

GREEDY SHIPLABORERS.

The Old Union Want all the Work or None—Have They Killed the Goose That Lays the Golden Eggs?

The shiplaborers were at it hammer and tongs again this week and at the time of writing it looks as if the existence of the old Union is a matter which a sensible man would not care to gamble on, to any great extent anyway. The wheel of fortune has stepped at the number selected by the new society, they are winners and the Shiplaborers Union men who only a week or so since inaugurated a strike for more wages; after they thought they had succeeded in disorganizing the rival labor organization, are now out of work. It is a case where capital is the dictator and not labor, although the rights of the laboring man are ever worthy of consideration.

PROGRESS told a few issues ago how the old Union promised to strike for more wages if a number of men sufficient to put the younger organization out of business, joined their ranks. About fifteen men bit at this tempting bait and then came the strike. Forty cents an hour was asked for and both organizations were allowed the increase.

Pretty nearly everybody interested knows that for years the big shipping house of Wm. Thomson & Co., has been the mainstay of the old Union. Generally speaking the senior organization has done nearly all their vast amount of laboring, so when the strike was instigated a short while ago it was a direct slap at the Thomson people, who had always befriended them.

On Thursday last Messrs. Thompson gave a steamer to the new society to load. They had a perfect right to do so if they wished, but it set the old unioners wild with rage. They threw up their jobs on all the steamers in port and made all kinds of direful threats. They snarled and yowled at the new society men, who were called upon to fill their places, and if the police had not been summoned hastily there certainly would have been some sort of a riot, for seldom has there been such a harm-wishing congregation of men on the St. John streets.

Determined not to allow the strike to interfere with their business Messrs. Thompson put the new society men to work on a second steamer and Messrs. Scammell Bros. also gave them a boat. When the various crews were told off for duty a party of nine men was sent to the Ballast Wharf to work on the big steamer "Pocobontas". The men were on their way when a host of the strikers impeded them at Reed's Point. With threats and jeers they taunted the new gang, trying to induce a fight, and seeing their tactics about to fail a man named Elmore hit the leader of the small party whose name was Kincaide.

Rather than have any further trouble the men returned to headquarters and reported the interference. Detective Ring and Chief Clark, who were nearby when the hitting occurred, tried to make out the men were not interred with, but the new society men say it was a moment of weakness on the part of these officials, that's all. Chief Clark, averred there was no mobbing and Detective Ring did nothing but advise Kincaide to swear out a warrant against the man who struck him. However Secretary Parlee insisted upon having police protection and a squad of some half dozen policemen and the Chief accompanied the new society men to the "Pocobontas," where they remained all afternoon while the men worked.

Thursday night the chief topic of conversation in Lower Cove and North End, where most of the shiplaboring fraternity live, was the strike. The old Union crowds were vehement in their denunciations of the new society and the Thomson firm. Some squealed about "taking the bread out of their mouths" etc., and with most of them the underlying causes of the strike were lost to view entirely. A few who stopped to realize how their interests were being tampered with by a lot of their injudicious and pig-headed officials become very wroth and sought to throw over their allegiance altogether. Striking with them was an old song, far too old; a veritable chestnut, and it looked now as if they were going to come out the small end of the horn by their persist-

ent kicking.

It never seemed to occur to these enraged longshoremen that a community of families almost as large as their own was depending just as much on the shiplaboring business for their livelihood as they were. They ignored this altogether and just as soon as they became sufficiently strong to deal a blow at their rivals they did so. However by square dealing and faithfulness to agreements, both verbal and written, the new society overcame a great many of the obstacles placed in their way by the old Union, and are now reaping their reward although in these fickle times its hard to tell how long they will be allowed to stay in the favor they so justly deserve. Their rivals are formidable as daring, resourceful men, men who have in the past stooped to some pretty low work in trying to gobble all the plums at Sand Point and other loading places, when hundreds of tax payers were standing by longing for an equitable share of the labor. The shiplaboring business is not for one class alone, it belongs to any crowd of strapping citizens who are fortunate enough to secure it.

Friday morning the situation was little changed, but it was the impression the old Union would try to regain their position by some hook or crook.

THE NOTE FORGERY CASE.

Nothing in the Rumors of Settlement, So The Bank Managers Say.

Mr. F. S. Whittaker is still in confinement though if all the rumors current could be taken seriously he was likely to be at large again any day this week. The talk of a compromise became so general that PROGRESS interviewed two bank managers and asked them what there was in the rumor. It was said that the Bank of New Brunswick was willing to take fifty cents on the dollar or even as low as twenty five and that the Bank of Nova Scotia would follow suit.

