

# PROGRESS.

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## FOR LIFE OR LIBERTY.

### MANSLAUGHTER OR MURDER IS THE CASE OF WALSH.

The Attorney General hints at Manslaughter—The Jury Chosen and the Trial on This Week—Will the Extra Jurors be Paid for all Their Time.

John Walsh is on his trial for the murder of John Meahan.

The crime is fresh in the minds of the readers of all newspapers and the facts and main features of the case were brought out at the Coroners inquest and the preliminary examination.

Walsh is represented by Scott E. Morrill and the Crown has the new attorney general, Hon. Mr. White to present the case to the jury. This is the first case of



JOHN WALSH, Charged With Meahan's Murder.

note that Mr. White has engaged in since his appointment as attorney general and he presented the facts in his usual calm and forcible way.

Probably by the time PROGRESS reaches its readers the jury will have given their verdict. The trial began Thursday and the crown was not slow in presenting their witnesses. A noteworthy feature of the address of the attorney general was his inclination to point out that all the crown would attempt to prove was manslaughter while he did not direct them so in plain terms he spoke as if the evidence would not warrant a conviction for murder.

It is some time since there has been a trial of this sort in this city and the interest was keen. The spectators were there in force and listened to the evidence with the greatest attention. Perhaps there was more attention paid to the selection of the



JOHN MEAHAN, The Murdered Man.

jury which has been waiting ten long days to find out who would be so unfortunate as to be sworn in. Some of them were not long in suspense because the crown and the defence exercised their rights of challenging to the utmost. But others in spite of excuses found that they must devote some time to the service of their country as jurymen. One man urged that he was acquainted with the family of the prisoner, and might be inclined to favor him, but the judge could not see it in that light and the jurymen was sworn. After a while the twelve men were chosen and sworn in. In connection with the jury the fact may be mentioned that an additional panel of forty citizens was summoned by the sheriff presumably on the strength of the Walsh trial but all of them appeared the first day and the murder case was postponed for ten days, and the forty additional talismen

were not required to show up until Thursday of this week. It is an interesting question that some of them are asking if they will not be paid for the days the court is in session. The judge will no doubt decide that in the briefest fashion, but if there should be anything in the contention what a pretty bill the county would have to pay.

The evidence of Rooney—the man who was with Walsh and Meahan—was the same as at the inquest. He told the story of the spree, and Walsh chasing him away with stones and then he knew nothing afterwards. The physicians testified that the wound was probably made by a rock or some missile and that it caused death. Then Patrick Quinlan the dead man's brother in law was not allowed to tell what Meahan had told him in the hospital. Capt. Jenkins told of the ground and its nature and was the last witness up to the time of writing. Friday morning the jury with the counsel and the prisoner and officers went to view the scene of the crime.

### FOR BETTER STREETS.

A Question which the City Fathers Must Soon Face.

A question that the civic fathers will soon have to grapple with is that of the city streets, and especially those on which the block pavements were laid, namely Main, Mill, Dock and Prince William. There has been a question in dispute as to who should bear the burden of the repairs of some of the streets through which the street railway runs, the city or the railway company. As a result of negotiations, however, it is likely that the railway will assume the responsibility and will give the city a certain sum annually, for a period of years, to keep the streets in repair. This mode of settling the difficulty will be similar to the settlement of the dispute about keeping the streets clear of snow for which the city receive \$3,500 annually. Probably they will get \$4,000 yearly for keeping the streets in repair.

Now the question arises what style of work is to be done on Prince William and Main Street. It cannot be said that the block pavement has proved satisfactory and it is also time that engineers as a body disapprove of this kind of street. It lasts only about five years and though it costs only about \$2,000 a yard the frequent renewals necessary make it very expensive; moreover, it soon becomes rough and uneven. The block pavings received a most sweeping condemnation from Mr. Campbell, road commissioner for Ontario, who was here at the time of the exhibition in a report which he had presented to the city council. Mr. Campbell was not backward in expressing his opinions in emphatic language about the city streets saying that there was not a well laid street in the city. As the report was made on the strength merely of an off hand request by the Mayor, Mr. Campbell's strictures of the city public works officials might seem rather gratuitous and unprofessional. Be that as it may, he is thoroughly acquainted with his subject and his views should carry weight.

