the way of \$20 fines for keeping liquor for sale, thus officially recognizing the existence of the place, but doing nothing to suppress it. A place of that kind, in a respectable locality where it could hold itself out as a bona fide hotel, should not have been tolerated from the first. The only way to deal with such a house is to break it up and drive its inmates to localities where they can pose in their proper colors.

No further attempt has been made to abridge the liberty of the subject by the illegal arrest of women or children found on the streets after seven o'clock in the evening and unwilling to obey the impertinent command of a policeman to go home. It seems to have dawned on the magistrate and chief that they had made a serious blunder in thus trying to twist the law without a color of authority. Even the endorsement of the W. C. T. U. that body so richly endowed with good intentions and so poorly equipped with a knowledge of the law, will hardly justify the authorities in running any further risk of actions for unlawful arrest and false imprisonment.

In this case the police had some evidence of their own to prove the bad character of the place, and they proposed to supply plenty in addition by summoning between forty and fifty frequenters of the place as witnesses. They did not say who these witnesses would be. It was quite unnecessary to do so, as something more than forty or fifty young men, and some that were not young were thrown into a panic by the announcement that subpoenas would be issued. Each of them felt that he was known to the police and the next thing was

to get clear of being known to the public. Carleton was to the front, as usual, with a fair number of delegates, and all quarters of the city furnished the rest. Some who thought they were likely to be enlisted went out of town, while others who could not get away resolved themselves into a committee of ways and means to get out of the scrape in the easiest way possible. The result of their deliberation was made manifest when, after the first day of trial, all the accused suddenly decided to plead guilty and pay their fines, though they had at the outset had lawyers retained to make a vigorous defence. The fines were paid in spot cash, to the extent of \$225, each of the principals being taxed \$50 and each of the five inmates \$25.

This liberal contribution to the city funds is said to have been chiefly made by the gentlemen who expected to be summoned as witnesses. A few energetic individuals went around collecting various amounts, and where they could not get the spot cash took I.O.U.'s and advanced the money with the hope of being repaid later. It must have been one of the occasions when the incarceration of financier John P. Wells in jail was felt to be in the nature of a calamity.

The Jones family, it is announced, will take an early opportunity to remove to the United States.

In the mean time, however, the two girls sent to jail for two months because they were walking on the street, remain in prison. The reason of this is not that there was any law to put them there, but that they had no knowledge of their rights, or had no means to employ lawyers to secure their release when arrested.

They made a serious mistake when they pleaded guilty of an offence they never committed.

There are enough undoubted laws to be enforced without the need of trying experiments by inventing new ones. The chief and magistrate should make an note of this important fact.

TALE WITH A MORAL.

A Halifax Man saves His Money Because of Business done on Sunday.

HALIFAX, Dec. 19.—The evil effect of bad companionship is manifest in the case of Arthur Tout, a young man of barely 21 years, who is awaiting trial charged with burglary. Years ago he was a member of Rosebud band of hope, a flourishing temperance organization. He obtained employment in the H. M. Dockyard in a good position, where he has been engaged till recently. Within a few days previous to Tout's arrest there were three burglaries in the north end of the city. Mr. Grant's store was broken open and goods stolen, Joseph S. Hubley's premises were rifled of \$80, and lastly, W. A. Adams' shop, near North street railway station was broken into and \$25 were stolen. The police heard one or two things which caused them to suspect Tout. He was arrested and with him a partner in the business—Mucky McKay. Some of the stolen articles were found in Tout's possession. The evidence was strong against them and Stipendiary Fielding sent the two up for trial.

Tout can trace his ruin to bad companions and to drink. The police are to be congratulated on their clever capture. They have now learned that the plan of the two local burglars was to break into six other places.

