

PROGRESS.

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ST. JOHN N. B. SATURDAY, APRIL 22nd

Subscribers who do not receive their paper Saturday morning are requested to communicate with the office.—Tel. 95.

CIVIC LEGISLATION.

According to the opinions of members of the house of assembly the experience of Moncton and Woodstock councils in having the appointment of their chiefs of police is going to be an argument against that privilege being given to St. John. The conditions are so different in the three cities that the argument is not likely to hold good. St. John should have the appointment of its own chief of police. Unless that is so we have no control whatever over his actions. We do not believe like some, that the council should have the appointment of the men on the force. If they control the chief they can well afford to let the chief control his men and if he is the right kind of a man he need not fear that the council will displace him. Contrary to expectation the government does not seem anxious to retain the appointment and leaves the matter in the hands of the city members. This is fair and the gentlemen who represent St. John should have no difficulty, with the assistance of the aldermen in framing a section that will cover the case. In order to be efficient it seems to us some officials have got to be responsible to somebody. Who else then should they answer to but the people who employ them? The city appoints its chief of the fire department and other responsible officials and rarely indeed is there any friction between them and the council. So it should be with the chief of police.

One would gather from the remarks of the premier that there was not much sympathy with the politics of the police force because, as it was stated, the guard room had proved to be an "opposition committee room." This we can safely say is far from the truth. It is like those political exaggerations that Mr. McKEOWN seemed to be anxious to deny when he was discussing Mr. HAZEN'S resolutions.

It might seem strange to an outsider that such trivial matters as the religion or affiliations of JOHNSON—an ex-policeman—should be discussed by the legislature's committee or that the private relations of two civic officials should have come to their notice, but we suppose it may be taken as an evidence of their interest in details. Taken altogether, while there was much that was unnecessary in the discussion, it will no doubt do good and result in the council having greater control over the police force of the city.

Very properly indeed, we think the plan to provide an additional chairman for the council was thrown to one side. The members evidently read St. John newspapers for they knew well the origin of the idea but the common sense of the committee suggested that if the legislature could get along with two chairmen the city council might too. Mr. TWEEDIE struck the proper key when he said that the clerk of the police court was the proper person to collect the fines imposed and to turn them over daily to the chamberlain. The idea that the adoption of such a course would be a reflection on the magistrate seems to us absurd. If the method suggested by the provincial secretary is a better one let it be adopted. We know that there has been difficulty in the past in securing prompt returns from the magistrate and that his attention has been called to the fact by the chamberlain at the suggestion of the council. The bill, we think, is one of the results of the difficulty the council has had and now when there is a chance to remedy the matter why should it not be taken advantage of. We are glad to note that the aldermen present, MACRAE and MCGOLDRICK, and the recorder favored the idea.

Had the council any idea that their little amendment to prevent such official slips

as brought about the suit with I.R. CRAWFORD, was to be enlarged and broadened so as to include all the people who had not paid their taxes, as eligible to vote they would have hesitated, no doubt, before introducing it. Now it appears that the legislature is willing to depart from what Mr. McKEOWN calls an "archaic system" and to give every resident a vote in civic affairs whether he has settled with the taxpayer or not. Paew! The idea will commend itself to many but what a turn over it will cause at the next civic elections! Out of courtesy to the city action was deferred until after a council meeting Monday at which there will no doubt be much difference of opinion.

This is not the only legislation affecting St. John that is of an interesting character. How much of it will pass and in what form remains to be seen.

A STRONG MAN WANTED.

Those people who are interested in the proceedings of the house of assembly must be highly edified by the reports of the sessions that are printed. The matters that are under discussion would in many cases be considered even too trivial for a mock parliament. To see nearly fifty men spending a month or six weeks deliberating how to spend half a million dollars is a remarkable spectacle. They make a few laws, it is true, and amend others but the great majority of them are drafted from the experience of municipalities and do not call upon the representatives for any serious consideration. Provincial law is amended by the lawyers in the house, sometimes at the suggestion of the judges on the bench, and does not take much time or labor. Now there is a chance of the session being still longer prolonged by an "investigation." Certain charges have been preferred against the premier of the province by the leader of the opposition and they are grave enough to warrant an enquiry. But why should not that enquiry have been started earlier? The same charges were made in the press all over the province months ago and it would seem that, if there was nothing in them, a court of inquiry would have been summoned at once. It was in the power of the chief commissioner and the government to have enquired into those matters at that time instead of waiting for a formal charge to be made upon the floors of the house.

