

PROGRESS.

EDWARD S. CARTER, EDITOR

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ST JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAR. 27

ESTIMATES NOT CORRECT.

There is a strangely familiar sound in the indignant protests that appear in the Bombay papers against, what they call the grossly exaggerated statements about the plagues ravages there. They say no such exodus has taken place from the city as is reported. That the asserted closing of half its shops is true only in certain streets frequented only by the lowest class of the population; and that the death rate never was two hundred per one thousand a week, as has been stated by the European press, but at what might be two hundred per one thousand if the epidemic lasted a year. Even the Bombay editors however, with all their regard for the city's reputation and commerce, especially the latter, admit that the situation is sufficiently grave to excite the apprehension of their nations. The most conservative estimates are that somewhere between one hundred thousand and two hundred thousand persons have fled from Bombay since the plague appeared and while the weekly death rate has been nothing near like one hundred and eighty thousand, as it would be at two hundred per one thousand, yet even as an annual mortality that is terrible enough to account for a panic in the city and the adoption of vigorous precaution outside of it. A disease that kills six thousand nine hundred and seventy nine out of eight thousand three hundred and eighty persons attacked as this one has according to official records endangers the world to such an extent that it may well excite terror everywhere.

The flying railroad trip made by the Denver, Colorado, father to the bedside of his dying son a few weeks ago, will be historic in railroad circles, and would not be an unfit subject for a poem. It was a strange combination of parental affection and mechanical power that brought about the record-breaking trip of 1,025 miles in 1,069 minutes. This has never been equalled before and may never be again; yet rapidly as the journey was made, the speed of the steam was far outstripped by that of the lightning which conveyed the fathers messages from every station to the sick chamber in Denver. The incident has various phases. Railroad officials see in it a remarkable demonstration of the condition and management of the road which would enable such extraordinary speed to be maintained for more than a thousand miles, but the greatest number of persons recognize it as a fine illustration of parental love and will feel a sense of personal sorrow that the long journey was made in vain.

There is considerable private canvassing among the friends of the different aldermanic candidates in this city, but there is no concerted action in the way of combines or tickets; it appears to be every man for himself, and there is every evidence that this will continue. It is due in a great measure to the fact that there is no burning question before the people—the fight being rather personal than along any other lines. Respecting the office of mayor there appears to be general repugnance against a fourth term, and many who have been strong friends of the present incumbent do not care to place themselves on record as favoring a fourth term mayor, believing that it establishes a bad precedent and one that it would be difficult to offset, if once established. As the time for balloting approaches it is expected the contest will become more heated; if not St. John will see the mildest fight yet undertaken.

Political "Science" often of an ingenious sort, is used in choosing the sites of capitals; but Brazil has now employed natural science for the purpose. Rio de Janeiro being unhealthy, the Brazilian government

appointed a commission of scientists to select a location suitable for a new capital. The commission has fixed upon a plateau four thousand feet above the sea level. The distance from the coast by rail is eighteen hours. No yellow fever invades the spot and other conditions favorable to health are reported. The Popular Science News says that this is believed to be the first occasion on record in which Science has been called in to choose the site of a capital. Bad air and bad Legislation have doubtless been associated, more than once as cause and effect.

When a man under sentence of death elects to die in a certain faith, whether protestant or catholic, it is nobody's business but his own, and his spiritual advisers, and the men or women of a different belief who attempt to interfere, are guilty of a gross impertinence, and should be taught their proper place without any unnecessary delay. The sickening sentimentality with which some persons regard criminals is not less disgusting than the desire for notoriety, which prompts them to thrust themselves into places where they have no earthly business.

The unpeakable Turk has a curious method of dealing with drunkards. The punishment for the first second and third offences is the bastinado in varying doses. After that stage is reached, however, the offender becomes a privileged character, as it were and is entitled to be tenderly helped home by a policeman when he is found in an over stimulated condition. The rush to get through the preparatory schools to the honor grade can be imagined.

"Rockwood Park" has a much more distinguished, musical, and altogether appropriate sound than Victoria Park. As the new park is not commemorative of Her Majesty's jubilee it could hardly be regarded as a want of loyalty to call it by some other name than that of our much loved queen.

Many of the New York clubs have barred out the World and Journal newspapers, as entirely too sensational. In referring to this recently SAM JONES the Evangelist said, "Nothing shows how tough these papers are than the fact that a New York club can't stand them."

