

PROGRESS.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

THEY WILL BRING SUIT.

LEINSTER STREET CHURCH VERSUS THE SCHOOL BOARD.

They Claim a Breach of an Unwritten Agreement and Think They can get Damages Because the School Building is not Used now.

Now that the congregation of Leinster street baptist church find themselves soon to be without a spiritual leader, their troubles with the Board of School Trustees comes again before them more forcibly than ever. The following resolution passed at a recent business meeting of the church shows that the members of retiring Pastor Daley's flock intend fighting the educational executive to the bitter end in the alleged breach of faith matter.

The resolution which was passed unanimously reads,—“Resolved, that in view of the evident indifference shown to all communications addressed to the school board and their apparent determination not to meet our board in friendly conference respecting our claims, our board be authorized at their discretion to enter suit in equity against the Board of School Trustees on behalf of the church.”

The history of Leinster street church for years back has in a measure been the history of the School Board, as the edifice itself was built mainly at the instigation of the last named body. They were sorely in need of a new school building and as the young but growing church was contemplating, not seriously however, the erecting of a new house of worship, the educational people advised them strongly to go ahead with the work. They promised that if public school apartments were added to the building the School Board would pay a yearly rental of \$750 for them. No written agreement was made, however, nor period of occupancy fixed. The church people claim they relied wholly upon the earnestness and good faith of the trustees, which was at that time being shown in a very marked degree.

Plans were made and the church, with school rooms in the rear, erected. An additional expense of nearly \$15,000 was added by the building of the educational departments which debt, if the Baptist people had not become responsible for would have made Leinster Street a financially healthy church to-day. As it was when the School Board was paying the \$750 rent, that amount only sufficed to cover the interest on money borrowed.

The church, burdened and encumbered by the business attendant upon their dealings with the educational board, struggled along bravely until early this year when the school trustees withdrew the pupils from the Leinster Street apartments re-arranging the whole system. This change was brought about by the erection of the new High School building.

With a heavy debt resting upon them and a loss of nearly \$900 from rental and janitor's fees the church board of management felt the school people had treated them most unjustly, placing them in a very embarrassing position. While the lack of a written agreement perhaps warranted the action of the trustees, nevertheless the baptists felt keenly what they claimed to be injustice, and, in order to force some reasonable settlement with the other parties, have decided, after repeated endeavors to have the matter arranged amicably, to invoke the law.

A suit in equity will be instituted and as the money involved amounts to over 12,000 probably something like that sum will be the damages which they will ask.

This dispute is another illustration of the need of opening the school meetings to the public and the press. Loose methods have prevailed in the past in the conduct of the board's business and in this case there is one instance at least in which the same are shown. It is stated that there are in the minutes of the meetings of the school board of the time of the negotiations between the board and the trustees of the church in 1878, the date when at the solicitation of the school board it was decided to build the school. In a case at law such minutes would be valuable as showing when the arrangement really was made. Mr. John March occupied a dual role here as secretary of both school and church boards and there are not minutes of either body extant.

Another unbusinesslike proceeding was the fact that lately when the church corporation have been asking for a hearing before the school board their communications have not been noticed, or responded

to. Chairman Trueman has told an officer of the church that at a meeting in June or July last a committee of the board was appointed to meet the church authorities but strange to say the latter have received no official notification of the fact from the secretary nor have they been approached by any such committee.

And there is still another looseness, though this applies to the church as well as to the board. A lease was never drawn up. Mr. Weldon admitted their liability to the church and talked of drawing up a lease which would fix it in black and white but it was never done. There is, therefore not a document to support the church's contention. Ex-Secretary John March, however says that the school board in their negotiations with the church said that they would want the building for school purposes for all time.

The school board base their claim upon the principle of equity that if one body erect a building at the request and solely for the use of another body and the latter then throw it up they should reimburse the former body for their expenditure. The church built the school solely for the school board and now, outside of the use of a portion as a vestry, it is valueless to them.

They feel therefore, that they should be reimbursed for a portion of their expenditure. The land cost them \$1,000 and the building was estimated to cost \$11,000.

