

PROGRESS.

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SOME TOPICS TALKED OF.

The Dixon-Barbour Episode—The Annual Event at Loch Lomond and Other Happenings.

The old, old story of woman's perfidy came flashing over the wires this week. This story is of much interest to St. John people as the following despatches will show.

Capt. Dickson, of the schooner Carlotta, has caused the arrest at Grand Falls of Hedley V. Barbour, formerly of St. John, now electrical engineer in connection with the new bridge at Grand Falls, on a criminal charge which promises sensational developments. When Dickson returned from his last voyage his wife and little daughter were missing. Enquiries convinced him that she had gone to Grand Falls. Disguised, Dickson visited that place on Monday and learned sufficient to confirm his suspicions so he secured his wife and had Barbour arrested.

Since the above was printed the matter has been amicably settled, Mrs. Dickson has been restored to her spouse, the family skeleton has been buried and love again reigns supreme.

A Loch Lomond Event.

The annual winter event at Treadwell's Lake came off on Thursday afternoon, and there was even a larger crowd than usual in attendance. The ice was solid and there was a little snow on it, so the horses had an excellent chance of showing their speed. There were eight entries and among them some quite speedy trotters and pacers. The crowd was somewhat enthusiastic but it cannot be said that there was as much trotting as running by the horses. In one heat at least nearly all came down the stretch on the gallop. The judges, Messrs. Drury and Noble, were very fair, and so far as they could understood awarded the heats to the right horses. It was not always possible to see which horse ran the most but their judgement was on the whole very acceptable. Mr. James Stevenson's mare was the victor in the end after many heats and Mr. McDonald's bay pacer a good second. Mr. and Mrs. Treadwell entertained the people as acceptably as they usually do and those who were present enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon and evening. The penalty of Mr. Stevenson's victory was not a very serious one to him for no doubt he enjoyed the privilege of being a host to many of those present.

A Large Enterprise.

The citizens of St. John are glad to see that this city is likely to be selected as a site for a steel ship building industry and are watching the movement with great interest, but, at the same time there is a feeling that it will not do to pay too dearly for such an enterprise. The statement that two or three thousand men may be employed is one that will appeal to many as a splendid argument in favor of the government granting the project every assistance. It was shown to be probable there is no doubt the city would be willing to assist as well. The gentlemen connected with the enterprise in St. John are Messrs. George McAvity, Frank Stetson, Geo. W. Jones, Wm. Pugsley and John H. Thompson.

A TIMELY COMPETITION.

The Agricultural Society Places Some Work for Winter Evenings of Young Farmers.

Under the presidency of Dr. J. H. Frink, the St. John Agricultural Society seems to have put on a spurt of enterprise and the result is that a prize competition has been opened for the young people in the vicinity of the city. The prize is \$25, and the conditions of the competition are most interesting. Probably every young man and woman interested in farming will think over a plan that will best suit their own views, and the answers that the society will receive will without a doubt make good reading. PROGRESS has been requested to print the conditions and does so with pleasure. They will be interesting in every quarter of the Maritime Provinces.

Granted—That a young man twenty-one years of age, or under, with a view to matrimony, has presented to him, in the city or county of St. John, 100 acres of land

and \$1,000 in cash, and on this farm he has to make a home and living. How would he proceed to expend the money and prepare the land? Possession to be given on the 1st day of September. Occupation of the premises on the 24th day

squash, pumpkins, celery. Fruits: Strawberries, raspberries, currants. Flowers: Name a dozen best hardy annual flowering plants. Name a dozen best hardy perennials, flowering.

Granted, that the occupier and his family maintain good health for the period of five years, and the season favorable for agriculture. State of the condition you would expect the farm at the expiration of this period, and the number of live stock it could profitably maintain.

A prize of \$25 will be given for the most satisfactory answers to these questions, \$15 to the first, \$5 to the second best, \$5 to the

NO SAW OFFS IN SIHGT.

Some More Proceedings in the York and Sunbury-Queens Election Cases.

The election petitions are not apt to be "sawed off" in New Brunswick. The determination of Dr. McLeod's friends to push his claims for the seat is evident and this has not tended to make the feeling between the two parties as harmonious as it

Miss Bonstelle at the New Mechanic's Institute found that those whom she was popular with were ready to give her the splendid reception that she received. Under the management of Mr. Harkins the institute performances were well put on and there is much satisfaction among the friends of the company at the good reception they have received. Nothing less could be said of the Valentine Stock company at the Opera House where Miss Blancke, Miss O'Brien and Mr. King as the leading actresses and actor are giving the same general and good satisfaction that the company gave last year.

The Two Exhibitions.