BOB INGERSOLL insists of course that there is no such place; but did he ever live in a flat where the man in charge was off on a holiday and the water pipes were all frozen?

Out of sixty arbitration treaties among the nations of the world since 1815 the United States has borne a part in thirty-two—many more than any other nation.

It has been demonstrated that a man can live on \$1 a week, but it still remains to be proved that he can live longer than the week.

A teller in a western bank has just absconded with \$43,000. How he happened to get ahead of the cashier is not explained.

Victoria library, and Rockwood park.

Rockwood Park.

Comedy, Vaudeville, Drama.

An entertainment that promises to be very enjoyable opens in the Mechanics Institute on Monday evening for a season. Ten first class artists have been engaged for the occasion and the Union Blend tea Co., will distribute presents. Every ticket purchaser will receive a coupon and the holders of two of these numbered ones will receive a gold watch and a ten pound caddy of tea. Prices of admission 10 and 20 cents.

ERRORS BY HISTORIANS.

Diogenes' Tub a Myth—The Hannibal Fable—Lies About Cleopatra.

The same year that Alexander died at Babylon Diogenes died at Corinth, 323 B. C., but not, we may be sure, in a tub, because he never made such a fool of himself as to live in one. The story that he did so had no better origin than a comment by his biographer, Seneca, who was not born till more than 300 years after the cynic's death. "A man so grabbed ought to have lived in a tub like a dog."

In 216 B. C. Hannibal, with about 50,000 men, nearly annihilated the Roman army of about 90,000 at Cannae, in Apulia Italy, but it is all a fable to say that he sent three bushel of gold rings plucked from the hand of the dead Roman knights back to Carthage as evidence on his victory. The messenger who carried the news back to the Carthaginian Senate on concluding his report "opened his robe and threw out a number of gold rings gathered on the field of battle."

Four years later the Romans, under Marcellus, attacked and captured Syracuse, belonging to Greece, because of its alliance with Hannibal against Rome. As the invading ships approached, Archimedes is said to have set some of them on fire with immense burning glasses. However, modern science has so well watered this story that it only remains to add that even at this day the feat would be impossible.

THE CARNIVAL EPISODE.

A Young Man's Double Causes him Some Annojance.

The latest carnival given here was that at the Singer rink under the auspices of the Hockey club and although the least said about the manner in which it was patronized is perhaps best, it furnished opportunity for the practical joker to have lots of fun. One instance of a practical joke may be mentioned in which a young man who holds down a seat in the office of a leading shipping firm was the victim in part, and by which he was caused a very large quantity of anxiety and alarm compressed into a comparatively short space. The elite of Duke street east was represented at this carnival, all in costume of course, and among the skaters in addition were two young married women who are now and have been for the greater part of the winter, very close friends, and intimates—born companions as one might say. In the instance of one of these ladies such intimacy is not to be wondered at, as her husband is quite frequently compelled to be absent by his arduous duties and connections. This lady then would not infrequently experience many lonesome moments and would naturally respond promptly to such overtures of social friendship as the other married lady would make. The husband of this second lady is not obliged to be absent from the city, because his employment is such that he is not required to spend a night out of his own home. The lady first mentioned here is not a native of St. John although this city is considered not inconvenient as a head quarter. Both these ladies admire the game of hockey very much and whenever there was a match game such as between Halifax and St. John for example, they were nearly always to be seen among the spectators. The natural outcome of this desire for sympathy would in time of course enlarge the circle of the lady's acquaintances and in due course the young clerk succeeded in becoming acquainted with this lady. What his salary per week amounts to or what proportion of it he expended in the purchase of caramels, chocolates, or other tokens for the delectation of this lady has nothing to do with the matter, but the fact remains they have become very friendly. The lady though very attractive is the senior of this youth by not a few years, but he is susceptible. Both these ladies were accompanied to the rink by this young man and another thin hockey player and they were soon gliding gleefully over the moist ice. The costume worn by the young clerk, was somewhat after the style of the regulation domino—it was made of the material recently imported and known as Jubilee cotton. His fair companion was not so favorably impressed with this dress of her escort and asked him to take it off as "he looked so much better without it." Unwilling to deny her slightest wish he soon retired to the dressing-room to make the necessary change in apparel. In doing this he incautiously laid down his carnival raiment, which the practical joker perceived, and on fendish mischief intent immediately appropriated, and started out on the ice the very embodiment in appearance of the youth who had but a few moments before left the ice. Meantime the lady continued skating and as this costume approached to join her she held out her hand to the joker. This young man, nothing loth took her hand and as they skated around she reproached him with not having taken off the unbecoming dress. The joker replied that he could not as there was a party in the dressing room that he did not wish to have see him. The lady then inquired with some solicitation if her escort was not going to a certain place on Thursday evening. The joker kept the delusion and learned who was going to be present at the party that had been so nicely arranged. One of those who was to be present was her lady friend at that moment enjoying herself in the society of the hockey player referred to. When the real youth saw his double on the ice, he was not only amazed but horrified—enraged as well—because of his fears as to what communications the lady might incautiously make to her deceiving escort, who managed to leave soon after.

