

# PROGRESS.

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## EVENTS IN CITY LIFE.

### HOW A LOST ORDER CAME TO LIGHT MAY FIRST.

And Caused no End of Trouble to Coach men—An Incident at the Institute in Which "Uncle Tommy" Figured and Enjoyed as Much as Anybody.

Strange things come to light on moving day. The lost is often found and the stock of effects in a household is augmented in a fearful manner when they are counted by the truck load. But a lively man who moved the other day had a curious experience. Among the papers unearthed when the desk was being cleared out was an order from a well known undertaker for four coaches for a funeral on Orange street. One of his employees going into the office in the morning found it upon the floor and placed it upon the desk. The proprietor entered and transferred the order to the slate and an additional coach was ordered from another stable for the hour of the funeral. That afternoon one of the coaches went for the undertaker, another for the minister, and the other to the residence from which the funeral was to take place.

That coach which went for the undertaker found that he was at another funeral and that which went for the minister found him very ill. These that went to Orange street could find no sign of such a ceremony as a funeral for a very good reason that the person whose obsequies they were called upon to attend had been in his grave for nearly two years. The old order had been revived by been disturbed on moving day.

### WANTED TO KISS "UNCLE TOMMY."

But he was shy and would not go up on the stage.

Several incidents have occurred during performance at the Institute the past week, which afforded much amusement for the large audiences in attendance.

In one case a well known city broker, whose age has reached well into the seventies, fell a victim to circumstances.

One night the elderly banker was seen entering the theatre, and wending his way down the centre aisle. He took a seat near the footlights, little knowing that he would be called upon to kiss one of the charming female performers.

Miss Florence Seller, who has been engaged by Mr. Murphy, to sing and otherwise amuse the patrons of his show, is a lady of about 35 years of age, with fine features and robust form. In fact Miss Seller might be unflatteringly called a fine looking lady.

In one of her specialties, Miss Seller impersonated an old maid, who although not being a man hater, had never been asked to become the partner of one of the sterner sex. During this specialty, Miss Seller sings a comic song, in which she invites one of the men in the audience to kiss her. It just happened that the elderly banker was selected on the night referred to. Addressing him as "Uncle Tommy," the actress invited the banker upon the stage to kiss her. Indeed she even went so far, as to say that she would meet him half way.

The controversy between "Uncle Tommy" and Miss Seller was most amusing, and drew from the audience, round after round of applause.

The old gentleman was not in any way put out at the invitation of such a fine looking lady, and would unhesitatingly have accepted if he had been asked in a more private place, than a theatre, and before such a large audience. The broker exchanged several remarks with the fair actress and seemingly felt elated with the fun that he had so good naturedly joined in.

### ANOTHER GOOD MAN LED ASTRAY.

By the Wiles of an Unsophisticated Little Country Girl.

Even the most guileless of men sometimes fall before the charms of a bright little country girl—So says a well known Carleton man who is prominently connected with an institution that has for its object the good of those who go down to the sea in ships. This man is married, and, with his wife, resides in the west end. He has a married son who also lives in that part of the city and who is a sea faring man. Not long ago the latter before going on a somewhat lengthy voyage, sent to Bear River, N. S., for his young sister-in-law to come and stay with his wife during his absence. The maiden of sixteen proved very attractive especially to her sister's elderly father-

in-law and before long he found his son's residence so pleasant a place to visit that he spent most of his time there. The young lady had also become interested in the sailors' institution, so there was naturally much for them to talk about.

Walks and drives around Carleton followed, and the interest that both took in the welfare of the sailors showed no sign of abating until a third party intervened. This third party was the benevolent old gentleman's wife who having noticed her husband's unusual absences from home made an investigation, the result of which caused her some uneasiness of mind.

A sudden call was made at her son's house one night, where entering unexpectedly she found her erring spouse and the shy little maiden in a very pleasant interview. She was angry, there was no doubt of that; but though her husband went peacefully home with her upon that occasion it did not prevent him continuing his attentions to the young lady, which were kept up until his son's return when the little flirtation had a sudden ending, the young man sending his father to the right about and his charming little sister-in-law to her rural home. The old gentleman's interest in the sailor's institution remains unabated.

### CAN'T APPRECIATE GOOD MUSIC.

Halifax People Have Not Much Musical Education.

