

# PROGRESS.

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## UP THE HILL AND DOWN.

### THE HARBOR MASTER'S CLERK IS NO BETTER OFF.

After a Long Consideration of What Ought to be Done the Council Decides That it Will Have to Consider the Matter Again—What is Proposed.

Some weeks ago PROGRESS called attention to the fact that the harbor master's clerk, Frank Alward, was not being paid according to the amount of work done by him, and showed how the reform committee of the council in trying to reduce the salary of the harbor master had only succeeded in bringing down that of his clerk. The statements were made so clearly that the common council lost little time in taking the matter up, though in a rather remarkable way. First of all, Mr. Alward wrote a letter detailing his grievance, and this letter was considered by the treasury board in the first instance, without going before the council or without the harbor master being called upon to state his side of the case. The board decided to recommend that the harbor master, in future, receive only two per cent. instead of five, as before, and that the remaining three per cent. be given to the clerk, who really does the greater part of the collecting. They further recommended that the clerk be appointed by the city, and not by the harbor master.

The moment this decision was reached, the harbor master had an undoubted grievance, in having been legislated against on purely ex-parte evidence, and he claimed the right to be heard on his own behalf. The council accordingly referred the matter to a special committee, which proceeded to hear the evidence on both sides. This proved to be no easy matter, for the harbor master had one story to tell and his clerk another. On some matters of fact they directly contradicted each other, but enough was learned to show that, admitting the harbor master's side of the case, the clerk was entitled to more than he was getting, and that he should be appointed by the city instead of by the harbor master.

The report of this committee came before the council on Thursday. It recommended that the harbor master should continue to receive a salary of \$1,000 and five per cent commission on collections, but that out of the latter a fixed salary of \$550 to the clerk should be reserved and that the clerk should be appointed by the council. The present clerk, Frank Alward, was named for the position.

Ald. McRobbie was one of the reform committee who had signed the minority report which intended the harbor master's salary to be reduced, but which succeeded in reducing only the salary of the clerk. It was a good deal for him to admit that he and his colleagues had made a mistake, but he did so, and urged that the blunder be rectified. He moved the adoption of the report.

Ald. Purdy had a compromise amendment which proposed to restore the salary of the harbor master to the old figure of \$1,200 and give the collection of all the revenues to the clerk at three and a half per cent.

Ald. Christie had an amendment to this, that the report of the committee be changed so that the harbor master should pay the clerk \$400 and the city pay him \$150, making his total salary \$550, and that he be appointed by the council.

This amendment to the amendment did not carry. Neither did the amendment itself, nor did the original motion for the adoption of the report. The latter had a close call, for there was a tie of seven on a side, and the question rested with the mayor. His worship is nothing if not parliamentary, so he decided not to change the existing order of things, and voted in the negative. This left the matter just where it was before the council took the matter up.

Something will be done, however, for the whole question has been referred back to the committee to take all the circumstances into consideration and arrange a settlement which they report to the council again. There seems to be an opinion among some of the aldermen that the most satisfactory way to arrange the matter will be on the basis of Ald. Christie's amendment. This will give the appointment of the clerk to the council, and will secure him a salary of \$550. As the harbor master will pay \$400 of this, he will be no more out of pocket than he has been, and as the clerk will get an extra \$150 from the city, he will secure what he has been wanting.

Most of the aldermen took one ground that when the city pays an official it should have the right to appoint or displace him. This has been the contention in the past in regard to the chief of police, who gets his appointment from the local government. In his instance, however, there are two sides to the question. A chief appointed by the council is apt to pay too much attention to the individual wishes of the men who control his position, and there are too

many chances for aldermen to secure a pull.

Considering that the council had not met for a more than usually long interval, it did remarkably little business Thursday, though there was a good deal of talk which did not result in anything but a clearer understanding of some questions, such as that of the harbor master's salary.

### A KNOCK OUT BLOW.

Bruce Macdougall's Political Enemies Have Pounced upon "The Plain Dealer."

Editor C. Bruce Macdougall of the Plain Dealer seems to get up an excitement whenever the notion takes him. This time the postal authorities have had something to say and have given the Plain Dealer the worst blow any newspaper can get in this country, by refusing to transmit it through the mails. It does not appear from the information as it comes from Moncton whether any reason was given with the notification but Mr. Macdougall will no doubt make sure of that.

