

# PROGRESS.

VOL. X., NO. 473.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JUNE 12, 1897.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

## WILL THE BOYS PARADE?

MAJOR McLEAN HAS DISTURBED POLY-MORPHIAN PLANS

By Insisting That the Militia Shall March in the Morning—The Matter Under Consideration.—The Plans of the Forty Beef Eaters—Who Will Lead Them.

In the last issue of PROGRESS an article on St. John polymorphism mentioned the fact that at that time some dissatisfaction among the polymorphian clubs and the military authorities as to the allotment of time for parade on the morning of the 22nd, when, according to the plans of the parade committee, both the militia and citizens are to appear before the public. Since last week the disagreement has widened and as the whole affair stands now there are "bright" prospects of a "dismal" failure of Tuesday's demonstration, as far as the morning's programme is concerned at any rate. The polymorphians contend they cannot put on their show properly unless they have the whole forenoon, while the militia claim to have an equally strong argument in the fact that upon that morning or rather at noon they must fall in line with the military organizations all over the British Empire in firing royal salutes and feu de joie, a mark of respect and duty, which they say, cannot be omitted. However the turnout of the soldiers is simply a voluntary matter, so some say of the officers, and it rests with the men themselves whether they will parade with the polymorphian clubs to which they belong, or fall into rank with their red and blue-costed fellow militants.

A person with half an eye can see at a glance the impossibility of putting on in a couple of hours a parade of the dimensions promised by the polymorphians. Their assembling and starting hour is put down as 8 o'clock and the time of disbanding at 10.30. In this short space of time the parade, which will include 1,200 men, half as many horses and a dozen large floats, will be only fairly under way and perhaps not more than half way around the route of procession. The committee have not allowed for accident or other mishaps which would of course entail losses of time.

The polymorphians who have been organized now well on to six months, have been working assiduously in preparation for the display which they are now completing, and who, when about ready to make their display a very important part of the St. John celebration, are so seriously interfered with that the successful carrying out of their plans appears next to impossible. A short time ago after the polymorphians had made known this dissatisfaction as to the parade committee's decision, it was practically decided that the polymorphians should have more time than was at first allowed. Although not altogether satisfactory to the four clubs, they submitted to the ruling but shortly afterwards Major H. H. McLean, acting first officer 62nd Battalion arrived home, and in words peremptory and full of officialism ordered that his men should report themselves on parade at 10.30 o'clock on the morning of the 22nd, just about the time when perhaps the Polymorphians would be in the midst of their celebration.

This mandement fell into the polymorphian's camp like a bomb, causing consternation and indignation in the fullest degree. The general public as well were not unfeeling in the matter and expressions of regret that a more amicable arrangement was not courted were expressed on every hand. Many polymorphians lost heart, others were firmer while a large number of them were for throwing their plans completely to the winds. There is no doubt but that Major McLean's defi was a cruel blow to the laudable movement being so successfully carried out by our energetic and thoroughly patriotic citizens.

The fact that there are on the membership rolls of the various Polymorphian clubs, a large number of 62nd Battalion and Artillery men, is the chief point of contention. Major McLean when questioned could not very well act the martinet in full consideration of all the circumstances and promised leave of absence to any of his men belonging to the polymorphians on the morning of parade. While this offer in itself appears reasonable enough, yet several of the Major's Captains "set their caps on high" like the ruler in "William Tell" and threatened arrest, if any members of their companies should leave the ranks on the occasion in question.

What a patriotic, harmonious and graceful scene this would make, if a raid should be made upon the polymorphians while touring the streets. The old days of Orange parades through the York Point district would doubtless be tame incidents in comparison to a meeting as pictured above.

In West and North Ends the greater percentage of militia men are found among the polymorphians. The former party have promised to throw up the sponge if Major McLean's order is not greatly modified, the latter contingent do not look at the matter in the same light and say they will parade with the polymorphians whether or no. Colonel Armstrong head of the St. John artillery although not having made known his views as openly as Major McLean, has neither promised to give leave of absence to his men nor does he say that he will make them to the mark. There is indeed an air of mystery about the whole matter as far as the military are concerned, and fears are entertained, of an exhibition of petty czarism.