HALIFAX, May 6.—This is a music-loving city, yet high class music here does not always obtain the reward of patronage from the public which brings financial prosperity. The Carleton opera company, everybody united in saying, was the best operatic combination we have had for a long time, yet the houses were thin, and the season was not a financial success. But the most notable instances of lack of appreciation of first class music at least when it has "to be paid for at the rate of tickets ranging in cost from \$1.50 to 50 cents, was that of the Signor Foli concert. It was advertised by Messrs. Vert & Harris for a month ahead, newspaper advance notices in abundance were published, and everything was done that could be done to boom it, yet the concert had to be abandoned, and why? Because the advance sale of tickets indicated very plainly that loss would be sure to follow. Less than \$20 had been taken the day before the concert was to be given, and the management doubtless very wisely called the affair off.

One reason for the difficulty now of making a financial success of many professional attractions of this kind is the excellence of the amateur shows that from time to time are put before the public in this city. Full prices are paid for these and people get into the way of satisfying themselves with such shows, which have some advantage over the professional. Another thing—times are hard in Halifax.

### HAD ENOUGH FOR THE SEASON.

An Amateur Jockey has a sad Experience With Jumpaway.

A young man who assisted in the engineering at Sand Point last fall, had a thrilling experience, with the thorough bred running horse Jumpaway, on Monday last, which he will not likely forget for some weeks to come.

The young man started out to have a pleasure drive, but riding thoroughbreds is more apt to develop into genuine labor, which was the case Monday.

Jumpaway has started in several races, and has always made a good showing as a race horse, but as a matter of fact cannot be called a quiet saddle horse. That he is hard to hold, is not known by any person better than the youth who rode him on Monday.

This race horse changed hands a short time ago. His new owner could not find sufficient time at his disposal to exercise him, and he was occasionally loaned to the inexperienced rider.

On the day in question, the thoroughbred started out the road at a nice quiet gait, but it was not until he reached McEvoy's on the road home, that the horse began to make it lively for the rider.

The animal started off better than a two minute clip, at the three mile house, and it was not until C. J. Ward's mile house was reached that he was stopped, notwithstanding that the rider had all the while, been trying to bring him to a standstill.

The driver lost his hat, near Mullin's gate, which was picked up by a pedestrian and taken to its owner. At the one mile house the young man endeavored to take his charge to where he had dropped his

hat. He was successful in getting him as far as McIntosh's greenhouse, where the horse dumped his rider off, and started for home; but did not go far before he was stopped. The young jockey with the assistance of two men who were walking along the road, was again placed on the horse, and started for home.

When the horse reached the city he was in a foam, while the rider was also overheated and used up.

After the horse was given proper care, he was placed in his stall, his owner at the same time vowing that an amateur jockey will never mount him again.

### WHO WILL BE CHIEF.

It is Said That There is Some Dissatisfaction at Present.

HALIFAX, May 6.—Civic officers for the ensuing year will in a day or two be appointed by the city council. With most of these men who cost the taxpayers some \$40,000 a year, their annual election is merely a form, no one for a moment thinking of opposing re-election. But there is one officer who very likely will be opposed, namely John Connolly, chief of the fire department. Chairman Ryan of the board of fire commissioners, who is back in the council, proud of his "small but select" majority of fifteen, has views in this matter. He thinks that Connolly is not the right man in the right place, and there are many others who join with him. Alderman Ryan believes that Thomas Spellman, caretaker of the city property, should be chief of the Halifax fire department, and that thus the department would be better managed and money saved. Spellman is active, fearless, fair and intelligent in the alderman's opinion, and in this also many others join. It may not happen but it would not be a tremendous surprise if the chief next year should not be John Connolly but Thomas Spellman.

### TO BE OPERATED UPON.

An Operation Upon Special Blend, the First of Its Kind in Canada.

After becoming cured of the distemper early last summer, Special Blend, the fast trotting stallion owned by Mr. Le Roi Willis developed symptoms of "roaring"—caused by a growth of gristle in the throat which usually affects the wind, and consequently the speed of the animal. Mr. Willis has decided to have an operation performed to have this gristle removed, and in a short time the famous veterinary, Dr. S. S. J. Harger, of Philadelphia, will arrive here for that purpose. This is the first time that such an operation has been attempted in Canada and must attract the attention not only of horsemen but of veterinary surgeons as well. The records in the United States show that the operation has been performed many times with great success, and the friends of both Mr. Willis and his speedy horse hope that such may be the result of his plucky action in bringing a noted specialist here at much expense.