If cedar blocks are to be relaid there should be at least a concrete foundation placed beneath. The present foundation of boards is not stable enough and having settled in places there are depressions in many spots in the streets.

Now is a good time to go into the whole question and decide what kind of streets are the most economical and lasting granite blocks, cedar blocks, brick pavements, asphalt or macadam, and what are the most suitable for certain classes of streets. Some definite system should be laid down to govern future work, of such unquestioned excellence, and so backed by figures and the tests of other places as to commend itself to future boards of public works and thus overcome the argument that the frequent changes in the civic board militates against the permanency of any policy.

### Embarrassing for the Governor.

Mr. Ansbach, the magician, is a most pleasant man and makes himself agreeable with every one he meets. He carries his conjuring plant around viz., his nimble fingers, and his great sang froid with him, produces playing cards and various other articles from the pockets of clergymen and pillars of the churches. On Tuesday he accompanied His Honor the Lieutenant Governor to Fredericton and gave him a pleasant exhibition of his art on the train,

abstracting a pack of cards from the pocket of the representative of the throne and doing other interesting tricks. He went into a lawyer's office the other day and handed his card to the lawyer's clerk. When the latter reached for it it wasn't there. This was repeated a couple of times and then the lawyer's clerk got up banged the door of the safe gave the knob a couple of twists and then turning to Mr. Ansbach said in his most serious voice, "Now I am ready to talk business."

### A THRILLING EXPERIENCE.

The Inglewood Club Guide Meets With a Strange Adventure.

One of the most thrilling experiences of the year was that of Nelson Spinney the story of whom was told in an evening paper the other night by Dr. Matthew MacFarland, of Fairville, who showed that he could handle the pen with as great facility as the lancet.

Spinney is guide and game warden of the Inglewood Club, of Boston, who have extensive game preserves near Musquash. On the afternoon of Thanksgiving Day while closing the gate of the dam at Eagle Lake he was struck in the leg by the windlass sustaining a severe fracture.

The question arose how he was to reach a place of succour. He determined to try and reach the club house three miles away over a rough portage to Lochalva and along the rocky shore. Until nightfall he went along by hopping on one leg with the aid of a staff. Then there being neither moon nor stars it became too dark for this and he decided to go ahead by going backwards; sitting down on the ground with his back to his goal he lifted himself off the ground by his hands and pushed himself along with his sound foot. Thus there was the least strain on the injured limb from which he was suffering agonizing pain. And so inch by inch through the long night, that seemed like an eternity, he crept along over roots and swamps, bogs and marshes, through water, ice, slush and mud, over hillocks and hollows, over rocks and boulders, his courage sustained only by the companionship and sympathy of his faithful dog.

It was two o'clock Friday morning before he reached the club house. Lighting a fire, getting some food, removing the clothes that were torn to shreds by the rocks and briars, he clambered into bed to wait for succour or death, all day Friday, through a wild and stormy night and through the most of Saturday he lay alone in the deserted camp and the apparently deserted woods, wondering it help would ever come to relieve his stiff limbs. But it came at last. Some men camping in the woods decided to go into Musquash and went to the club house to get a boat from Spinney to cross Lochalva. Their arrival was a welcome sight to the unfortunate man and soon by boat and wagon he was carried to Musquash and at two o'clock Sunday morning 60 hours after the accident he was receiving medical attendance.

From the dam to the club house was three miles and he was thirteen hours making the journey. But then his advance was measured by inches and there are nearly 200,000 inches in three miles so it is wonderful how he got over the ground in that time or how he had the courage and the superhuman endurance, handicapped as he was by his throbbing limb, to do it at all.