Immediately after the head of 62nd Battalion made known his intention the Central executive committee of the polymorphians held a meeting, to consider what action they would take. The committee is composed of such enterprising citizens as R. J. Wilkins, James McKinney jr., Duncan Lingley. Ex. Alderman McKelvey, J. Brayley, R. Rubins, President Whipple, of the Algerine contingent Charles Nevins, George B. Frost, and others. Although the actual proceedings of the meeting were not made public, yet the committee made known the fact, that they had addressed an urgent communication to his Worship Mayor Robertson. As the mayor is at the head of the general committee, which is composed of representatives from all bodies intending to celebrate, he was at the time of writing expected to confer with that committee in the matter. The main question asked by the polymorphians in their letter, was: Is it settled that the militia shall parade as per the present arrangements, if so, we, the polymorphians resign completely.

By today the citizens expected an answer from the committee, and whether favorable or no, the reply will be considered by the Central Executive on Monday evening next.

The argument seems not without reason, that despite the fact of the military demonstration on Sunday 20th., that the soldiers should also observe Tuesday which has been proclaimed "Jubilee Day." A feu de joie and royal salute are in a measure quite necessary, and St. John would be indeed a glad some mark for annexationist roosters, if she were to become such a distinctive exception to the military organizations all over the Empire, who will upon the occasion in prospect, do honor to their Queen in the manner under consideration. Yet the question is asked, could not these salutes be fired at noon upon the Barracks Square without a second military demonstration around the city. If this course were pursued, a full hour longer or more would be allowed the polymorphians. In justice to Major McLean it may be stated that he was in favor of this idea. Again if the military parade should take place in the afternoon the demonstration of the societies would also be interfered with. So there you are.

Outside of the military—polymorphian matter altogether, the four citizen's clubs seem to be getting it "dans le cou" all round. When it became known that there would be a demand for horses during jubilee season, the owners of horse flesh, ranging in quality from the saw-dust fed "hat-racks" of the Strait shore to the well groomed prancers in our leading ivory stables, raised their rates of hire to an unreasonable figure, almost double the original price. Others have even overreached that mark. A civic-political livery stable owner is receiving what little "credit" there may be in store for the originator of this scheme.

Tuesday the 22nd., will certainly not be a day for driving, consequently ordinary livery business would be rather slow, in fact dead, dead, and yet an extraordinary figure is being asked for the hire of horses which would otherwise be idle.

A very unique feature of the parade will be the Forty Beef Eaters and The Tower of London. Energetic "Andy" Hunter has this in charge and has able assistants. The suit has been chosen and is a sight itself. When donned by the forty beef eaters there will be plenty of merriment.

Of course there must be a leader and a leader has been chosen. The distinguished honor of heading the procession of beef eaters has been assigned to Mr. Edward Sears whose physical proportions are admirably adapted for such a position. Then the bullock has been chosen and will be roasted on the Shanrock grounds where a furnace is being built for this purpose. Messrs. Lilley & Aldous will perform this part and undertake to have the feast ready at four o'clock in the afternoon. Then will the Beef Eaters be in their glory catering to the wants of their friends.

## SUGGESTS A LUNATIC ASYLUM.

It Might be Appropriate as a Monoclon Jubilee Memorial.

A well known city gentleman who takes a deep interest in all affairs pertaining to his native province send the following to PROGRESS:

It is strange that among the many suggestions as to a jubilee memorial in Moncton, no one in that enterprising town appears to have hit upon the idea of a lunatic asylum, although in view of its unenviable record of late, the notion of such an institution would seem to be the first to present itself. One would imagine it could not fail to "supply a long-felt want."

Of course to us, who are blessed with an enlightened civic government, and our well-trained police, under the direction of a rational being, it would appear as though the people themselves were to blame for this sad state of affairs. If so, it would be putting it mildly to style them a long-suffering people, "meek and mild" would not fill the bill. But there are many little things to be taken into consideration, which might show matters under a different aspect.

What I would humbly suggest is that we send a commission of enquiry, or a missionary, or a policeman, or something,—just to wake them up to the fact that this is the nineteenth century.

It is all very well to have our laugh over the Moncton despatches at the expense of the Moncton police committee,—and I admit their antics are somewhat funny, but there is a sadder side to this picture. It is anything but gratifying to think that within a hundred miles of this centre of civilization, there should be a community so very "far away back" as our sister city. If we could realize the sense of shame and humiliation that must fall to the lot of the more enlightened of the inhabitants, I feel sure that at least our merriment would be tinged with pity.

