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GOT THE MOVING HABIT.

THE WHARF IN LINE WITH FIRST OF MAY REMOVALS.

Is the Connolly Structure Infected With the Yearly Shuffie—The Force of the Tides Behind the Wharf the Alleged Cause of this Movement.

The Connolly wharf at Sand Point is going out. This may be a somewhat startling statement, yet it is true. The wharf and warehouses are gradually but surely moving out, and it is but a question of time before another catastrophe will happen at the winter port wharf. In the first week of October last year, when there were crowds of men working on the Sand Point improvements, the idea was ridiculed that the structure being raised was insecure and unsafe. But a few days later all the work of the summer, all the timber, stone and gravel moved bodily into the channel, where some of it lies at this moment.

So it will be with the Connolly wharf, unless steps are taken at once to prevent it. Any one who takes the trouble to visit this structure at full tide and remains patiently watching till low water, will see behind the wharf a very peculiar motion of the earth and gravel, sand and silt. He will see this falling in at certain times, not as dropping into a hole, but gradually settling down, telling plainly that the whole body of earth at the bottom of the wharf on the rock bed below, is shifting its position.

Then again the movement may be told from the position of the wharf face. It has not only moved out, but it has assumed such a position that the outer face is further from the perpendicular than it was, showing that the wharf is moving out much more at the bottom than at the top, thus preventing the danger being seen on the surface.

It is also certain that the whole level of the filling behind the wharf is settling down, finding another level, preventing the eye from taking in the fact that there is a motion outward unless the most careful scrutiny is had. It has been said time and again that the wharf was moving. It was claimed that the upper end of the wharf was out of position, yet the city council disputed this and said it was in the exact position that Connolly placed it. But there are many sharp observers outside the council, and two out of every three men who live and do business in that vicinity will affirm plainly and forcibly that this wharf has gone out. It was doubted, but there is every evidence that the doubt will become a reality unless something prevents. It may be that the dredging that has been going on for some time has something to do with it; it may be that the frost of winter has something to do with the present movement, but certain it is the wharf is going out.

Men who claim to know say that the cause of this movement is the force of the tides behind the wharf acting as a wedge. Hundreds of tons of water, forced by the heavy tides, press in behind this wharf, and as water has an equal pressure on all sides the strain put upon this wharf is something terrible. Nothing could stand it. Then to this may be added the fact that the wharf sits upon sand in a great measure, and this is being gradually worked on by the water, and consequently shifting its position. To this may be added the fact that the dredge makes a channel or dumping place for the earth that the tide is moving, and you have a very satisfactory reason to advance by the wharf is going out.

It was in October that the late wharf catastrophe happened.—There on Sunday morning the people were astonished to see the work of months gone to naught. They could not understand how such a thing could happen—yet happen it did and the reason was that gravity and other natural laws had been violated. It had been decided to build that wharf without contract; it had been decided to build the wharf on plans that the city engineer would not guarantee stable, and then despite repeated warnings from responsible men the dredge was set about to undermine the structure while hundreds of tons of earth were thrown in behind to aid in the work of destruction. The same obstinacy will put the Connolly wharf in the sea. It must be apparent to all that the city council should take steps to prevent this catastrophe. A stop should be put at once to any dredging or rock blasting near the Connolly wharf, and no more earth should be filled in behind the wharf. A break water or

something of that kind should be arranged to break the force of the tides coming against the lower part of the wharf and thus crowding it out. There is no burning necessity now, that the Sand point wharf should be hurried. The winter port season is over and since little has been done in wharf building since October, a period of six months except holding meeting, accepting plans and then discarding them for others, a few weeks further delay will do no injury to the interests of the city, and the time can be very profitably spent in making the present wharf safe. How this can be best done the engineer will probably decide, but certainly no time should be lost in securing an investigation, making a critical examination and taking steps to guard the Connolly wharf.

This catastrophe that is surely impending should be a warning to the council not to build a wharf on the present plans by days work, and against the desires and expressed opinion of the engineer.