### HE KEPT THE FEE.

A Juryman who Refused to Give his Fee for Funeral Expenses.

A case where meanness of the first degree was shown, happened a short time ago. It will be remembered that a jury was empanelled to inquire into the facts surrounding the sad death of the little Marr girl, who was unfortunately run over and killed, by an electric car on Main street.

After the inquest was held, following the example of Mr. Neilson of the street railway, the jurymen decided to contribute their fees, towards defraying the child's funeral expenses.

All the jurymen with one exception willingly forfeited their claims to the money that was forthcoming.

Now if the exceptional jurymen had been in poor circumstances, or was in great need of the paltry sum, which he had earned as a result of the child's death, the affair would have ended there, but it was positively known that such was not the case and the circumstances have caused considerable comment.

### It Spoiled two Bonnets.

The awnings attached to one or two King Street stores have been playing havoc with several spring bonnets this week. On Tuesday afternoon, two of the fair sex, decked in the latest style of spring headwear, were passing along the street just as one of the clerks drew down the front awning. A quantity of water had accumulated in the canvas, and as the shade came down with a bang the water was sent flying over the ladies. Light spring coats, and stylish bonnets were pretty well drenched and the justly angered ladies who were strangers, suggested to the clerk that he had better warn pedestrians when he intended letting the awnings down again.

## MONCTON GETS EXCITED.

### A MILD SORE THROAT COMES AND THE CITY LOSES ITS HEAD.

The City Council Makes an Unprecedented Move in Closing the Churches—The Trouble has Been Very Much Exaggerated by Some One.

Moncton has once more come to the front with an unenviable notoriety! Moncton is suffering from a diphtheria scare; not a diphtheria epidemic, or seige but a scare pure and simple, and one of such magnitude that it is likely to have very unpleasant results for the railway city thanks to the injudicious, and utterly unprecedented conduct of the local board of health. That any body of men in the full possession of their faculties should be capable of the extraordinary mistake of closing not only the schools and Sunday but actually the churches, Y. M. C. A. meetings, and Salvation Army services, in short everything resembling a place of worship in the city, on account of seventeen cases of the mildest form of diphtheria seems almost beyond belief. But that is what was done last week by this assemblage of wiseacres.

When the population of Moncton—ten thousand is taken into consideration and compared with the number of cases of diphtheria the absurdity of the thing is apparent at once; and when the type of the disease, in fully one half of the cases so mild a form of diphtheretic sore throat that only by stretching a point could it be called diphtheria at all is considered it will be harder than ever for any rational minded person to understand the course pursued by the board of health in virtually placing the city under quarantine law. As an instance of the extent to which the absurdity is carried one of the victims of this dread epidemic which is supposed to be scourging Moncton was taken ill on a Wednesday with sore throat, the disease was pronounced diphtheria and the house at once placarded and placed in rigid quarantine, but despite the fact that the innocent cause of all the disturbance had sufficiently recovered by Saturday afternoon to be out playing in the front yard, the three weeks of quarantine with all the attendant annoyance and inconvenience had to be observed. In fact it is an utter impossibility to have a plain ordinary sore throat now in Moncton, such a thing is unknown, you can only have a mild case of diphtheria, and pay the penalty of having your front door adorned with a neat but conspicuous placard announcing to all whom it may concern that—"This House Contains Diphtheria." As for a case of ulcerated sore throat such as we used to have once or twice each winter when we were children, anyone so unfortunate as to develop anything of the kind now, would in all probability be sure of isolation in an improvised lazaretto, and the treatment usually accorded to a smallpox patient.

It is, of course, well to take precautions where contagious diseases are concerned, and no doubt the officers of the board of health are convinced that they are doing only their duty, but there is such a thing as overdoing it to such an extent that the results will be most disastrous and the consequences more far reaching than could have been anticipated at the time.