The Plain Dealer has been an aggressive sheet, not edited like a good Sunday school paper but rather the opposite. Its editor did not hesitate to print what he thought and his thoughts were invariably presented in vigorous language. This made him enemies, personal and political, with the result that he has been in warm or hot water about all the time. Mr. F. W. Sumner when mayor of Moncton acted as public prosecutor in trying to suppress the Plain Dealer and punish Macdougall but the end of that was failure for the prosecutor. But when Mr. Macdougall opposed many of his influential readers in a recent political contest he gave his enemies an opportunity to present a small portion of his paper to the postmaster general for a decision as to its character and whether her majesty's mails should be used for the purpose of transmitting this political free spoken sheet. The objectionable paragraphs in the Plain Dealer impressed the postmaster to such an extent that the usual privilege was ordered withdrawn. And now Mr. Macdougall has retired from the field with the Plain Dealer but it is said that a new paper will be started by those who have purchased the plant and that one of its contributors will be the editor of the late Plain Dealer.

### Was Not a Good Fit.

A rather vague order, was received at a city establishment a few days ago, from a dry goods dealer in the country. Among other things a gossamer to fit a lady with a 26 inch waist was on the list, and as these convenient articles of a lady's wardrobe are ordered without any reference to the wearers waist, the young man who received it was somewhat puzzled. The person for whom it was intended might be "divinely tall, or just the opposite; she might be an elderly lady with quiet tastes, or, her waist measure to the contrary, a youthful siren with a penchant for the brighter colors. The clerk decided the matter by sending the largest gossamer he could find, and a day later got it back with the explanation that while the waist fitted perfectly, the skirt was fourteen inches too long. The right size was sent an hour or two later.

### Took the Hen's Advice.

The following amusing story is told by a barrister residing at Rothesay. His name appears number 34 on the roll as compiled by Messrs. McMillan in their almanac, and he tells the anecdote himself. Early in the spring, the Rottsey residents gave him many hints as to the length of his hair, and when the visitors from the city appeared they also repeatedly suggested the propriety of his visiting the barber. These remarks had no effect whatever, and the hair continued to grow, but when on coming out of his garden gate early in July a hen having just laid an egg called out repeatedly "Sandy, get your hair cut! Sandy get your hair cut," he could stand it no longer and forthwith proceeded to have his locks shorn.

### How She Sold The Book.

An enterprising lady book agent visited an office the other day with an illustrated work which nobody there had any inclination to purchase. One of the occupants thought he would get out of the affair by a joke, so he proposed to match coppers with the agent to decide whether he should buy or not. He was considerably surprised when she jumped at the proposition, and equally surprised when she proved a winner and carried off the price of the book. He will not try the same joke with the next agent.

### Time for that Railing.

It is many weeks since an order was passed for the building of steps with a proper railing at the south-east corner of Queen Square. The steps have in position some time, but there is no railing or any indication that one is to be put there. In the meantime people who have to pass that way are wondering when the work is to be finished.

## THEY HAD A JOLLY TIME.

### HOWLING SUCCESS OF A CHURCH DANCE AT FAIRVILLE.

The gay season opened great with eclat—The Pastor Declined to Give the Boys a Chance for a Fight—Incidents of the Memorable and Festive Event.

The gay season has begun in Fairville, and if the success of the initial social function is any indication of what is to follow there will be as merry a series of autumn festivities as has been known for a long time. The first dance was held in the church of the Good Shepherd, last Tuesday night and was in every sense of the word a bowling success.

Since the departure of Rev. J. C. Titcombe, a year or two ago, there has been a falling away in the festivities connected with the church and congregation. The latter have been too busy waging a war of high church and low church to have any social events worth mentioning, and on this account, if on no other, many have sighed for the good old days. Mr. Titcombe tried to make his church popular with the city people as well as with his neighbors, and had several very successful functions, including what his critics were unkind to term a Sunday lawn party. It was not one, though it had that kind of a look about it. The occasion was really the solemn observance of the festival of St. John the Baptist, who is said to have been a man deeply interested in freemasonry, and Mr. Titcombe invited the Knight Templars to come over from the city, hear a sermon, and have something to eat, drink and smoke. They did so, and took a brass band with them. As they were a body of gentlemen, no fault could be found with their behaviour on the occasion, and the only ground for criticism by anybody was that they had a banquet at which lager beer and cigars figured with some prominence, and that the uniformed body disported themselves on the lawn as if they thoroughly enjoyed the occasion. There was no dancing.