Manager Geo. A. Schofield when seen Thursday stated distinctly that he knew nothing of any compromise and gave the impression that nothing of the sort had been thought of. Manager T. B. Blair said the same thing. In the meantime the examination has been proceeding from time to time. Saturday and Tuesday the case was up and more evidence taken, the nature of which was similar to that already published.

Much curiosity has developed as to what other names were used in the way of forgeries, but the banks are not inclined to make these known. It is understood, however, that a well known shipping man and a large wholesale provision house are interested in the fact that some notes of theirs are floating that they had no knowledge of.

Among other things rumored or asserted is that which says Mr. Smith of Halifax, the brother in law of Mr. Whittaker proposes to assume his obligation to the Union bank not because it is a legal debt, but a moral one, since he introduced his relative to the bank.

A Novel but Good Idea.

A garden party on the Barrack square is something unusual and yet that is what the ladies of St. John the Baptist church at Lower Cove propose to have on Monday evening next. The arrangements for the affair include, of course, refreshments and

such athletic sports as will be sure to attract a large crowd. The Roses and Alerts will play a game of ball and such good sprinters as O'Neill, Hayes, Kiley and Morris will participate in a foot race. There will be music, of course, and with the accommodations there an afternoon and evening could be spent most pleasantly.

Why Mr. Olt's Went to Queens County.

That very prepossessing old gentleman called Olt's whom some people are ungenerous to call a miser was in search of a warrant a few days ago. He wished it issued against a party in Queens County with whom he associated last winter. It appears that Isaac's claim to the paper is



THEY HAD THEIR PHOTOS TAKEN.

Two Returned Soldier Boys, McFarlane and Lovitt, and Some Loyal Young Ladies accept Mr. E. H. McAlpine's Invitation for a Group Photograph.

that the person in question abstracted \$200 from his clothes. This was a very reasonable excuse but Isaac has been in the police court before and in all fairness a demand for \$25 was made upon him for preliminary expenses incidental to the pursuit and arrest of the young man from Queen's. Mr. Olt's thought that \$10 should be an outside figure for this portion of justice and would not give any more for the satisfaction of capturing his man. But he started for Queens county on his own account a day or two later and it may be that he will be able to give the local police some valuable pointers upon the items of travelling expense when he returns.

vitt and Harvey of Fredericton and McLeod of St. Stephen followed him. The one St. John boy was young Sprague and as he stepped on the platform he caught the eye of his mother who was as near as she could be in the swaying crowd. There was but one face for him then and he made his way to her quickly and many an eye moistened as they saw the affectionate greeting between them. Then his friends took charge of him and following the example of Ex-mayor Sears who had carried McLeod out of the station on his big shoulders the North Enders caught up Sprague in the same fashion and started for the North End. The Fredericton men and McLeod were whirled away to the Union club almost before the people had a chance to see them, and entertained by Mayor Daniel. Then in the afternoon their friends got hold of them. Everybody was their friend and they had a difficult time of it. PROGRESS tried to get the photos of Bruce McFarlane and Leavitt and the idea was eagerly seized upon by Mr. E. H. McAlpine in his impetuous way and soon afterward the boys were in Mr. Green's studio. Some ladies present were just as glad in their loyal and pleasant fashion in greeting the returned warriors and in a laughing way they acceded to the 2 C's request to enter the group and have a picture with the soldiers. The result is partially shown on this page of PROGRESS. It was but one of the happy incidents of the boys welcome. Sprague and Harvey sat for their pictures the next morning but it was not possible to secure them in time for engraving for this issue.

McFarlane had but few buttons to take to Fredericton. Safety pins were in demand to keep his uniform on. The girls would say "what a shame" and at the same time be looking for another button to cut off.

A good story is told in this connection of a railroad man who saw a great coat hanging in the coat room of a leading hotel. He thought it was one of those that has been through the campaign and he succeeded in getting it long enough to cut all the buttons off. When his friends got some of them they found they were 62nd buttons and the young clerk of the hotel who is a member of the battalion found out that some one had stripped his coat when he went to look at it.

The boys in Khaki were singularly modest and did not talk "shop" unless asked

THE BOYS' WELCOME HOME.

Incidents of a Pleasant Day of Greetings and Good Wishes to the Soldier Lads.

When word reached the city that a few of the boys in khaki who had been sick or wounded in South Africa would return home on Monday the people hurried to the station to meet the train and give them a royal welcome. The mayor and many of the aldermen, the ex-mayor and many

prominent citizens and officers of the local militia jostled with the crowd in their eagerness to shake hands or catch a glimpse of the boys who left here last October for South Africa.