That gentleman drew plans for a wharf with counter-forts, that he was willing to guarantee would stand the strain of the tides. He was anxious that the council should build on those lines; but they refused and instead ordered plans for a wharf entirely different in structure, entirely different in size, and the result was that Mr. Peters could not guarantee its stability. To make the matter worse the council has decided to build the wharf by days work, on plans that cannot be recommended. Is it not flying in the face of nature and practical science to thus play with the city's best interests? The citizens demand now that the council call a special meeting, decide on plans guaranteed by Engineer Peters or some other engineer, and then give the work of construction out to some responsible contractors who are in a position to recoup the city for any loss that may possibly follow. This is certainly the desire of the people, and it is strange indeed that the council should then fly in the face of all that has been said, and continue under the system that has made such a failure in the civic revenues, without any practical result. At that meeting also the Connolly wharf danger could be considered, an examination ordered and plans prepared to offset the danger. It may be that the wharf will not move this spring, now that the post is out of the pond, but a wreck is certain to come sooner or later, unless immediate steps are taken to contract it, and even now it may be too late to avert the danger.

THE COLONEL WAS MAD.

Because The Official Talked of "Queer Looking People."

There is etiquette and etiquette, there is the majesty that doth hedge a king, and there is the peculiar decorum that should be observed in all cases—the decorum that is part of a gentleman. There is a general politeness that never deserts a man, no matter in what position in life he may be placed—there is also a certain dignity that should follow an official whether he be in civic, provincial or federal life.

A few days since at Ottawa a case occurred where this question of official etiquette came very vividly to the front. A young man of Kings county was appointed to work in one of the departments. The young man in question was well recommended and had all the qualities and characteristics of a gentleman. He also knew what was due to those whom he considered his superiors. When he went to the capital he expected to receive gentlemanly treatment but such was not the case.

Colonel Demville took him in charge and they set out on around of the offices. On the way they came to the one presided over by the doctor in question when the following scene occurred.

As soon as they entered the door and before they had time to speak the order came "take off your hats."

This was a salute they were not expecting and consequently the Colonel's ire rose at once and he proposed to slaughter the official. "How dare you," said the Colonel "address me in that way. Do you know I am a member of parliament?"

No heed was paid to this question the order coming again with greater force: "Take off your hat."

"Who are you addressing, you bald headed old rascal," said the Colonel, "I'll report you to the house. I'll learn you the respect due your superiors."

Turning to his friend, the colonel said, "Keep on your hat; don't take it off till I tell you to."

And the King's county boy kept his hat

on, though he trembled at the tempest that he had unwittingly created, and whispered to the colonel, "I think I'll go home, I don't know as I care to stay around here anyhow."

This added fuel to the flame and the colonel who was angry before was now mad clean through, and in his best style, as though leading a charge in the Soudan, he advanced to that official, after pulling his plug hat down hard on his head.

He placed his finger and thumb within an inch of the official's nose and said, "You disgraceful remnant of officialdom, you talk to a member of parliament in that style? Do you not know that I can keep on my hat in any place because of my position? Do you know that you have insulted my friend and if you don't apologize for it at once I will have you brought before the house, you upstart and sneak. Don't tell me that you didn't know who I was, that makes no difference—it would be just the same in any case; you have no business to forget the courtesy due to gentlemen, and if you don't know what is due, I will take it in hand to teach you."

The colonel was out of breath by this time and while he was "fetching" another, the official gasped: "I am sure you will excuse me. I did not know who you were, there are so many queer looking people going the rounds of the offices that I cannot tell what to do."

He didn't get time to finish. The words "Queer looking people" set the colonel off again, and he hit the desk a crack with his fist that upset the ink bottle and made the little official jump out of his seat. "Queer looking people! Do you dare to continue your insults," raged the colonel, "I will lay this whole matter before the house just so sure as you sit there. I'll teach you that you don't know as much as you think you do, I'll see if they are going to have a bureau around here," and in his rage he seized the King's county boy jammed his hat down over his eyes and stumped out to find Laurier.

Did the colonel use any classical phrases? In reply to this query it is said he talked in the Greek language for three hours after he reached his hotel.

AFTER MR. H. H. BANKS.

The Temperance People are After the Inspector.