Mr. Tree's Health Baths.

Mr. E. M. Tree of this city has opened a health bathing establishment at No. 34 Canterbury street, where the public may take hot air baths in Quaker and Dr. Conant's cabinets, and in a short while Mr. Tree will be prepared to administer thermo-electric baths in connection with hot air; more especially prepared for sufferers from sciatica and rheumatism. The arrangements of the establishment are perfect, every attention being given to those taking the treatments, a shower bath of hot and cold water being supplied also.

The sweating process or body cleansing

is most effectual, the impurities of the interior as well as outward uncleanness being excluded. St. John has never before had an institution of this kind; Mr. Tree by his enterprise filling a long felt want.

STYLISH SPRING MILLINERY.

Cameron's Chic and Pretty Headwear Shown Next Week.

Next week will be one of deep interest to milliners and all who are interested in the art of millinery. The fact that several openings have been announced for next week make the ladies, at least, realize that spring is with us once again, and the pleasant excitement attendant upon a spring opening may already be noticed in several establishments. This is particularly true of Chas. K. Cameron's store, where throughout the week trained, deft artists were deep in the enchanting mysteries of their work, the result of which will be seen on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week when spring headwear will be exhibited on a very elaborate scale.

Mr. Cameron's earnest efforts to please his customers have in the past been thoroughly appreciated, and PROGRESS assures its lady readers, that a very pleasant surprise awaits them next week. An advance opening, on a rather small scale it is true, was held on Thursday for the special benefit of this paper, and the cosy showrooms gave, on that occasion, just a faint hint of what might be expected, later on. Triumphs of French, English and American milliners, were very much in evidence, though of course the stock will be largely increased by the time the opening day comes around.

Flowers still continue to hold their own in trimming, and dainty chiffons and ribbons play an important part, but it may be said that the importations of this season are not nearly so startling in effect as they were last year; that is not nearly so much, or so great a variety of trimming is massed upon the hats this spring.

One striking French creation was of brown chip with white straw trimming; a pretty indescribable shade of brown moire ribbon made bows at the back, which was caught up with a stiff spray of lily of the valley; a band of jeweled passementerie on brown ribbon was placed around the crown with pretty effect. Another dainty looking thing was made of heliotrope chiffon, the brim formed with black chiffon; the high crown had a stiff ruche of jeweled lace around it; two feathers, a black one and one in shades of brown and green and heliotrope, some shaded ospreys well towards the back and green and black chrysanthemums, and a jet ornament or two completed the trimmings. A large hat with fawn lace brim and black and gold crown had bows of canvas, covered with brown chiffon, at the back; a cream osprey and brown tips were held in place with brown and black ornaments; and a cluster of pink roses gave an effective touch of color. Shaded blue and pink roses were placed under the brim. A tam of dresden silk, the bright coloring of which was softened by a misty veil of net, was greatly admired. A lilac wreath went right around and was fastened at the back with bows of dresden ribbon. Two tiny green tips and a black osprey were placed at the left side. There were many large hats that were gracefully and artistically trimmed, one noticed especially, of black and cream with straw and chiffon brim and high cream and black crown; cream bows, and two cream tips at the left a cluster of peach color roses and a tiny bit of foliage making a very artistic and striking hat.

Touques show a tendency to grow larger but still retain their chic, smart air. A dainty confection in violets, with fans of gossamer chiffon a black aigrette and tiny jet crown was one of the prettiest things shown. Another was made in tam effect with brown straw, covered with fish net; a brown ostrich tip, green and brown ospreys at the left gave this touque a very stylish look and one large cream rose made a dainty finish; rhinestone and pearl ornaments were used.