Mayor Daniel boarded the cars before they had stopped and made his way through them but the boys in their eagerness to get off were upon the platform and it happened curiously that Ex Mayor Sears who was last man to shake hands with many of them last fall was the first to welcome them home again. Then there was call for cheers and as Bruce McFarlane stepped from the car the dense crowd sent up a tremendous shouting which was continued as Le-

questions. Mr. Lymbkin of the I. C. R. who was in the city had an opportunity to hear of his son, Bert, that he was well and to the front all the time.

He Used Another Man's Name.

A somewhat venturesome young woman—a married woman—took a little excursion to Moss Glen a short time ago in Company with a young man—a married man—who, by the way, was not her husband. The young man had a lapse of memory and used the name of another man who is said to look something like him. So the pair passed off in this pleasant country retreat under the name of a gentleman who claims that he and his wife are the only parties entitled to use it. The friends of the young woman learned of her escapade and they determined to make it warm for her companion. So the man with whom they stopped was brought to the city to identify the party who had accompanied the wayward wife. They found the man whose name had been given at the baseball grounds and he was the most surprised spectator there when he found out the nature of their visit. Of course he was not the man, so the Moss Glen party said.

Then there was trouble. It may be all right to use a man's name on paper, but to represent him as the companion of another man's wife is a different thing. A warrant was about to be issued when Montreal friends intervened and the indignant citizen accepted a written apology. How the injured husband settled the matter is not known.

That Dog Poisoner

The dog poisoner, whom the city police suspect is a woman, is still free. This is supposed to be the person who killed that valuable Wilson hound in Lower Cove. It is said she is known to have purchased strychnine at a certain drug store and her unfriendliness with all her neighbors is given as a possible reason for her dastardly actions. The North End dog poisoner is a mystery yet, still the owners of the dead canines are offering generous rewards for his or her identification. It would really be a shame if the authorities were to allow these inhuman people to escape punishment, for legal authorities state a licensed dog is privileged to as much protection as a man's horse or cow.

The New Axe Was Swiped.

A brand new axe furnished one of the city police stations by the department of Public Safety is missing. Its whereabouts is not exactly a mystery, for among a whole squad of detectives and keen-witted policemen this and that are put together and inferences so drawn, that a pretty good idea is readily arrived at as to the location of things that suddenly take wings. The axe was a beauty, far nicer than the rusty old chopper the official brought back from his woodhouse in exchange for it, and those who have to do the chopping are only wishing the new splitter could have been left where it was intended for, and not to chaperone the woodpile in that certain official's shed.

How He Managed to Escape.

The differences between certain members of the police force led to a curious error this week and the escape of McNeely, the man wanted on the border for a serious crime. The telegram was handed to two officers, Capt. Jenkins and Detective Ring, and one of them went to the Shore Line and the other to the I. S. S. boat. Other officers were not told and could not get the chance to apprehend the man. Capt. Jenkins told Sergeant Ross that he was on the West side "to see a lady." Neely arrived in town and went home. The morning papers told of the telegram and then Neely knew of the hunt for him. He made himself scarce and the police have not got him yet.

A Letter That Needs a Name.

An anonymous letter speaks of the annoyance experienced by some residents of upper Metcalf street by reason of some "peeping Toms and Jennies." The style of the letter is such that it will hardly bear publication and the statements such that a name should accompany it. The writer of it can be governed accordingly.

PROGRESS CONTENTS TODAY.

- PAGE 1.—It's a very meaty initial page this week, isn't it?
 - PAGE 2.—Photography in Colors, and other interesting matter.
 - PAGE 3.—Musical and Dramatic.
 - PAGE 4.—Editorial on Affairs in China, and other current topics. Joys and Woes of Other Places. Poetry.
 - PAGES 5, 6, 7 and 8.—Social items of interest from all over the three provinces.
 - PAGE 9.—Town Tales including: Some Tony Craft in the Harbor. St. John's Foxy Newsboys. "Big Mill" Automatically Protected. Young Canada in North End is True British. Street Talkers kept her Awake. Tears of Joy and Tears of Grief. Baseball in Front of St. Peter's. A Correct Speaking Newsboy's Triumph. How Yankee Politics Affect St. John Trade.
 - PAGES 10 and 15.—The final instalment of that novelette "Folly and Fate."
 - PAGE 11.—Sunday Reading—including a delightful story "Deliver Us From Evil."
 - PAGE 12.—Lament of a Press Agent—He's not the king he used to be.
 - PAGE 13.—Chat of the Boudoir—Frills of Fashion from the style centres.
 - PAGE 14.—Germany's Murder Mysteries. General miscellany.
 - PAGE 16.—A Battle with Sharks—Adventure story.
- Births, deaths and marriages of week from all over Lower Canada.