HALIFAX, April 8.—The temperance people have poured out the vials of their wrath on H. H. Banks for his alleged non-enforcement of the liquor license law in this city. PROGRESS had never much to say in favor of Mr. Banks' work; it never said he was an exceedingly faithful officer. The fact is the license law in Halifax is openly violated on every hand, and everybody knows it, consequently the temperance people are down on Mr. Banks.

D. W. B. it is the license inspector in this county, outside the city. Seldom is a complaint heard of him from the people who grumble most about Brother Banks. This seems somewhat peculiar. The County Municipal Council, which has been in session this week has raised its voice regarding this matter. First they got on him regarding his charge and the charges of constables employed by him. Then they branched off to general principles. Councillor Henley said it was a shame that the county should be burdened with such an officer. He did not like to talk about him behind his back, he said, but he was prepared to show that there is more drinking in the county, at least in his section, than before the inspector began his work. Councillor Henley concluded by dwelling on the increased drinking at his headquarters—Spry Bay.

Then Worden Stratford took up his parable in the same direction, by remarking in the terse manner for which he is famed that in one district that he knew of and which he named, there are three places where liquor is sold. One of them is licensed, the others are not. The licensed house does the smallest business. Any one who travels through many parts of the county can bear testimony to what the warden and councillor Henley said, while at the same time it can also be said that there are sections where it is impossible to buy liquor for drinking purposes.

It thus appears that bad as Inspector Banks may appear in the eyes of city temperance people, that Inspector Reid stands but little better in the county.

Oh—its B—re—ted, O—ns, Sp—nt, Per, orated D—ns, 17 Water—oo.

BABIES ARE ADMITTED.

THE SCHOOL BOARD SHOULD ALSO PROVIDE NURSES.

The Teachers Harassed by Having Tiny Children Sent to them to be Taken Care of—An Appeal Will be Made to the Government to Rescind the Law.

Quite a breeze of excitement was caused this week by the action of a certain primary teacher in carrying out a regulation of the Board of Education. Why should she not do so?—it may be asked. It seems that some three or four years ago the school authorities in St. John preceiving that they were behind the times and that great injury was being done the primary schools by converting them into nurseries, requested the Board of Education to enact that new pupils should be admitted only at certain times. It was accordingly done and it worked satisfactorily until a certain under official came upon the scene and announced in advance that these pupils were to be admitted at all times.

The teacher in question on being presented with a permit explained very courteously that her school was already very full, in fact that she had more pupils than seats, and that her entire time and attention was required to fit those she had to advance, and make room for others, and that it would be only a short time to wait; beside, the pupil was very young and it would be an advantage for him to remain out a couple of months and make a fair beginning. She also stated that it was contrary to the regulation of the government to admit new pupils at this time. The parent was obdurate, however, saying "she did not want the bother of the child around home" and proceeded to the office from which she soon returned with the permit, having written upon it an order to admit the child. No messenger was sent and the order was not even sealed—one way of including respect for authority. The teacher gave the pupil a seat but did not enroll him claiming that she could not do so until her returns if the regulations were violated.

It is said that an appeal will be made to Fredericton on the one side to rescind the regulation, and on the other to maintain it, in its entirety. The chairman of the School Board is understood to have given out that children should be admitted at all times, and that the regulation is contrary to law.

The chairman is perhaps not so much to blame, as he is supposed to give effect to the advance notices, before referred to. It may be ultra vires, but there is no record that such good lawyers as his predecessors chairman Weldon and Barker discovered it, and it is rather strange that such lawyers as Messrs. Blair, Mitchell, White, Emmerston and Co. who had a hand in making it should only now be told of it. If it is contrary to law, about all the towns on the continent are transgressors. The teachers say that if it is contrary to law it is in entire accord with common sense and that no complaint would have been made if it had not been for the extra officiousness of a clerk who is never weary of proclaiming his efforts "to popularize the schools. It has become a standing joke among the teachers, generally with the mental reservation that the official in question is on the wrong side of the counter to render the schools in any way popular if such a thing were needed.