Mr. Adams had a narrow escape from losing over \$400 instead of the small \$25 of which he is out. Saturday night he left more than \$100 in the safe. He thought he locked it up, but he didn't for the door was left open. Sunday night a neighbor came to Adams and asked him to change a \$20 bill. The shopkeeper objected and asked his friend to wait till Monday morning. "Then I'll lose my money, for if I don't change the \$20 for a customer he will never have it again to pay me," Adams yielded and went into the shop for the cash where he was surprised to find that on Saturday night he had left the safe door ajar. At five o'clock Monday morning the shop was broken into and Tout and his pal, the police believe, took all they could lay their hands on. But thanks to Adam's obliging act, the safe door had been shut by that time and more than \$400 was saved.

That New Daily.

The report of a new daily morning paper to be published in the liberal interests, is again current, but is a matter on which there seems to be some difficulty in getting definite information. Several men whom rumor has connected with the enterprise admit that they have heard something about it but are not in possession of the particulars of how or when the enterprise will be launched. It is understood that there is not the fullest satisfaction with the present morning organ and its chronic candidates, but whether there is a field to run an opposition on the same line of politics is a question yet to be answered. An important consideration at the outset will be a supply of funds, and when it is learned where these are to come from more may be predicated of the probable outcome of the venture.

CHANGE IN THE SCHOOLS.

THE ABERDEEN BUILDING WILL COME IN PLAY NOW.

It will Relieve the Congestion in the Other Buildings—State of the Leinster Street School—The New High School Building to Be a Stylish One.

The public schools have closed for the winter holidays, and next year will see a good many changes in the arrangements in respect to the disposal of the pupils. At present the principal buildings are overcrowded, and the relief needed is to be found by the addition of the Aberdeen school on Erin street.

The latter is not a handsome building. Some go so far as to assert that it is the ugliest looking structure of the kind in Canada, but the trustees claim that their idea in building it was to supply a long felt want, rather than to add to the architectural features of that portion of the city. They say there are much worse looking buildings, even in St. John, and that as compared with the structures in the immediate vicinity it is in the nature of an ornament. In putting it up they aimed to put only what was of utility, and even modified the exterior design to some extent by omitting the iron railing which was originally intended to give a finish to the roof. The building would undoubtedly look better with such a finish, but it can be added at any time if the sight of the bare roof without it, is considered as offending the eyes of passers by or residents in the immediate vicinity largely.

The Aberdeen has been intensively, as a school for poor children, who went nowhere before it was built. The school law was intended primarily for the poor, the presumption being that the wealthy could avail themselves of private institutions for the higher branches of education. It is true that this idea has been transformed by making the advanced schools places for instruction in branches which were possibly never contemplated in the beginning, but the fact remains that the public school system most aims to reach those who would otherwise go without an education in the common branches necessary in the majority of daily occupations. The three R's—reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic are still supposed to be the first consideration, despite the large amount of attention given to the imparting of more-elaborate instructions.

In the vicinity of the Aberdeen school, on both sides of the Marsh bridge, have been numbers of children who were growing up in ignorance, sometimes through the indifference of parents, and sometimes because they did not feel well enough dressed to go to the schools further up-town. The neighborhood needed a school house more than anything else, it was claimed, and it wanted a proper structure at the outset. Some had the idea that any sort of a shanty would do for a beginning, and that it could be added to from time to time as necessity might require. The board took the view that a permanent structure was the best kind of economy and so they built the school house.

The Winter street, Centennial and Leinster street schools have been much overcrowded, and the Aberdeen will draw from some of them to their great relief. The Centennial, for instance, will send some of its surplus to the Aberdeen, and so will the Winter street, while the Leinster street surplus will be drafted to the Centennial. The arrangements have not been completed as PROGRESS goes to press, but it is understood there will be a number of changes in regard to district lines.

The Centennial school has been reorganized, and a portion of the basement formerly used as a carpenter shop has been utilized as a class room. It is not so bad a place as might be thought, but it is hardly the place for a class room.

The relief given by drafting from the Leinster street school has come none too soon. As PROGRESS showed some weeks ago, that building has been woefully overcrowded and a menace to the health of the pupils in various ways. Chief among these have been the sanitary arrangements which are of the worst possible description. They are in a dark basement, to which entrance is gained at some risk to safety of life and limb, and are in no way adequate to the requirements of even a small school, to say nothing of one with such a large number of pupils.