It is said that a leading school official thinks that a portion of the Leinster Street should still be used, as the school accommodation is insufficient; even with the big high school. The number of scholars at the schools this year is greater than ever before and there are 993 enrolled at the Victoria school and annex—against 832 last year.

The result of this large increase was that two rooms had to be opened on the top floor which is cold in winter and which makes a long climb for the children.

With 900 children in the yard every day it is apt to be crowded and the result has been that Principal Parlee has had to make the strange rule that the children shall not run or walk fast in the yard. It is probably a good rule under the circumstances for if they commenced running the place would look like a football match or bargain sale.

In one room in Victoria school there are 50 children which is too many for one teacher to handle and give requisite attention to each.

It is well for the school board to be economical but not at the expense of efficiency. Half of Leinster street school might be used again and the strain on the other schools thereby diminished.

ABOUT SECRET SOCIETIES.

Something Regarding the Many That Flourish Here.

In proportion to its population there are probably few, if any, cities on the continent that devote more attention to the secret crafts and societies than St. John. The fraternal and benevolent organizations have always found a willing people in the residents of St. John and all that have been established here have grown and flourished.

The secret draws the public intellect is stuffed full with symbolic signs and rites, strange ceremonials, and countless passwords and all the mysteries that veil these bodies brotherly. There are many halls and buildings where meetings are regularly being held, where the mystic rites are performed, where questions of private and public interest are discussed, and where action is taken to determine to an important degree the history of the city. The secret bodies are certainly an important factor in the city's life and exercise an important influence on social lines, temperance work, benevolence, good fellowship and politics. United by the solemn bonds of fraternity their united action counts for much and with a total membership embracing probably more than a third of the total male population of the city their influence must be greatly felt, and felt too in the line of encouraging husbandry and charity, elevating their membership morally, inculcating higher ideals of life and spreading a knowledge of the art of debate, the intricacies of business and practical knowledge in general. And as for the volume of good time that they give, why, that can't be measured.

There are fifteen different fraternal orders represented in the city of which three are mainly social crafts, three are temperance bodies, one has a national significance and the balance are chiefly for

benevolent purposes. As will be seen by the table given below these embrace all told about 95 lodges, courts, divisions, etc., and their total membership would probably be, according to a conservative estimate, between 5000 and 6000. The city including Fairville has a population of nearly 50,000 and of these there would be about 15,000 adult males so that probably one out of three or four, making allowance for those who belong to more than one craft is learned in the love of mystic shrines and has the privilege of that which delights young and old alike, the possession of secrets. The winter season is the time when the orders flourish, when the lodge room with its dais, its gavel, regalia, banners, warrants, and other paraphernalia is most sought and PROGRESS thought it would interest craftsmen to hear something about the orders here, their history, present position and strength, etc., and something about the chiefs of the orders. This therefore forms but the introduction of a series of articles on the subject in which it will be the endeavor to present the data of most interest in the most interesting manner.

Besides being strong in numbers the orders here have some of the most prominent men in Canada in their different crafts men who by their zeal for their cause have risen to the highest rank which can be bestowed.

In masonic ranks there are several who have attained the highest degrees and one is the senior of the thirty third degree in Canada. All the masonic orders are represented here and among them are included the most exclusive and recherche among all.

In Oddfellowship, Pythian knighthood, and Orange to day there are several who have taken high rank in the order and occupied positions of trust in the supreme councils.

The temperance bodies include two or three who have been heard in the gatherings where temperance sentiment has been concentrated and voiced as the opinion of thousands of temperance craftsmen expressed through their generals-in-chief. One, for instance, has held the highest office in the gift of all the Sons of Temperance of the world over.

With the Foresters, C. M. B. A. and other purely benevolent associations it is the same way, though being younger crafts here their chief executive officers have not attained to such high position. Some, however, have held office in the councils for the Dominion and upheld the prestige of this city thereby.

These facts will, however, be dealt with more fully later. The following is a summary of the number of subordinate bodies gathered in this city.