It is said that the chairman is acting on his own responsibility in the matter as it is by no means certain that all the members of the Board or even a majority of them are in accord with him. One teacher remarked that there was great danger of the practices of a quarter of a century ago being reintroduced in this city and remarked quaintly that "every approach to the Board was studded with fossils."

It is stated also that nearly all the primary schools are now overcrowded and if new pupils be sent to fill the seats of those already belonging, and take away their chances of grading, that there will be a row of very large dimensions among the present patrons of the schools.

If pupils can be allowed to come in at any time they may as well be allowed to bring along their cradles and playthings, and day nurses employed to assist the teachers to care for them. Bring them along at any age and at any time and let St. John be an example to the cities of the earth.

The primary teachers, who are a unit in favor of the regulation, held a meeting on Friday to make representation to the Board.

They rightly consider that if they have the confidence of the trustees they will regard their manifestos as being in the best interests of the schools, and so will all sensible people look upon it.

ALMOST LOST THE POSITION.

Because She Rode Occasionally on Sunday Electric Cars.

HALIFAX, April 8.—The Sunday street cars are running as regularly in Halifax as if there were no ominous clouds such as the Sabbath observance association threatening them with actions at law and vigorous stoppage of the traffic.

Notwithstanding the campaign that has been inaugurated against the Sunday street cars in this city by the Sabbath association, and the fact that this association is largely made up of ministers and staunch church people, the clergy of Halifax are by no means unanimous in refusing to countenance the street cars. Some of the ministers go so far as to use them on Sunday. On the other hand there are men in Halifax who will not use the cars at all, on any day in the week, as a protest against their "desecration of the Sabbath." Some rather harsh things have been said by non-car using clerics regarding their brethren who looked at the matter through such different glasses, as to allow them to speed over the rails on Sunday.

What follows, however, treats not of anti-clerical harshness, but of what looks something like seventeenth century rigor from a minister towards one over whom he found he had some power. This minister is pastor of a north end presbyterian church. He is an outspoken champion of the anti-Sunday car forces and he has the courage of his convictions to a remarkable degree—both inside and outside his pulpit. There is no mistaking the meaning of his frequent sermons on this question nor of his earnest precepts every day in the week bearing on this "evil" as he believes it to be, and as very possibly it is, at least from the standpoint of employees who work in the power house and on the road seven days out of the week right along.

The Rev. gentleman's church was for some weeks in search of an organist, at last one was found, whom everybody concerned thought would answer admirably, in a young lady from the far south-end, two miles away from the church. The contract with her was about being closed when the pastor learned that her residence was so very far distant from the place of worship, and he remarked to her that she might find it wearisome to walk so far twice every Sabbath, and asked how. She proposed to overcome the disadvantage of the great distance. The young lady, not having learned of the extreme views entertained by the minister on the Sunday car question replied.

"Ah I can walk in summer and in fine weather without trouble. On rainy days, or in winter, I shall take the street cars."

The minister's countenance fell, as instinctively he concluded that the young lady, no matter how great her musical accomplishments, nor how suitable she might be in every other respect, would not do as organist of his church. No such musical argument against his sermons and his daily agitation could be permitted as an organist who instead of walking two miles to church and two back, twice a Sabbath, a total of eight miles, would take the street cars. This he intimated to the disappointed candidate for the position, much to her regret and sorrow. The young lady was told she might walk and secure the position, but ride to it she would not be permitted to do.

Such was the ultimatum that the church members, who had long patiently awaited the engagement of a good organist, learned had been issued in this case. Yet its terms must have been modified, or else the young lady acquiesced in it, for she was installed in the position and everybody said she played very well indeed. A careful scrutiny of the minister's countenance last Sunday night, as he preminated against the street cars, with the new organist near him, failed to give any clue as to how the difficulty had been met; whether he had surrendered or she had capitulated, or whether there had been a compromise.

The real explanation of the appearance of the organist in her official capacity in the church is that the young lady capitulated to the minister and agreed to abide by his ultimatum. She felt she could not walk the distance but rather than lose the organ she agreed to change her boarding house from south to north-end so as to be near the church, and to avoid the possibility of being ever tempted to take the cars to church.