We have only to put ourselves in their place to appreciate the situation. Suppose for instance, one of our respectable old citizens was wending his way home at 10 or 11 p. m., and should meet a howling lunatic prancing up King street flourishing a pistol, and blaring away in all directions; at the same time keeping up the most discordant yells on the principle of the small boy who whistles to keep up his courage. If the poor wayfarer could feel sure he was being aimed at, he might hope for a chance of escape, but in the case of such promiscuous firing, it is apt to be a very forlorn hope indeed.

Or supposing this same gentleman had indulged in one of those charming but heavy little suppers, to be had at any of the restaurants or cafes, and that as a result he should wake up at some unearthly hour with a groan, or possibly a yell, and find a couple of mongrel-half bumpkin, half tough, confronting him with levelled pistols. If he could breathe at all, would he not breathe a heartfelt prayer that he might be spared to take up his abode in some more civilized region?

Of course if the people of Moncton are satisfied with this state of affairs, it is, it may so express it "their own funeral," literally as well as figuratively, and 'tis not for us to interfere, how ever much we may commiserate them. All we would ask, as peaceable outsiders, is, that they would confine their peculiar methods within their town limits. But when they attempt to carry their antics into neighboring towns, as was recently the case in Dorchester, where a pistol with some sort of attachment, figured so prominently, we must enter a most emphatic protest.

One would naturally think that people of ordinary intelligence would endeavor to keep an edict and a pistol as far apart as possible. If some have failed to do this it devolves on more enlightened communities to show that they are decidedly averse to such a dangerous combination.

Of late respectable travellers have looked upon Moncton as a very nice place to keep away from—a sort of "Devils half-acre" in fact, but they have never hesitated to get off at any other town between this and Halifax.

If these more favored communities wish to retain the confidence of the travelling public it would appear as though they must insist on the Bend's systems being kept within the confines of the "Bend."

## HE IS NOT A FAVORITE.

THE PEOPLE HAVE NO LOVE FOR COLONEL COLLINGS.

He Stands on His Dignity Occasionally and Lets the People Know He is Bossing the Show—Why He Refuses to Allow His Musicians to Play.

HALIFAX, June 10.—There is no love being lost between Colonel Collings, in command of the Royal Berkshire regiment and the people of Halifax. Whether this is because of a misunderstanding, or because some people here have done something that the colonel does not like or because of self-interest on the part of the military, or because of other reasons no one seems to know. Perhaps it is a combination of all.

What causes this surmising is the repeated refusal of Colonel Collings to allow the band of the Berkshires to take part in any of the jubilee proceedings outside of those in which the military are solely concerned. The first of these refusals came to the commissioners of public gardens. From time immemorial the band of the British regiment has furnished the music at the concert on natal day, June 21st. This year even though it is under such special circumstances as a concert in honor of the Queen's diamond jubilee, and with a chorus of 600 children singing patriotic airs, Colonel Collings refuses to allow the band to take part, alleging that they have too much to do of their own work to permit helping entertain the public in the gardens. They are not asked to play for nothing. One hundred dollars a night is their charge. The unveiling of the jubilee fountain is to be another big affair, and for that too, Colonel Collings refuses his musicians.

Then the Halifax symphony orchestra is to give a concert next week during the meeting of the National council of women of Canada. It was thought necessary by the managers of that organization to have a half dozen soloists to fill up the ranks of the orchestra on this occasion. Colonel Collings said "No," they cannot be permitted to take part; the men are too busy with their regular work. He would not even allow three men off. The C. O. not only offends the musical public by this latter refusal, but some of "the leaders of society" are also indignant and do not hesitate to say so.

The reasons for this conduct are not so apparent as is desirable. The recent criticism of the marching of the military on the queen's birthday, which was anything but what it should be, may have nettled the C. O. and he is getting even with somebody in this way.

Some who profess to know say there is trouble in the band and that so many have left it for the companies that heavy practice is needed to keep in anything like good form.

Others think that the fact that the military are holding a tournament they wish everybody to go to and the band is not permitted to assist at anything that might become either directly or indirectly a rival attraction. The tournament is spread over three days, and one of these is the date of the natal night concert in the gardens. So it may be the tournament that is the hidden spring which moves the colonel. One thing is sure in this connection, the military authorities would not allow their men to take part in St. Patrick's tournament the other day on this account.