In the way of bonnets there was a black chiffon with jet crown, and trimmings of black ospreys, chiffon rosettes and heliotrope ornaments. Another was made of lace straw with sequin crown and aigrettes; tiny pink rosebuds and gossamer fans at the left side made a stylish finish.

Chiffon seems to be more extensively used in bonnets this year than last, quantities of it being seen everywhere. One of the most stylish bonnets imaginable being made entirely of black chiffon with fans of that material and lace straw combined; a cluster of forget-me-not was the only bit of color used. This bonnet had narrow velvet ties.

It is hardly necessary to go further into detail; a much more extended description would not do justice to the beautiful array of spring millinery with which Mr. Cameron proposes to charm the ladies of this city next Wednesday Thursday and Friday. His goods are always in the front rank both as regards style and prices.



Celebrated for its great leavening strength and healthfulness. Assures the food against all kinds of adulteration common to the cheap brands. ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

SOME PET CROWS.

A Story of One That Carried off Eggs—The Fate That Overtook It.

"The crows used to come down and eat our corn," said a city man who once lived on a farm, "and the old crows would carry away corn for the young ones in the nests. We put up scarecrows in the cornfield, but they never did any good, for the crows paid no attention to them. I reckon about the only really efficacious way of keeping crows out of a cornfield is to kill 'em, and we used to destroy the young crows when we could, the boys climbing the trees to get at the nests."

"Once I carried a couple of young crows home. One of these crows disappeared very soon but the other stayed with us for months, and became very tame. When we ploughed or planted he followed along in the furrow in a friendly, sociable sort of way, and pick up worms. But he was full of mischief, and forever carrying off things as most crows will, and the habit finally cost him his life.

"The crow lived in the barn. We could not keep him in the house, because he would have carried off all the knives and forks and spoons and such things, but we used to take him in sometimes, and when he wanted to come in he would come and peck at a window, and sometimes he'd bark like a dog. He didn't have a chance to get many things out of the house, but it was easier for him to get at the things in a building we had on the farm where we used to do our repairing of wagons and ploughs and one thing and another, and it seems to give the crow particular delight to carry off nails. There was a knothole through the weather boarding on the ridge of the barn, down near one of the gable ends, and there was a piece out of the shingle directly under it, so that there was a hole down through into the barn. The crow never got tired of dropping nails through that hole. It would fly up there with a beak full of them and sit on the sharp edge of the roof and drop them through the hole. Then it would bend over and hoist its head round, and look down through. Apparently, to this crow, dropping nails down through this knothole was the funniest thing in the world.

"The crow used to do other things that would sometimes give us real trouble. It would get up on the roof of the house for instance, and seek out shingles that had soft spots in them, and pick holes through them; and there never was a pair of red stockings put on the line on washdays that we didn't have to hunt for them later. The crow had either a great antipathy or a great fancy for red stockings, and he always managed to get them off the line in some way and get away with them. We always used to find them again, but sometimes we had to look for them.

"When we had had the crows a few months he got to going down to the village, about half a mile from where we lived. The first we knew of that was when he began bringing home whole hard-boiled eggs from a restaurant there. He would jab one point of his beak into an egg, so as to impale it, and then he'd stab out the other point down on the egg to steady it and help hold it, and then fly away with it. He must have had to rest more or less on the way home, but he used to bring whole boiled eggs in that way.

"At first they liked him in the village and used to pet him and make a good deal of him and be glad to see him. He was a quaint, queer sort of chap, friendly and good natured, but sly, and he would carry off things, and after a while the very traits that had at first made people laugh at him brought him into disrepute. People got tired of him, and instead of being amused they were irritated by him. Of course, the crow couldn't understand this and if it had, I don't suppose it would have made any difference; it was the crow's nature to do things that way, and then, like man, the crow is perverse. Anyhow, it kept right on just the same, and finally somebody poisoned it."

A letter from Judge Angers, brother to the Ex-Lieut.-Governor of the Province of Quebec, has been written to the author of "Quickcure," saying: "It has always given my child relief from toothache; its effects is wonderful. I have also found it good for burns and cuts."

Signed, C. PANET ANGERS.

If Your Pants

look shabby send them to us. We sponge and tailor press them like new for 25c.; full suits 50c. Ugar's Laundry and Dye works, Waterloo Street.