Looking at these matters from a purely non-political standpoint it does seem as if there was a great deal of humbug in the conduct of the public business. The business year of the province closes the last day of October and the results, whether successful or unsuccessful, is embodied in a report of the auditor general. That report could be ready six weeks later and yet the people have been without it five months after the year closed. What must we think of this? True, there was a deficit but why should that not be known sooner as well as later? Even when the legislature met the report was held back from the members apparently so they could not get a good chance to study its contents. Is this the way we are to be governed? Is there any broad statesmanship in this or is it petty politics? So far as we know the present government is but following the example of its predecessors in this respect but two wrongs never made a right. When the fiscal year ends the last day of December and the legislature convened six weeks later there was some excuse that the auditor general's report could not be prepared and printed before the members assembled but now when the year closes two months earlier and this year at least—the house meets nearly two months later why should not the reports have been in the hands of the people long ago.

When the man does arise who is broad enough to be above such petty matters it is to be hoped we will appreciate him. We will expect him whoever he is to have the interest of the country so much at heart that no matter where he finds dishonesty, whether in the ranks of his own party or among provincial officials he will promptly lay the facts before the people. Sir JOHN THOMPSON, is the only man of recent years that we can call to mind who was brave enough and honest enough to pursue such a course. The MCGREEVYS and the LANGEVINS had no sympathy from him. ALEXANDER MCKENZIE got the credit of being the same sort of a man when he was in power. Posterity has described both these men as "sonest." Is it not worth something? Men like these are what we need in power to day in New Brunswick to-day.

The commodore editor of the Chatham World is known as an authority on yachting matters but he has not been before the public as a critic of the French language—until in the latest issue of his paper he tries to set the editor of the Moniteur Acadien right in the description of his paper. The

Acadien, like the World, is published twice a week and its editor describes it as an journal bi-hebdomadaire. According to Editor Stewart this means once in two weeks instead of twice a week and he claims that this is a common error. "We hear the World" writes he "referred to every day, often by educated persons, as a bi-weekly, but this use of the word is erroneous, as a bi-weekly is a fortnightly publication according to etymology, analogy and dictionary. We are not attempting, as our friend chaffingly says, to reform the French language, but to reform a common error in the use of both English and French. He will readily see by looking into the matter, that his description of his lively and enterprising paper is not verbally accurate."

A recent illustration of the workings of lese majeste has afforded food for sarcastic diversion among the bachelors of the German Empire, but the married men, it is said, whenever the subject is mentioned become rudiciously reticent. At Spandau near Berlin, a husband and father, while seated at dinner one day, made various observations derogatory to the Kaiser. The cause of the outburst was not disclosed. The wife was, apparently, of the sterner Roman kind, and with her, loyalty to husband was subservient to loyalty to ruler. She immediately hastened to a police station denounced him, and had him arrested and imprisoned. The moral embodied in this domestic outbreak presents possibilities that must be disturbing to the married men of Germany.

The personal equation must be an important determining factor in trusts as well as in individual enterprises. If men with a capacity of handling a million dollars capitalize themselves for a hundred millions they will fail. Water on the brain is a disease to which a trust is just as liable as any human being. A man may try ever so hard to lift himself by his bootstraps into the eminence of a Rockefeller, and yet sink into the obscurity of a Hooly. As well might some of the reigning sovereigns of the old world set out to place all the continents of Europe into a trust because Nepal did it.

The New University of Brussels, Belgium has been compelled to close its doors for want of funds. This institution founded seven years ago, was supported seven years ago, was supported in the main by one wealthy woman the mother of a rabid socialist. This allowance having been suddenly shut off, the university was forced to ask the city for a subsidy sufficient for its maintenance. This subsidy the municipal council has denied.

Irish bank deposits last year were larger than any former year and were more than thirty two per cent larger than in 1887. So much for the business banks. In the Savings banks the increase of deposits over 1897 was more than \$2,500,000, over, and the total deposits were larger than ever before. For "dis-respect" we shall one day have to read prosperous.

In connection with the Van Dyck centenary which is to be celebrated at Antwerp in August next, one million special postage stamps will be issued which will bear a portrait of the great painter. One interesting feature of the fetes will be a historical procession representing the development of art from the earliest known times to the days of Rubens.

The Supreme Court of the state of New York has decided that title to land does not necessarily include the sky above it. This is important.

A big laundry trust is spoken of, but the Chinaman, heathen as he is, will offset it by counter checks all he can.

