

PROGRESS.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

THEY HAD AN OUTING

THE HARBOR WORKS COMMITTEE VISIT SAND POINT.

What They saw There Caused Them Some Surprise—Alderman Waring in Search of a Dredge—The Harbor Improvements may be Finished Next Year.

The harbor improvements committee of the city council visited Sand Point this week in a specially chartered tug for two purposes, probably—to see what progress was being made with the dredging for the contemplated wharves; and as a sort of picnic hour—a little relaxation from the toils incident to the recent election.

They found out that there is considerable of a hole in the bottom of the harbor at that place, consequent on the work of the dredges since October last; they also found that about as fast as the dredges make a hole it fills in again, so that under the present system it can be safely computed that the wharf foundation will not be ready before April, third Tuesday, 1898, or to be more explicit next election day.

It is very much questioned whether the city council, with all the dredges it can employ, and all the drives it can secure, can overcome nature there and get a foundation cleared out. The ebb and flow of the tide acting on the soft bottom carried it into any depression, and there could be no better dumping ground than the hole the city fathers are digging out.

Anyone who stands at the wharf when the tide is coming in; especially with a good gale, will agree that from the muddy condition of the water there is more earth and sand in transit than dozens of dredges could raise. To this must be added the run from the fish pond, and the peculiar currents just below the eddy near the ferry landing.

Another difficulty with the dredging was the dredges were not able to work more than half time—some of them doing about one day in five. It is no wonder that one of the Aldermen expressed himself as believing that the whole of Sand Point would have to be dredged away before there would be a chance to place a wharf.

Another said it would be cheaper to undermine Courtney bay and run a tunnel to Crouchville than sink a wharf at Sand Point.

So the city fathers have seen the difficulty. It is not said whether they have their eyes further opened now than before the election; but they fully realize now that something must be done; and they have sent Alderman Waring to the States to secure if possible a more powerful dredge than any at the point. This was necessary although some of the aldermen objected and say that the advisory board are taking too much on themselves just now—that an election has been run, and that nothing should be done in the way of expense till the new council so orders. However this may be, the excuse is the necessity for expediting the wharf building.

It has been decided on motion of Alderman McMullen that the wharf be built by tender and that it is fifty feet wide on the base, coming up to a shelf when it will drop into thirty feet. It is believed by the engineer and the board that the sand and salt will drift into the cribs that form this shelf and act as ballast for the whole structure.

Some of the aldermen have a grievance which they intend to ventilate at the meeting on Tuesday, probably, respecting the ring methods practised at the election. One man says that the roadmen were taken from the street, supplied with ballots and ordered to vote them. It can be proved it should necessitate the dismissal of the official. It is claimed also that something similar was done in Carleton. This calls for close scrutiny and if the facts are as represented an example should be made of the officials in question. St. John has conducted its business on a fair and honest basis and it is certain the present board are just the men to dispense with officials who will thus make their position a lever for supporting a ring.

It is satisfactory to know that several of the aldermen disclaim all knowledge of this—that if there was any wrong of this kind done they were not cognizant of it, and it may be that this is the case with all, but if so then there is all the more reason to expect that the culprit will be dealt with the more severely and speedily.

Thirty seven hundred voters took occasion to cast their votes in the civic election. There should be ten thousand at least. It may be that the system of disfranchising a

citizen because he may not have paid his taxes does not accomplish its object. It assuredly reduces the vote, and it does not add one dollar to the funds more than would be paid in. It is the duty of the city to collect its taxes. It has the men and machinery for doing this work, and there are many who say that it would be just as well to change the law in this respect and allow all to vote whose names are on the Dominion lists.

This is not a burning question now, but it is becoming so, and the city fathers will be called upon to deal with it before the year is past.

A RED CARNATION.

There Were Two, and the Actress got the Wearers Slightly Mixed.

For the past three or four weeks there has been a charming soubrette named Kitty Bingham, employed to sing, dance, and otherwise amuse the crowds who nightly attend the Mechanic's Institute, and Kitty has managed by her mischievous looks, to turn the hearts of several of the guileless youths of the city.

One ardent admirer has expended several dimes for the past fortnight; not that he is in love with Kitty, but somehow he is always there in the same seat, and wearing the same smile when the young lady appears. Another saved his dimes and felt satisfied to see her as she passed into the back entrance of the theatre. Of course, all these young men have compared notes, as to their respective advancement made with Kitty.