The closing of the schools may have been a wise precaution but it is doubtful when one sees the swarms of children chiefly of the poorer class who are turned loose upon the streets perfectly unrestrained, free to stray into every locality, and to congregate in the very worst and most unhealthy parts of the city, insufficiently clad, and exposed to the cold and dampness of an unusually inclement spring. Surely such children would be in much less danger of catching a disease which is frequently the result of cold, if they were comfortably housed in a warm school house, and looked after by a careful teacher. The children of the upper classes are of course better at home, but it is probable that in any case they would be kept at home under the present circumstances, so the closing of the schools does not benefit them in any degree.

In like manner the closing of the Sunday schools, Y. M. C. A. and Salvation Army meetings is a thing which may or may not have been necessary and justifiable, just a individual opinion may suggest; but to close the churches was an act of vandalism which was unpardonable, and calculated not only to create a panic and do an immense amount of harm, but also to bring discredit upon religion. What is our religion or our faith worth if our first act at a time when we believe ourselves to be in

danger, is to turn our backs upon the source of all mercy, and publicly proclaim our lack of faith in Him by closing the doors of His house? In most countries when there is any "common plague or sickness" the churches are especially thrown open to permit the people to cheer up frequent prayers for deliverance, but it remains for Moncton to keep up its reputation as a christian city, by originating the custom of closing the House of God and living in a state of heathen darkness as far as public worship is concerned, just when we are supposed to need help most, utterly disregarding the scriptural injunction not to forsake the assembling of ourselves together; and naturally proclaiming our independence of all such aids. It is to be regretted exceedingly that the clergymen of the city submitted to the order of the board of health but did not insist on their right to open their churches for public worship, because one cannot believe that if it really came to the point, any local board of health, or even the provincial ward could compel them to close the doors, or inflict any punishment for disobeying the order. It can be made compulsory to thoroughly clean and disinfect a church before holding service in it during an epidemic, but the law is powerless to close the doors of a church unless under very exceptional circumstances. Apart from the religious and common sense views of the matter, if one looks at it from a purely business standpoint the result is the same, the pecuniary loss to the churches is serious where they depend so largely upon the weekly collections for their expenses, and where people are so very unlikely to make up the loss by remembering to add the amount they would have placed in the collection plate last Sunday, to next Sunday's collection, and thus see that the church does not suffer from their absence. The loss of the collections for even one Sunday would be quite an item in any church, and when it comes to two—for it is said there are to be no religious services held in the city next Sunday either—it becomes a matter of some gravity.

Outside of the loss to the churches the panic that the action of the board of health is likely to create outside of the city cannot fail to be most injurious to the business interests of the place. Already Moncton is being spoken of at a distance as a sort of plague stricken city where the raging epidemic of diphtheria is so bad that schools, and even churches have to be closed and business is almost at a standstill, so desperate is the situation: such things are always exaggerated and people will be afraid to come to Moncton for fear of infection. It will first affect the hotels, and then other lines of business, and it is not unlikely that before many days have passed and the state of affairs in the city have been blazoned abroad passengers, will be afraid to alight at the station here for lunch lest they should contract the dread disease in mingling with the crowd, so convinced would the majority of the people be that things in Moncton must have reached a desperate stage indeed when the very churches have to be closed to prevent the spread of the disease. And all because an unusually cold, wet, and backward spring has produced the usual crop of throat trouble, and less than two cases of diphtheria per thousand inhabitants. Verily precaution is a good thing when it does not reach the length of causing a panic, but when carried to excess, it rather is to be deprecated than exulted in.

"Does Modern College Education Educate?" is an important query started in the April Cosmopolitan. This is but the opening paper in a discussion which is to be taken part in by some eminent writers among whom are presidents of the leading American universities and other distinguished educators of America and Europe. It is likely to cause a memorable shaking up of the subject of educational methods.

### Mr. Burton is Not Guilty.

The finding of the jury in the Burton trial gives satisfaction to the public here. There was a great deal of sympathy felt for this young man whose heart was better than his head. He made the Collier business a flourishing one here and the Judge's charge Thursday evening was a scathing rebuke to the firm, and almost wholly in favor of Mr. Burton. It seemed a heartless course for the Solicitor General to keep him in prison another day simply in order to catch a train. The excuse was that another information would likely be made against Burton. There are cases where prosecution becomes persecution. Burton was ably defended by Mr. John L. Carleton, while the Solicitor General assisted by Mr. John L. Carleton.