JOHN K. STOREY'S harp, like the famed one of Taras is silent. Evidently its soul of music fled on Tuesday last.

A Chicago doctor says General Eagan is a n-u-rasthenic. This ought to hold him for quite awhile.

KRUPP has made over 20,000 guns of large calibre for the armies of Europe.

Mr. McBriarty's Work
The Baltimore Sun in its account of the launching of the new steamer Kershaw of the Merchant and Miners Transportation Co. has a lengthy description of the fittings of the new boat and speaks in the highest praise of them, and adds that they were selected by the port steward of the line Mr. John J. McBriarty who has shown great taste in the selection of every article that went to make up the general fitting out which was not in the specification of the Company which built the ship at their yards at Wilmington. Included in the work of Mr. McBriarty is all the silverware, chinaware, carpets, bedding, linen, both for table and stateroom.

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VERSES OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY

The Master.
Hast thou seen the Master?
Late in the solemn night;
He threaded the city's stillness,
Bearing a shining light.
He entered a darkened dwelling,
Silently crossed the floor,
Never his presence telling,
And gently opened a door.
Hast thou seen the Master?
He entered that dreary room;
And blessed a needy household,
Slumbering in the gloom.
He saw that a wealthy neighbor,
Sorrowful for his kind;
Had been there with food and clothing,
Keeping his love in mind.
Hast thou seen the Master?
He entered the river's gate;
The great hall door swung open,
Though lonely the hour and late.
The sleepers they dreamed of Heaven,
Their Lord in their dreams they see;
And they heard Him softly saying,
"Still you remember me."
Hast thou seen the Master?
He sooped where was feasting high;
Eating and drinking and dancing,
And some of His poor drew nigh.
He saw them thrown from the entry,
And trampled where they lay;
He looked on the world's falsehearted,
And weeping He went away.

The Azalia, April 1899.

The First Game.
Woe! The first ball game's at hand—
Hear the band,
Joyous band,
Mark the crazy, ho-tin' throng
A-gone wrong,
Very wrong!
Resurrect the palm-leaf fan,
Get a comp stool if you can,
Join the bleachers' happy clan,
Where they stand.
Put all sordid care away
For to-day,
Any day!
Every one you see is bound
For the ground,
Baseball ground;
Get a place well up in front,
Where you hear the batters' grout
When the curving sphere they bunt
Far away.
Go and sit through two short hours,
Tying hours,
Anxious hours;
Go, and strain your lungs and eyes,
With wild cries,
And watching ill;
On the home to place your bet;
If you lost a first game yet;
Yell and dance and roar and fret
For two hours.
Now a silence deep doth fall
Like a pall
Over all;
And the terrible suspense
Is intense,
Most intense;
Score! How many!; the others 2;
Or last chance, and two out—pew!
What will mighty Casey do
To the ball?
Hear the crowd emit a shout!
Which win out,
Beyond a doubt!
See the bats sail through the air,
Anywhere,
Everywhere;
Hear the grand stand's mighty cheers
When a three-base hit appears!
Ee—the spectators are changed to tears,
He's caught out!
See the home team leave the place
In disgrace,
Deep disgrace;
Note the batter who doth see
Bankruptcy,
Dependency;
Where now is the pitcher's fame?
Why did shortstop play so tame?
Wasn't it a rotten game?
Aw, close your face!
—From the Colorado Springs Gazette.

The Old Hymns.
There's lots of music in 'em—the hymns of long ago,
An' when some gray-haired brother sings the ones I used to know
I sorter want to take a hand!—I think o' days gone by,
"O' Jordan's" stormy banks I stand and cast a wistful eye!"
There's lots of music in 'em—those dear, sweet hymns of old,
With visions bright of lands of light, and shining streets of gold;
And I want to hear—singing, where Mem'ry, dreaming, stands,
"From Greenland's icy mountains to India's coral strands."
They seem to sing forever of holier, sweeter days,
When the hills of the love of God bloomed white in all the ways;
And I want to hear their music from the old time meetin's rise
Till "I can read my title clear: to musicians in the skies."
We never needed sign'n' books in them old days—we knew
The words—the tunes of every one the dear old hymn books through!
We didn't have no tru' evers then—no organs built for show;
We only sang to praise the Lord "from whom all blessings flow."
An' so, I love the old hymns, and when my time shall come—
Before the lights have left me, and my singing lips are dumb,
If I can only hear 'em then, I'll pass without a sigh
"To Canaan's fair, and happy land, where my possessions lie."
On a Dead Child.
There is nothing that seems the same to me
Since Jim went away. I wonder if he
Has the blue of the skies
In his little dead eyes—
They don't seem as blue as they used to be.
And the sun doesn't shine as it used to do,
Nor silver the clouds when the rain breaks through,
With the old perfume,
With their old perfume,
And the birds don't sing their songs as true.
The house is so silent, missin' his noise,
The sob of his sorrows, the laugh of his joys;
And the gathering dust,
With the thickening rust,
Is spread like a pall on his broken toys.
His old stick horse, and his gun, and his sled
I leave in their places by his little bed * * *
I told him that they
Were all in my way—
But they don't seem so now, since he is dead.
—Josephine Faust Spooner.