The Leinster street building is not owned by the trustees, who rent it from the trustees of the Leinster street baptist church. A year ago, one of the school trustees reported the condition of the premises to the board of health, but nothing was done. It is difficult to see how it can be done without tearing down the whole interior of the basement, adding new light from the side wall and bringing the arrangements in line with modern ideas. A short time ago after PROGRESS had told what the place was like, the board of health notified the owners of the building to take some action to improve matters. The place is not so bad now as it was a

month or two ago, but no permanent improvement has yet been undertaken.

The new high school building on the Chipman property is what is on the minds of the trustee just now. They don't know yet what the public think about it. Several weeks ago, they quietly informed the public that they had purchased the land and would put up a building. Then they waited to see what the public had to say about it. The public does not seem to have got excited, one way or the other, but this may have been because they had exhausted themselves by the contest over the engagement of Prof. Bridges. Not having heard any adverse opinions, the trustees appear to think the people are not disposed to kick, and are beginning to consider the kind of a building they will put up.

So far there are no estimates of what the cost is likely to be, and it may be the public are waiting for these before expressing their opinion. The trustees do not intend to have a structure like the Aberdeen. They have in mind a building which will be both ornamental and useful, and which will not only be occupied for school purposes, but will be the head-quarters of the trustees, where they will have offices befitting the extraordinary powers they are in the habit of exercising. Whether they are prophets enough to foresee that accommodations for reporters should be provided in their council chamber remains to be seen. There is no doubt, however, that sooner or later the reporters will get there in every sense of the word.

The trustees figure that the accommodations to be given by a new building will effect such a saving in rents as to easily pay the interest on the bonds. They propose to build for the future as well as the present, and thus make a permanent investment. So far they are having all the fun of planning and projecting, but the estimates come in and the work is begun. That is the way these things generally happen.

To Illustrate His Business.

On Wednesday morning Newspaper Row was visited by Mr. John Salmon, with his illustrated sign board in the form of a sleigh. Last year Mr. Salmon drove around in a sleigh made from the natural formation of the roots of cedar trees, and made a very rustic appearance. Those who saw it could hardly believe that such was the case, but nevertheless, they were put together by Mr. Salmon just as they came out of the ground and made a very fine sleigh. This year Mr. Salmon thought he would go more into the advertising business in the same line, and has put together a sleigh that illustrates his business. The runners are made in the shape of a salmon, and the body is of a camera complete in every respect. The inside of the camera is as comfortable as any sleigh for those who are driving.

A Famous Christmas Stall

The appearance of the country market at present is much improved by the tasteful decoration of Mr. Thomas Dean's stall. Apart from the evergreen trimmings the contents of the stall are delightful to the eye and appetizing to a wonderful degree. The best that the country affords in the line of poultry and game and everything in the meat line that can be thought of, can be seen there. PROGRESS understands that among Mr. Dean's special Christmas importations are prairie hens and wild duck for the holiday tables of the Victoria and Clifton.

Booming the Winter Port.

The winter port is established beyond doubt, and with three lines of steamers making the trip between St. John and Great Britain, the evidence of prosperity in the immediate future is a cause of congratulation. This condition of things comes in very opportunely at the Christmas season, and it is possibly in harmony with the idea of rejoicing that among the imports this week have been 170 cases of whiskey 14 barrels of the same liquid and 160 various sized packages of whiskey and brandy. The winter 'port is not in the list.

He Lost no Time.

One of the "47" got a bad scare during the progress of the Jones case. While on his way to business he met a friend who stopped him and expressed surprise that he was not at the police station. "I saw King looking for you last evening as a witness" he told him. There was no hesitation on the part of the "47". With a final word to keep him started for the station and was at the foot of King street and across the Market square before his friend could explain the joke.

Must Come Earlier.

Shediac Cape social news has arrived too late for insertion in this issue, and one or two other places have had a narrow escape from being left out. Society news should reach PROGRESS by Wednesday night, and not later than Thursday morning at the furthest.