A dry goods clerk stole a march on the others, by securing an introduction to the little actress, and naturally enough the other suitors grew jealous.

Their jealousy made them more venturesome, and one callow youth who vends books in a corner book store of this city, hit upon a brilliant plan by which he thought he could out distance all other competitors and secure the little soubrette's smiles unto himself.

The youth who has about reached the twenties, accordingly purchased a bouquet of massive proportions, which he intended to present to the clever little maid and thus win a place in her heart. The only thing which confronted the dispenser of stationery, was how he would make the presentation without his adversaries getting any knowledge of his plan. The head usher of the theatre, who is a young man of genial disposition was thought to be the most suitable person to deliver the bouquet, and in compliance with a request made by the youth, consented to perform this duty. As Miss Bingham responded to an encore on Monday evening, the usher was seen to walk down the centre aisle towards the footlights with a handsome bouquet which was handed to the charming soubrette.

Accompanying the bouquet was a card upon which the following words were written: "The donor of this bouquet is seated on the right hand side of the hall, wearing a red carnation in his buttonhole—may I have the pleasure of seeing you home after the performance?"

The pretty soubrette retired from the stage without noticing the card but upon showing the bouquet to her fellow performers the card was discovered.

The bouquet afforded material for much comment, and Kitty was given another specialty to perform, to ascertain positively who was to accompany her home.

Miss Bingham looked in the direction designated in the note, and was rather nonplussed, when she discovered that two young men were seated on the right side of the house, wearing red carnations.

Now one of these two had sent the bouquet, but it was not known by the sprightly actress, which was the sender of the flowers.

The young man who sent the bouquet, as usually the case was made the butt of the joke, for it so happened, that the other fellow who wore a duplicate carnation, had some influence with the stage manager, and after the curtain had dropped on the third act he visited the wings of the stage.

He was not there long before Miss Bingham with whom he was personally acquainted approached, and thanked him for the bouquet.

The young man did not explain but, made the usual remarks in response, and asked the soubrette if he could not see her home to which he received an answer in the affirmative.

As the couple came from the side door of the theatre, they passed the youth who had given the bouquet. Perfectly uncon-

scious of what had happened, the soubrette and escort slowly wended their way to the young lady's boarding house on King square, closely followed by the bookstore clerk. Upon reaching the boarding house the young man was asked in, while the foolish boy who had presented the bouquet walked home much disgusted with what had happened.

It was not until a few days later, that the young man who had escorted Miss Bingham home, learned the facts of what had taken place and he now declares he will hereafter wear a red carnation.

MR. LOBB VS. MR. GRAVES.

The Complicated Lavalut in Which They Have Been Engaged.

One of those funny and yet peculiar suits, which come occasionally before the court, was tried this week and though at first glance it looks as if it might be disposed of in a few minutes, it is just a little complicated. A shoemaker by the name of Lobb in the first place sued one Graves of Leinster street for 80 cents, the price of putting half soles upon a pair of boots; and then Mr. Graves sued Mr. Lobb for \$3, the price of a pair of boots. The facts upon which the cases are based are practically as follows: Some time ago Mr. Graves took his boots to Mr. Lobb to get them half soled. The latter finished the work but Mr. Graves had either changed his mind and got a new pair of boots, or else lost interest in his old ones, for he didn't arrive on schedule time to get them back.

Mr. Lobb kept them for several weeks in his shop but as they took up considerable space, and there seemed no immediate prospect of the owner calling for them, he finally sold them to an employee of Campbell's livery stable.

About a month later Mr. Graves brought him of the boots, and with 80 cents in the bottom of his inside pocket, he hid himself to Mr. Lobb's establishment, put his money on the counter and asked for his shoes. He didn't get them. Mr. Lobb informed his tardy customer of the sale that had been made, but said he thought he could get the boots back by a certain hour that evening, when Mr. Graves was invited to call.

At the appointed hour Mr. Graves called in for the boots. Instead of the fairly good pair he had left—he found an old worn out pair which raised his temper to such a degree that he positively refused to recognize them, or have anything to do with them whatsoever.