Masonic—Lodges F. and A. M.	6
Royal Arch Chapters	3
Councils, Encampments, etc.	11
I. O. O. F.—Lodges	5
Encampments	1
K. of P.—Lodges	2
Divisions	2
L. O. A.—Lodges	11
Preceptories	2
Ladies' Associations	2
I. O. F.—Courts	11
S. of T.—Divisions	6
I. O. G. T.—Lodges	8
T. of H. and T.—Temples	6
Sections	3
A. O. H.—Divisions	2
C. M. B. A.—Branches	3
A. O. U. W.—Lodges	4
Sons of England—Lodges	1
A. O. F.—Courts	1
Royal Arcanum—Councils	1
C. O. F.—Courts	4
	95

A LITTLE SIDE SHOW.

How Visitors to Sand Point Will get the Worth of Their Money

Thousands of visitors will be going henceforth to see the new achievement of St. John's skill and enterprise at Sand Point, the four immense ocean steamer berths containing 4,600,000 cubic feet of solid and enduring wharf construction. It is a tremendous body of heavy timber and ballast for the height of the tide necessitates a wharf 60 feet high from surface to foundation.

With the three big dredges working there, the swarms of men on the elevator shutes, the spiles, the warehouses, the track laying, and all the other departments of the work, Sand Point is a regular hive of industry and is well worth a visit.

Beside the other attractions there will be a waterfall there as a little side show. A sluiceway is being built under the Union street bridge to carry the tide water from the mill pond out past the face of the new wharf, so that it won't get in behind the wharf and weaken it, and there is quite a rush down there when the tide is ebbing.

A SENSATION ON FILE.

A WOMAN BRINGS A FIVE THOUSAND DOLLAR SUIT

Against an Old Time Friend, Which She Claims to Have Lent Him—Attempts to Settle the Case Fruitless and the Papers are now on File.

A case that promises to develop some very sensational and exciting features is pending at present, and is causing an unusual amount of excitement among several well known gentlemen, who, while endeavoring to assume the calm and dignified demeanor that betokens a guiltless conscience are inwardly consumed with agony. One gentleman in particular, a lumberman who has a large circle of friends in this province and Maine, is in a measure responsible for the prevailing state of affairs and that is why so many gentlemen are zealously engaged this week in berating his want of judgment to say the least.

The story, or rather the beginning of it dates back ten years when the lumberman referred to formed the acquaintance of a lady whose name has since become, if not exactly a household word, at least a very familiar one to many in St. John. The lady in question was single, the lumberman was married. That however was no very serious obstacle to the interesting meetings that a tete conversation, interviews etc., that the gentleman deemed necessary to keep up the platonic friendship existing between them.

It was of course nobody's business how often he went or how long he stayed, but gossip, ever on the watch for a choice morsel said unkind things about the couple, and hinted at even darker things.

In this case as in all similar ones, since the beginning of time the course of true love was not just as smooth as it should have been, though there are those who strongly declare that it was not the man's fault—it never is of course—but the lady was entirely to blame for accepting attentions promiscuously from any other man man who happened to catch her errant fancy.

Now the claim is that some time ago the lady who with a circumspectress that was hardly in keeping with her guilelessness and inexperience had managed to save quite a snug little sum of money, and not to be outdone in generosity gave the lumberman \$5000 with the understanding that she was to be paid a certain rate of interest. Later by his persuasive eloquence he managed to secure from her horses and carriages.

For a short time matters went along as smoothly as in the first days of the couple's love dream, then came the final breach, impossible to bridge over. Most quarrels of this kind end in the regulation way but there are occasional cases where an amicable settlement is never reached and this is one of them.

The dream was shattered, broken in fact, beyond all hope of repair, and in the general chaos the woman seems to have had the best of it. She was mad, fighting mad in fact, and demanded the return of her \$5,000, her horses and carriages. Perhaps the lumberman had a vague idea that after all he had only come into his own again, but that as it may, he didn't send back the presents, and, what is more, he plainly showed that he did not intend returning them. Now the woman who brought suit against him for the money, interest, horses and carriages.

The lumberman's lawyers made every effort to have the matter settled quietly out of court and the necessary papers were kept from file until last Tuesday, when as the lumberman had shown no disposition to have the affair arranged otherwise, they were duly filed.