### HIS SHARP PRACTICE.

A Halifax Physicist and His Questionable Philanthropy.

HALIFAX, Dec. 2.—It is said that a certain North End physician is engaged in a bold speculation. One Murray, an exhibition building contractor abandoned his job last autumn having a crowd of poor laboring men with \$2,500 wages unpaid. These people are now feeling the pinch of poverty. They need the money very much and should receive it dollar for dollar. They are almost certain to do this if they can wait till the legislature meets and authorizes the payment of the claims. The story goes that this physician, believing that the legislature will make good to the laborers their lost wages assignments of the claims, paying therefor 30 cents on the dollar. It does look like rather sharp practice, and indeed, he is a philanthropist, and is advancing the 30 cents now with the intention of making good the whole amount to them when the money is forthcoming. Only such an intention would be any justification for his conduct. If that is what he is doing he is a good man, otherwise he is not far removed from a sharper.

## FUN AT THE BANQUET.

### MR. EMERSON IS SERIOUS; MR. BLAIR JOCUULAR.

Hon. Mr. Hill was facetious and not very complimentary—The Dinner was Good and the Fun was Contagious and Lasted Until Three O'clock.

At least no one will be found to assert that the banquet on Thursday night was non-political. It was a gathering of the extremists of the party, the office holders, the ward heelers, the government contractors and the seekers for favor. They were all of one unquestioned complexion and the fact was exemplified by the eulogiums which were exchanged. In fact Mr. Hill of St. Stephen, described the occasion as a mutual admiration society. The praise was fulsome and bountiful, and every one got his share and several got it in many courses.

The material part of the banquet was excellent and though the banquet hall of the Royal is not as spacious as the assembly rooms this was offset by the fact that the service of waiters was better than that at the Blair banquet.

The speakers of the evening were Mr. Emerson and Mr. Blair. The new premier gave a most interesting speech outlining the future policy of the government in relation to the farmer. The force of his harangue was somewhat lost from the fact that he read it and had to keep his eyes on his paper instead of directing their magnetism at the audience. Probably he wanted to make sure of his words and fall into no pitfalls.

Mr. Blair devoted himself chiefly to protesting against his constituents taking up all his time during the sessions by constantly buttonholing him and calling him from his chair in the house into the lobbies and anterooms. Probably he had vividly fresh in his memory the siege which he had endured from place hunters at his private car at the depot that very day.

There were of course numerous amusing incidents and sallies of wit and outbursts of mirth and applause, Attorney General White referred to the rumors of conflict between Mr. Emerson and Mr. Tweedie and he said, that judging from the reports circulated one would have expected to see Mr. Emerson come forth with a patch on his eye or Mr. Tweedie with his face badly disfigured. Whereat Mr. Tweedie called out, "He can't do it," a sally that brought down the house.

The polished Mr. Hill of St. Stephen, told a good story. About a hundred years ago Father Murphy, of Ireland, engaged in a controversy with an Anglican Bishop, in regard to purgatory. In one letter the bishop declaimed against the horrors of purgatory, to which Father Murphy replied that he might go further and fare worse. So Mr. Hill likened the present provincial government, perhaps not to purgatory, but to the story, and they might go further and fare worse.

Ald. McGoldrick talked in his usual amusing vein. He said that he held a position that many would like to get, though he had to attend many board meetings at the city hall, and got only \$100 a year and spent that on his way home from the city hall. He said that he represented a constituency bigger than Albert and Westmorland put together and he implied that he might some time measure swords on the field of provincial strife.

There were speeches of all sorts and descriptions and they lasted pretty nearly "all through the night," the revellers not dispersing before three o'clock Friday morning.

### THEY SILENTLY SNEAK AWAY.

Vernice and Professor Vincario have Putled Stakes and Departed.