After a week or two Mr. Lobb began to think he would be a loser all around and not wishing to ask the man to whom he had first sold the boots to take them back, he sued Mr. Graves for the 80 cents originally owed. Not to be outdone Mr. Graves promptly sued Mr. Lobb for \$3.00, the price of the boots. The case came up on Thursday last and afforded considerable amusement to the regular police court attendants.

AT THEIR OLD STAND AGAIN.

Patrons of the Opera House are Glad to Welcome Harrison Back.

Harrison's orchestra made its appearance in the opera house last week after an absence of about one year, much to the delight of the patrons of this theatre.

In May last the orchestra was furnishing music at the rate of \$2 for each piece per night but the management of the opera house thinking that this was more than should be paid, decided to secure cheaper talent.

Consequently the Y. M. C. A. orchestra was secured but their engagement was of short duration owing to some trouble that occurred between the orchestra and the organization from which the combination derived its name.

Mr. W. C. Bowden a young man of considerable enterprise organized an orchestra which comprised talent of good standing, whose services he offered the management of the Opera house. Bowden's orchestra was eventually engaged at \$1 a night per piece with the understanding that a certain number of pieces should provide music at the rehearsals. Things went on quite smoothly until a few weeks ago when the rehearsals began to come too fast and the orchestra struck for two dollars. The orchestra was allowed to cancel its engagement and Harrison's orchestra has been re-engaged at the old rate.

Patrons of the theatre are highly pleased to see this orchestra, with its popular leader, discoursing music at the opera house once more.

HALIFAX CIVIC FIGHT.

ALEXANDER STEPHEN IS NOW THE CHIEF MAGISTRATE.

His Canvass was the Shortest on Record—The Churches Responsible For His Election—Some Reasons why A. J. Grant Lost His Election.

HALIFAX, April 29.—The civic elections are over and Alexander Stephen is Mayor of Halifax, with 357 votes over his opponent. The campaign was short and sharp. It is only a little over two weeks since Mr. Stephen's card to the elections appeared and up to that time it looked as though ex-Ald. Hamilton would have a walk-over. Men opposed to Hamilton did their best to get J. C. Mackintosh to run, but he was out of civic politics and would not consent. They then urged Hon. A. G. Jones to offer but that "war-horse of the liberal party" did not care for the fray. George E. Boak was talked of but declined to step to the front. Then ex-ald. Stephen entered the breach, announced his candidature, and the opponents of Mr. Hamilton at once fell into line. The battle of the ballots ended on Wednesday at 4, and Mr. Stephen comes out with a majority of 357. Up to ward 4, and leaving it, Hamilton was only 33 votes behind his opponent, but at ward 5 he met the solid north, which in its two wards of 5 and 6 added 324 to Mr. Stephen's 33 at 4, and swept him into the chief magistracy.

Mayor Stephen's victory is undoubtedly due to the influence of the churches, for, apart from that, the temperance vote is not worth considering. Besides this, Mr. Stephen has had some experience in civic affairs which gave him a right to speak. The churches having put Mr. Stephen where he is will keep an eye on him, and will see to it that he fulfills the expectations entertained of him.

The canvass against Mr. Hamilton was a very bitter one. He was charged with almost everything by the men who worked for his defeat, and all denials were of no avail. Hamilton deserved better of the citizens. He is frankness and outspokenness itself, and he is a biter of what is small or mean. His openness and bluntness in expressing opinions are what cost him his election on Wednesday. No man in the city knows more or has a better grasp of civic affairs than ex-alderman J. T. Hamilton.

Mayor Stephen now has an excellent chance to do a lot of good work as head of the city government. The "ring rule" that is supposed to obtain must be broken by him if he is to please his supporters, and there are many reforms to be accomplished. Go ahead Mayor Stephen; do the work thoroughly and the people will bless you. There is no doubt plenty of room for a reformer at the city hall. Let that reformer be Mayor Stephen.

The aldermanic contests were interesting. The lucky man was Alderman Gelder, who was returned without opposition.

In ward two it was supposed there would be a great contest between Ald. Redden and A. J. Grant. Early in the campaign Grant's supporters were willing to wager considerable money on his success, but Redden won at the polls on Wednesday with a majority of 437. Poor Grant succeeding only in getting a total of 171 votes. Redden was undoubtedly the better man, and nearly everybody is pleased that he has been re-elected. The most roundly abused man in the city on election night was A. J. Grant, and the men who had nothing good to say of him were those who had helped to bring him out. They had no more use for Mr. Grant. The most scandalous charges are made against Mr. Grant by his committee men regarding their nominees methods and if he has heard a little of what has been said about him by these men, Mr. Grant must have become pretty well accustomed to abuse. One of the most reprehensible things Mr. Grant did was to spend afternoons out the road driving with Alderman Redden and utterly neglecting his canvass for the past ten days. Little wonder then, that his committees are now denouncing Mr. Grant. Mr. Redden, certainly the best man won.