Tuesday night's festivities were of a different style. The congregation had a picnic at Westfield on Monday, and so bountifully were the provisions supplied that a quantity of them remained. The problem of what to do with the surplus provender was solved by the arranging for a dance and supper in the Sunday school room and chapel connected with the church. It took place Tuesday night, and Billy Williams of Carleton attended with his violin to furnish the music. The attendance was large, for the prices had been set to suit the times. The cost of admission was fixed at the very reasonable figure of ten cents, while the dances cost "five cents a corner." The lady who went around the floor and did the collecting had a busy time of it, so many wanted to dance.

The terpsichorean exercises took place in the school room, and supper was served in the chapel. Let it not be supposed there was anything wicked in this, even from a high church point of view, for this chapel does not rank as a church. It has an altar, it is true, and Mr. Titcombe, occasionally had some functions there which are not prescribed by the Book of Common Prayer, but nobody regards it as a place of peculiar sanctity, for all that.

There were plenty of cigars supplied, and a keg of generous beer from Ready's establishment. Mr. Ready does not manufacture spruce beer; it is said there was also coffee.

The latter appears to have been unusually strong, for the noise of the dancers grew louder as the evening advanced. The noise did not come from their feet, but from their tongues, which moved as fast as their heels did. Some of the language was loud in more senses than one, and Rector McKiel finally concluded to give a pastoral admonition to a young man who was swearing a little too much. He requested him to be less obtrusive in his demonstrations.

The young man did not take kindly to the advice. He looked at the pastor and remarked that he had paid his money to come there and have a good time and he intended to have it, whether the pastor liked it or not. This sentiment was emphatically endorsed by another young man, and both looked as though they meant business. Under these circumstances the pastor withdrew and left them in possession of the floor.

The pastor's retreat was possibly hastened by the friendly advice of a peace-maker who confidently advised him that a lot of fellows had come there looking for fight, and that if he was not careful there would be a fight. The pastor, very sensibly, decided not to precipitate such a turn to the festivities.

Everybody did not dance. The dancing days of some were past, and others did not like the look of the crowd. Amusements in plenty were provided for those more sedate ones, in various games. A lady

who sat on the stage and told fortunes had an interested knot of auditors.

Dancing was kept up until a late hour, and the longer the crowd remained the more noise they made. It was the merriest party known in Fairville for many moons. The keg of beer was empty before the dancing was done.

In the early hours of Wednesday morning residents of Fairville who had not been to the dance were startled by cries of "fire" and "murder." The village has had enough of both of these calamities to make people wake pretty quick when they hear such an alarm. Those of them who got up and looked out of the window, however, saw neither the fire brigade nor the man who constitutes the police force. The disturbers of the night were only some of the guests on their way home from the dance at the church of the Good Shepherd.

It is said that there was an agreement that another dance on the same lines was to take place this evening. "How pleasant is Saturday night, when I've tried all the week to be good."

The cash receipts of the party are not yet announced, but they were probably large.

### GRINDING OUT THE COSTS.

The Abell Liquor Case To Be Fought Out In A Review Before A Judge.

In the Abell liquor case, at Fairville, last Saturday, Magistrate Masson fined the defendant \$50 for selling liquor without license. The court held the charge proved, or rather License Inspector Vincent, in his dual capacity of complainant and legal advisor of the court, insisted that it should be so held. The conviction was on the unsupported testimony of a common informer Riggs, who had an interest in securing it, and despite the sworn denial of the defendant and Mrs. Abell. How r the conviction was warranted is not a matter for discussion, as the case is to be brought up on review.

It can be shown that Abell has been violating the law as charged, Mr. Vincent cannot be charged with doing other than his duty in prosecuting, though there can be no excuse for his employment of Riggs in this and other cases. If Abell has been defying the law and this conviction will prevent his doing so in future, the costs will not be altogether thrown away, though they must amount to considerably more than the fine, even if the latter is ever collected.

Just what Mr. Vincent's costs will be does not yet appear. There is as yet no regulation of the municipal council on this point. Last year Mr. Vincent asked that some rate of compensation be fixed for his attendance at hearings of such cases, but the committee did not report, nor has it yet done so. Mr. Vincent's charges in the accounts for 1894 are not excessive, being \$5 for each attendance in a justice's court. That is presumably what he is charging this year.