The reign of Dr. Vincario and Vernice the Wise is over. They are only two V's but they seemed to have the power of attracting many other V's and they made some hundreds of dollars here and in Fredericton. Their departure was probably hastened by what claimed to be an expose of the Fredericton Gleaner's. The said paper the other night devoted a couple of columns to the East Indian in which they declared him to be a first-class fakir and stated that his method was to unroll with his deft fingers the bits of paper on which his clients wrote their questions and with a rapid glance of his brilliant eyes take it in, consuming but an instant in the operation unnoticed by his interviewer. Then in his Hindu tongue he would convey the question to the fair oracle and she would with all her woman's

tact and lengthy experience manufacture an answer. This is a question which the writer, not having interviewed the soothsayers, will not attempt to discuss.

There is another phase of their visit which, however, may be dealt with. It appears that when the two prophes left Fredericton for the United States the first of the week they left some creditors behind. A young St. John man who looked after their advertising, distribution of hand bills, etc., was stuck \$60 wages for services rendered. There are probably other creditors and the business office may have prompted the story in the Gleaner.

Dr. Vincario is very fond of wine and thinks nothing of cracking numerous bottles of fizz every week. He invited a gentleman to have a glass of wine with him a day or two before he left. He had occasion to go out and in his absence the other man, who did not care for wine, got the bar-keeper to put the wine under the bar. When Vincario returned he said that he had drunk his wine. "No you don't," said the professor, "bring it out from under the bar." Whether that was mind reading or simple native ingenuity is an interesting question, though it was probably the latter.

### MR. CASSIDY'S KLONDYKE.

Says There is Gold at Silver Falls and Also on Canterbury Street.

Out at Silver Falls they are busy putting up a pumping station to increase the city water supply. There is a big derrick there and a couple of men stand there day in and day out turning the crank of the big machine. Why they should do this menial unremunerative work when there is a regular Klondyke under their feet is somewhat unaccountable. Or at least this, no doubt, is what Mr. Boulder and Contractor Cassidy thinks. He says there is lots of gold there and he has been a frequent visitor to the falls during the last two or three months, prospecting, digging, and knocking off pieces of rock which he brings into town to show his friends what wealth is contained therein. Some cavillers say it is only iron pyrites, but then Mr. Cassidy has been in Nevada and is a practical miner and he says that there is every indication of gold about the miniature Niagara. In fact he thought it was so much like Nevada that he stuck up a claim board on the city's land just alongside the big derrick setting forth in nicely printed and thoroughly legal language the boundaries and particulars of his claim and signed in his own name. He also drove stakes at the corners of his claim. It was, however, suggested to him that this was not the way to proceed here. The method was to get a prospecting license if desired. Mr. Cassidy remarked that he had intended to apply to Hon. Mr. Dunn for a prospecting license but the surveyor general was out of town. Then it was suggested to him that very probably Mr. Dunn did not carry around mining and prospecting licences in his pocket and that it would better to apply to his department at Fredericton for the document. Mr. Cassidy has not gotten rich yet out of his gold strike but he hopes to. He was out there this week and collected some more gold bearing pieces of rock. Mr. Cassidy is an observing man and claims also to have located gold on Canterbury street, more than what has flowed into the newspaper offices here. But in future when you drink your daily rations of water from Little River, on which Silver Falls is situated look out and preserve the specks of the precious metal floating therein. It will be a good speck.

### AFTER DINNER PLEASANTRIES.

Two Halifax Gentlemen and Their After-Dinner Speeches.

HALIFAX, Dec. 2.—Everybody pronounces the dinner of St. Andrews Society on Tuesday night to have been one of the best in recollection of the oldest dinner-giver in Halifax. The feature of the night was Professor Howard Murray's post-prandial speech and his sarcastic and ironical attack on attorney general Longley. It was unparallelled. The attorney general's reply in which he explained that Professor Murray's malignity was due to the fact that he (the attorney general) had publicly denounced the study of the classics a waste of time and energy was such that both parties could well call the encounter a draw. Professor Murray occupies the chair of the classics at Dalhousie.

The other special feature of the dinner was the oration of Humphrey Mellish one of our rising barristers.