John Menger is the alderman for Ward 3, and he is a good man who will probably make a fine record as a city father. Alderman John Ryan is in for Ward 4, by 16, defeating J. F. Kelly and O. P. Hill, the latter of whom had been saying he was certain of election. Ald. Hubley did not help Ald. Ryan back into the council, but he is there all the same. W. Stetson Rogers handsomely defeated

J. E. Hills in Ward 5. "Stet" is a king among the Oddfellows; he is an ultra conservative in politics and he is a popular good fellow who is to be congratulated on his success.

One of the surprises of the day was the election of Dr. A. C. Hawkins in ward 6. The doctor made a house to house canvass calling at every door, neglecting not one whether friendly or hostile. Hence his success. It is said the doctor has been casting his eye towards the city medical officership, but there is no chance in that quarter. Thomas Goudge was second with Wm. Blois at the foot of the poll in ward 6. Hawkins had a larger vote than Goudge and Blois combined.

THE TWO MESSRS. PIKE.

They Seem to Have Imposed Upon Trusting Halifax Clergymen.

HALIFAX, April, 29.—The next Pyke that comes to Halifax from abroad, whether he is a good man or a bad, will be looked on with a considerable degree of suspicion. This is sure, and the certainty is based on the fact of two men of that name who recently resided for some time in our midst having turned out unsatisfactory sojourners. The first represented himself as interested in poor children in England and asked for collections from city churches where he delivered addresses. Rev. J. F. Dastan of the Grove Presbyterian church was one of the chief sufferers in this respect—not so much in the loss of collection but in the loss of a service. Pike had agreed to preach on a particular Sunday in the Grove Presbyterian church but not having paid his board bill he deemed it would pay him better to abandon the service and leave poor Mr. Dastan to his own resources, rather than face the proprietor of the hotel where he had been stopping. Accordingly Mr. Pike disappeared. This incident afforded a good illustration to those members of the Presbytery of Halifax who objected to special revival services, or rather who declined to have anything whatever to do with religious workers who failed to carry the best credentials from the most undoubted source. This discussion among the theologians waxed quite warm and it only ended with a notice of motion by Rev. Dr. Black that he would bring the matter up again at the next meeting and fight it out to the bitter end. The Rev. Dr. seems to be opposed "root and branch" to most revival meetings; he certainly is so if the revivalist comes not thoroughly recommended. This Pyke came in a quiet way as a practical argument against such meetings at the presbytery of Halifax.

The other Pyke came from an upper Canadian city some months ago. He preached in a number of the smaller churches but the bishop was too wary to recognize him and he could get no permanent work. However, he was engaged in some literary work which brought in a considerable amount, and what little preaching he did must have yielded something. Nevertheless Pyke no. 2, like his evangelical predecessor, skipped out without paying a big board bill. He was worse even than a mere defaulter in his board, for this reverend gentleman gave bogus reasons for not paying which added insult to injury. Both these Pykes may be depended on to give Halifax a rather wide berth in future, and it is doubtful if the United Empire loyalists or kindred societies will lose much by this infrequency of visits.

In New Quarters.

Mr. H. G. Marr, the Union street milliner has removed this week from his former limited quarters, to the commodious store adjoining. He is now in a more satisfactory position to attend to the demands of his business, and his patrons will find him much better prepared to serve them than heretofore. He keeps constantly on hand all the requisites of a first class millinery store and ladies will be well repaid by a visit to the establishment. The new and gaily decorated store is a great addition to the corner of Union and Coburg streets.

Mrs. Barker's Death.

The many friends of Mr. Sterling H. Barker proprietor of the Ben Lomond House will sympathize with him for the loss of his estimable wife who died somewhat suddenly Wednesday morning in this city. Those who had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Barker as hostess of the Ben Lomond House cannot fail to feel great regret that she should be called away at such a period of her life with seven little children and a husband to mourn for her.