Going to Study in Paris.
Mr. J. Noel Scovil who has for some time been a student in the office of Mr. R. C. John Dunn, the architect starts for Paris on Monday to pursue his art studies. Mr. Scovil has decided ability as an artist. Some of his work has been engraved for PROGRESS and it has always been faithful and original. His friends will wish him every success.

May be Some Opposition.
There is already some talk of opposition to Alderman McGoldrick as chairman of safety but his friends in the council claim that there are enough votes to elect him. Alderman Macrae is not in the field but it is understood is supporting Ald. M. Goldrick. It is said that Alderman Seaton is the candidate of the opposition.

Business Education.
Broadly speaking, a business education is one that educates for business. Few people realize the amount of special training that is requisite to equip a young man or woman for entrance into business life. The Currie Business University of this city will send free to any address a beautiful catalogue giving valuable information relative to the above subject.

This is a Great Offer.
Any person sending a new subscription to this office with \$4.00 enclosed can obtain PROGRESS for one year, and the Cosmopolitan, McClure and Munsey magazines for the same period with only one condition,—all of them must be sent to the same address.

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Inducements to Travelers.
The Siberian Railroad is offering great inducements to travelers. It provides not merely parlor and sleeping cars, but one fitted with a gymnasium and Russian baths a dark room for photographers, and a stationary bicycle on which one may make century runs without leaving the train.

Revise!
'Yes,' she said bitterly, 'you loved me then—and now!' She paused and sighed. 'It is merely a revised passion,' he calmly replied. 'I still love you now and then.'

PARROBORO.
[PROGRESS is for sale at Parroboro Bookstore.]
APRIL 20.—In view of the pipe organ which is expected to be here about the end of this month, the vestry of St. George's church at Easter engaged Mr. Charles Hillcoat of Amherst as organist. Mr. Hillcoat has secured a piano class and will have a number of organ pupils as well.

Mrs. M. G. Atkinson is in New York to meet her husband returning from England.
Seeing the snow mud and slush which we are having to worry through yesterday and to-day a stranger would find it difficult to believe that for several days previously the streets were dry and dusty, the weather summerlike, wheelmen and wheelwomen gliding about everywhere.

The quill club met on Monday evening of last week at the home of Miss Isabel Aikman one of the members where they "chased the hours with a flag" to excellent music the time for going home arriving all too soon.
Miss Fuller returned home to Springhill on Monday.

Mrs. George Cole of Amherst came to attend the funeral of her mother Mrs. Leitch and is still staying with her sister.
The literary society spent an interesting evening on Monday at the residence of Mr. John Dickinson.

Dr. McArthur lately arrived to become a partner of Dr. J. A. Johnson.
Rev. R. Williams of Pughwash and Rev. W. G. Lane made an exchange of duties on Sunday. In the evening a quartet "Abide with Me," was finely sung by Dr. McArthur, Messrs. R. McMurray, J. D. Nichols, and Harold Bigelow.

Mr. C. C. Langille returned from Digby on Wednesday.
Miss Sutherland of Windsor, who has been spending the winter with Mrs. A. W. Copp, returned home today.
Mrs. Robert Aikman entertained the Quadrille club on Tuesday evening. Drive what agreeably while away the first part of the evening. After refreshments were served, a china card holder, a dainty cup and saucer and a silver ash holder, were carried off triumphantly by Miss Isabel Aikman, Mr. R. McMurray, Mrs. C. C. Langille and Mr. L. S. Gove.
Mr. C. R. Smith, Q. C., is in town. Mr. J. M. Townshend, Q. C., has lately been here for a day or two.
Umbrellas Made, Re-covered, Repaired, Duval, 17 Waterloo.