In the Abell case, he has attended eight times, PROGRESS understands, and there is thus a charge of \$40, for this item alone, to say nothing of magistrates and constable's expenses. As Mr. Vincent drives his own team, it may be there will be no heavy item for horse hire. The costs on review have yet to be determined. In any event, there will be no money for the county in the Abell case, even if the conviction is affirmed.

In the Nugent cases at St. Martins, last year, the municipality had to pay costs to the extent of about \$212, all but \$38 of which went to Mr. Vincent for fees and expenses. Nothing was got from the defendants.

The Abell case may, in the end, prove to be worth what it will cost the municipality, or it may not be. In the meantime it is understood there are houses in the country where any comer can get a drink at all hours of the day and night, Sundays included. These are not the kind of houses on which Informer Riggs was hired to work.

### Taking Their Time About It.

The position of the clerk to the department of public works has been vacant since the last of July, and there is no indication that it is likely to be filled soon, though there are a number of applicants for it. The statement is made that there is no reason for action, as the heavy work of making the water assessment has been completed. For all that, the special men put in the office by the director still seem to find plenty to do. The delay in making any definite appointment has a tendency to make the public think there is some kind of a deal on foot.

### Fall Millinery Opening.

The fall millinery opening of Messrs. C. K. Cameron & Co., will be on September 20th, 21st and 23rd, and then those who wish to purchase stylish and dainty millinery will have a chance to inspect it in this well known establishment. The variety of Mr. Cameron's stock has never been greater than it will be this year, and those in and out of the city will do well to bear the opening dates in mind.

## NOT PARTS OF THE PLAY.

### PEOPLE WHO DID NOT WAIT FOR THE END OF THE SHOW.

One of Them Retired by Special Request and the Other Was Ejected by Constable Wiley—Councillor Leonard is on the War-path for Damages.

The opera house has had more performances than were on the bills this week, and apart from anything in the plays, the public who have attended have had the worth of their money.

The first extra-dramatic incident was on Monday night, when the ushers had a shift around and some new men were put there. This did not interest the public so much as what came later in the week.

There was some demonstration by the audience on Monday night, which manager Sawtelle decided should not be permitted at the succeeding performances, and he made a positive announcement to that effect.

The cause of this was that somebody in the gallery had hissed Miss Spaulding the harpist. The audience, as a body, did not do this, and they showed their sentiment by calling out the lady three times. She appeared and bowed her acknowledgments but declined to respond with an encore. Then Manager Sawtelle came to the front.

He was determined there should be no repetition of the disturbance, he declared, and he announced how he proposed to prevent it. It necessary he would limit the number of tickets in the gallery, and would have policemen stationed in the aisles. When there was another interruption of this kind, he would have the curtain rung down, and it would stay down until order was restored, and the conditions were such that the play could proceed.

The newspapers did not say anything about this, and so those who went on other days and evenings had no official notice that they ought to behave like gentlemen.

Among these was a man who went to see "Rosedale," Wednesday afternoon and took a chair in the orchestra, close to the stage.

In one part of the play is a scene where a lady is trying to teach a man to sing. Mr. Sawtelle appears in this scene and he was sitting there when the man in front made an unpleasant remark, suggested by the position of the actors. The remark was loud enough for many of the audience to hear, and some of them began to laugh. Mr. Sawtelle sat perfectly still, but his eye was fixed on the man in front. He gazed at him for what seemed like a minute or two, and then quietly remarked: "The usual place for a clown is supposed to be on the stage, and he is not a success when among the audience. Ring down the curtain."

There was perfect silence then. The curtain did not come down however, evidently because the order had not been understood.

"Ring down, I say!" repeated Mr. Sawtelle, turning to the wings with a voice of authority.

Down came the curtain, and out came Mr. Sawtelle to the front. He apologized to the audience for having to take this course, and announced that the curtain would remain down until the offender left the hall.

"All right, sir," promptly replied the man in front, as he stood up. Then he quietly walked out, followed by a large and mixed crowd, who wanted to find out who he was.

The curtain rose again, the play was resumed, and nothing further happened that afternoon.

Mr. John Leonard was in town that day. He had come from Queen's county to enjoy a little holiday in the city, and concluded to take in the opera house as one of the attractions, as they don't see much of the drama up where he belongs. He had not been drinking, he says, and never does drink. He was as sober as a judge, or as sober as a judge ought to be.