There is one other possible reason. The Berkshires leave this garrison in September, and it may be that they do not care what people think or say.

Whatever the cause, the fact remains and with the queen's jubilee rejoicing will be mingled very little love for her majesty's army as represented at least by the Berkshire's C. O.

## SHE WAS PROBABLY EXCITED.

A Female Cyclist Loses Her Balance and Gets Angry.

Each bicycling season brings with it some additional affection the list of wheeling lads now in vogue having grown to startling proportions. Bicycle heart, leg, eyes, head, etc., etc., are frequently spoken of and indeed many of the little homely ills of everyday life are attributed to the popular mode of locomotion. Bicycle manners have become as firm an establishment in America as is the etiquette displayed among horseman and women in England. Yet there are many occasions when the ordinary mode of self-conduct and wheeling ways come together

with a clash, the old time methods generally coming out on top.

The conduct of a Douglas Avenue young lady who a day or two ago when crossing the Market Square called a highly respectable and gentlemanly passer by "a horrid fool!" simply because she happened to fall off her wheel in front of him when a quartet of her admirers stood gazing on, has been a matter of debate in the bystanders' minds. Was she affected with bicycle heart? Did she have wheels in her head, or was it only a very new mode of address or mark of respect shown to those of grey hairs? The young lady in question, although only in the freshmen class of bicycle students is certainly far enough advanced in wheeling habits and talk to have full command of the new vocabulary, but the question is, has she become so engrossed in cycling and its ways as to fall far deficient in the amenities of every day life as well as deference due a lady or gentleman on any occasion.

## NOT A POINT OF ETIQUETTE.

But a Case of Necessity That Caused All the Trouble.

Professional etiquette is certainly an excellent thing in its own way and in the right place, but there are times and occasions when it must give way before stern necessity. Such a case occurred recently when a man residing in Musquash who had been quite ill for two or three weeks, was taken suddenly worse and a member of the family drove in haste to the city for the family physician who had been attending the man previously. It was late at night and the Waterloo street doctor declined to go. The messenger set out post haste for another physician who had at one time prescribed for the man. Again the alarmed, and by this time angry individual, met with a repulse but in this case the physician was more obliging for he tried to get another to attend the sick person. A Princess street physician was telephoned for but was unable to go. The latter doctor put the case before a Wellington Row medico, who finally succeeded in prevailing upon his nephew, a gentleman formerly connected with the city hospital, to go out to Musquash, the Wellington Row doctor kindly furnishing him with his own horse and carriage.

In a drizzling rain the doctor drove out and found the man delirious and in a very dangerous condition. He did what he could to alleviate his patient's suffering and before he returned to the city had the satisfaction of seeing him resting very comfortably.

Two or three days later the Waterloo street man, who had been first applied to, found time to go out to Musquash. When he learned that another doctor had visited his patient, his anger was very great and without a word he returned to the city and immediately sought out the offending brother and gave him in no very flattering terms his opinion of what he called "an unprofessional act." Both gentlemen grew so excited over the matter that the services of a peace maker were in requisition. Those who knew the facts of the matter were anxious to know if a doctor would be justified in letting a man die while a council of physicians settled a trifling point of etiquette.

## DIDN'T FINISH HIS SPECIALTY.

Because the Orchestra Stopped at the Chorus.

Mr. Frank Buoman is one of the specialty artists of the Thomas E. Shea company now performing at the opera house, and a favorite he is too with the audience. The other night when they were cheated out of one of his songs, the gallery, balcony and lower floor expressed their disappointment in a way that left no doubt as to his popularity.

Mr. Buoman sang through the first verse of his specialty all right enough, and started in on the chorus in the rollicking way called for by the style of the song. In a moment the singer realized that the orchestra was not with him. He tried to go ahead without the usual musical accompaniment but was unable to do so and after a few angry gestures towards the cause of his failure he left the stage much to the disgust of the audience. The leader of the orchestra says he understood that after the first short dance was to be given and then the chorus was to be resumed hence the pause.

Mr. Buoman says he never meant to do anything of the sort. Wherever the mistake occurred the audience was with the actor and expressed their chagrin plainly.