Now the matter has become public property and several gentlemen who are interested in the lady, and whose names are likely to be mentioned in connection with the affair, are feeling anything but comfortable over their rather embarrassing position.

NOT ENOUGH TO GO ROUND.

The Programmes for the Pirates of Penzance not Properly Distributed.

The programme for the Pirates of Penzance was a unique affair, and from its excellence of workmanship and design was quite a work of art. Unfortunately many of those who attended were unable to obtain the fac simile of the black flag with its gruesome emblems of death, as a souvenir of the pleasant occasion, because there were not enough programmes to go round; though 900 were printed for each

night it does not appear that anything like that number was properly distributed. Comparatively early in the evening the supply gave out; many were consequently doomed to sit through the entire evening without a programme, or depend upon the kindness of those near them for a chance to identify the different characters. Just where the fault was it is impossible to say, but it looked as though the programmes were left to the tender mercies of any one who happened along; carelessly thrown on a chair near the door, everybody was at liberty to help themselves and not a few appropriated more than the usual number. Indeed PROGRESS heard of a case where a lady was expressing a regret that she had been unable to obtain a programme, when the young man to whom she was talking gallantly remarked, "let me give you one of mine; I have four or five that I got for some of the boys who couldn't go, so I can easily spare you one."

A JEMSEG FESTIVELY.

Originally a Wedding and Charivari It Ended in a Law Court.

Jemseg, or rather Upper Jemseg has had the even tenor of its existence so greatly ruffled by a certain incident of late that the talk for miles around is centred almost chiefly on one subject, that of the alleged vandalism during the "charivari" performances of a body of village youths and maidens, while a rustic clergyman was struggling with a nuptial knot at the home of one Thomas Dykeman, a prominent resident of the place.

It was a eve of great rejoicing in the Dykeman homestead, a daughter was being joined in matrimony to the man of her choice and all within the cosy domicile, which by the way was a haven for travellers as well, bearing the name "Temperance Inn," was merry.

Fully awake to, and with a country-like knowledge of every matrimonial event past, present and future, especially the latter, the "boys" and "girls" of the neighbourhood met in council grand before the inn. "Charivari" (Jemseg pronunciation "shiveree") proceedings were discussed and a plan for a real old fashioned celebration hit upon.

First of all a delegation was sent out to rake and scrape up all the old guns, tin pans, cow bells, dinner horns and other Zulu band instruments in the settlement. These were operated upon with exhilarating effect, at least to the spirits of the serenaders. Those of a mathematical turn of mind in the party headed by a third class teacher, sought about the working out of the following problem. To remove intact the spacious piazza of the bride's fathers home to a spot about seventy-five yards away, without the sound of such operations in any way coming in contact with the ears of the owner of said property. Strange to say the problem was solved successfully.

Another contingent resolved themselves into a beast of burden party and sped the peddling wagon of the new father-in-law to a new stand, short of two miles away. Evidently there were some intemperately inclined among the celebrants, for the good old inn sign with its cold water maxim the sight of which for years had raised the hopes of wearied travellers, was ignominiously brought to mother earth and further consigned to the bosom of the St. John. It remains, worse the cruel usage it received, were picked up by a Spoon Island inhabitant a few days since. It will be used here in the Francis Murphy anti-liquor campaign next week.

Despite the fact that all temperance restrictions hereby were removed the happy householders failed to extend the usual liquid courtesies.

A set of peddler's scales were relegated to a heap and it was not until a retel in the ranks thrust a live gobbling gobbler into the presence of the bride, groom clergyman et al through the parlor window, that those on the inside of the building became aware of what was going on outside.

Paterfamilias changed his disposition from north to due south, and at once set in to berate the crowd. He threatened and vowed over again the most direful vengeance nor were his wild promises empty ones for the following morning at cock-crow he was off in quest of Her Majesty's law on the matter.

Loading himself up with that saccharine commodity vengeance in the shape of seventeen summonses he returned to his home grinning a grin, a cross between a Memphis smile and Hamlet laugh. Next day the story goes fourteen frightened youths and three maidens faced "the law" and promised to be good ever after.