Mr. Leonard is a considerable sort of a man where he belongs. He is a mill owner, a lumber operator, a merchant and a member of the county council. He took a lady to the opera house with him, and sat in the balcony.

He was enjoying himself very well when he thought he saw somebody beckoning to him, a little distance away. Being a polite man he started to make his way to the beckoner, but being unused to the angle of the balcony floor he tripped up on the way.

Constable Wiley did not know Mr. Leonard of Queens county was a man who could make or unmake constables in his own county, and he might not have attached much importance to the fact if he had known it. He was in the opera house to preserve order, and his instructions were to eject disorderly persons. He assumed that Mr. Leonard was drunk, and proceeded to execute a summary ejection. The first thing Councillor Leonard knew he was grabbed by the collar and hustled along so quickly that he did not know where he was until he found himself on the street.

No constable in Queens county would have presumed to lay hands on Mr. Leonard, much less to hustle him along, and it would be a sorry day for him if he attempted such a trick. Mr. Leonard was as astonished as he was indignant. He had not imagined that was the way that visitors from the rural districts were treated in St. John.

His first act, on getting his breath, was to constitute himself the chairman of a committee, of which his lady, and another lady who had been sitting by him were the members. They proceeded to interview President Skinner, Mr. Wiley was also interviewed by some of the party, and claimed that his action had been justified by the circumstances.

President Skinner appears to have wanted to make matters easy for all concerned. He wanted Mr. Leonard to go back and see the show out, so Mr. Leonard says, and offered him tickets for performances on other nights of the week. Mr. Leonard declined. Dead head tickets may be a great mollifier of wounded honor with some people, but he was not built that way. He had a character to be vindicated both in Queens county and St. John. He was not alter blood, but he wanted satisfaction, and he proposed to have it.

Thursday morning he had the same determination, and sought Mr. A. G. Blair jr., whom he retained in his interests to bring an action against the opera house company.

Mr. Sawtelle's threat of putting a policeman in the gallery had sounded fierce enough, but it does not seem to have been anything in comparison with the reality of having Wiley in the balcony.

### INTEREST IN THE YACHT RACES.

St John People and How They Liked the Result of the Contest.

There was a good deal of feeling shown here over the result of the yacht race in New York and the unsatisfactory way it ended disappointed thousands who would have liked to see the races sailed under the fairest conditions. After all the sympathies of St. John people were with the Englishman and not the American.

The crowds that gathered about the telegraph offices had few Defender backers and bulletins were eagerly scanned as they were placed upon the board. In this respect at least there is considerable generosity on the part of the telegraph companies though it must be at the expense of the newspapers. The daily papers get a press review which cost them a good sum of money in the course of a year and yet the telegraph companies give the bulletins of that service away to thousands for nothing. If any big event takes place the telegraph companies advertise themselves at the expense of their customers—the newspapers. The latter have themselves to blame however because if they united and objected the companies would no doubt consider the advisability of being practical in a bulletin sense.

There was no betting to speak of though the few wagers that were made seemed to be on even terms. When the news that the Valkyrie had won the second race reached here there was a great deal of satisfaction though much regret that there had been any accident but the next day's decision giving the race to Defender on her protest was condemned on all sides. There was not much surprise at Dunraven's decision not to pick his way through a fleet of hostile excursion boats in the third race. It was felt here that he stood no chance of winning it even one of those excursion boats wanted to prevent it. The press reports received here give the American side of the story, varnished in favor of the Defender and only by the most careful and judicious editing are they fit to place before Canadian newspaper readers.

St. John is interested in yachting and its citizens can appreciate an international event of this nature better than those of an inland town where yachts and yachting have no place. In Halifax, this is true in a greater degree even and there is every reason why the result of the series of races was keenly disappointing to the people.

### Wicked Son of a Good Man.

HALIFAX, Sept. 12.—The last evidence of the epidemic of stealing which was upon us some time ago came on Saturday night, when a boy was arrested for stealing letters from the office of the Y. M. C. A. in this city. Articles had been missed for some time and suspicion pointed rather to some one connected with the institution than to an outsider. Detective Powers' services were obtained, a watch was set, and soon the truth came out. A boy came into the office from the street when he thought no one was looking, went to the office desk, and picked up a letter which looked as if it contained money. Then he made his exit. Chase was given and the boy captured. He was not more than twelve years of age. What makes this case the sadder is that the youth is the son of a member of the association who is particularly devoted to evangelistic work.