Halifax gives us the information that the deficit at the St. John exhibition was \$2,500 more than the shortage at the show in Nova Scotia. Their claim is that there was a deficit of \$2,500 here that in addition to the grants, government and civic, made it \$9,000, while their's was only \$6,500. There are many ways to meet this argument but the fact itself remains that the deficit of the New Brunswick exhibition was much larger than any of the directors expected. Mr. R. B. Emmerson, a cool and thoughtful man of business, favors alternate years for the shows, one in Nova Scotia, for example, in 1901 and one in New Brunswick in 1902 and there might be one in P. E. Island on the succeeding year. This was opposed by the majority of the directors in St. John. The Halifax commission, however, have fixed their dates for Sept. 14th of next year and St. John must make its arrangements accordingly. There was some differences as between the 7th and 14th, but the majority ruled in favor of the latter date.

Bounced the Occupant.

A little incident happened at the Opera House on Christmas afternoon which at the time created quite a sensation inasmuch as one of the gentlemen concerned in the affair was very well known about the city. As is known seats for the afternoon performance were at a premium, and a great many were obliged to stand. When the curtain fell at the close of the first act a gentleman occupying a front seat arose and sauntered out. No sooner had he done so than his seat was filled by a bystander. The occupant of the seat returning at the beginning of the second act and seeing his place thus usurped remained at the door until the curtain fell for the second time, when he walked very calmly up to the front of the theatre and forcibly, ejected the rather nervy gentleman.

Central Asia's Largest River.

Recent reports from Dr. Sven Hedlin, who is again exploring Central Asia, strengthen the impression which his previous explorations have given of the extraordinary character of that part of the world. Salt lakes, dried up lake-beds, abandoned habitations and temples and interesting people, hitherto almost unknown, are among his discoveries. He also reports that the Tarim River in Eastern Turkestan, which he has surveyed for a long distance, is the largest river in the interior of Asia. Over a part of its course the river is simply a multitude of small interchain lakes.

In A New Position.

Mr. C. J. Milligan who has for some time been the active and energetic organizer of the Liberal party in New Brunswick has assumed the management of the Telegraph. Mr. Milligan is not unused to newspaper work from a literary standpoint and the natural ability that he has displayed in the arduous duties of organization will no doubt be of great assistance to him in the position that he now fills. PROGRESS welcomes him to the field of journalism and hopes that the same success may attend his efforts in that direction as has accompanied him in the past.

Even Buds Grow Old.

According to Prof. Adam Sedgwick there is reason to believe that buds share in the growing old of the parent plant. He illustrates his meaning in this way: Suppose the average life of an individual plant—say a tree—to be 100 years, then a bud removed when the parent plant is 50 years old will also be virtually 50 years of age, and if transplanted by grafting will be able to live on the graft only 50 years more.

Chairs: Re-seated One, Spilt, Perforated, Dugal, 17 Waterloo.



NEWCASTLE FIELD BATTERY.
Many of its members now returning from South Africa.

of May following, by himself and wife.

1st. The land is thus divided: 35 acres woodland, hard and soft wood, containing timber suitable for the construction of frame buildings, with the exception of house furnishings. The premises are fenced temporarily.

2nd. There are two barns and one small dwelling—one barn 10x20, the other 20x40—altogether unsuitable for living purposes, although the frames of all buildings are good and sound. What methods would he pursue to make them habitable, profitable economical, with every view to their good sanitation? Five tons of hay and 50 bushels unthreshed oats are in the barns, the property of the occupier on the 1st of September.

3rd. Twenty acres are available for pasturage, fine pastures poor, not stumped, dotted with alders and other shrubs, but containing one good grove of soft wood trees.

4th. Ten acres of good uncleared marsh land are also on the premises, now grown over with alders, the ground wet and undrained. (Give a description of how this plot could be best reclaimed.)

5th. The balance of 35 acres has been tilled and cropped for hay and grain and roots in the ordinary way until run out. Thirty acres can be plowed, land fairly free from small stone although large boulders are frequently met with above the surface.

State what methods should be pursued to get this 35 acres into good working shape. How should it be divided for the purpose of obtaining hay, grain and roots? The surface of the land undulating, sloping slightly to the southward, at the extreme southerly boundary being a running brook.

6th. State the number of cattle to keep at the start. State the breed of cattle, sheep, swine and poultry most desirable to keep and maintain, giving the reason why any particular breed should be kept.

7th. Give a plan of the interior construction of stable for horses, cattle, sheep, swine and poultry. Give an estimate of cost of reconstruction of stables.

8th. Give a plan of construction of best farm fence; plan need not exceed three panels.

9th. One and one-half acres are reserved near the dwelling for vegetable and flower garden. Name, in your opinion, the best and most profitable varieties, for table use, of the following vegetables and fruits: Beets, parsnips, carrots, onions,

third. Open to the sons of farmers of the city and county of St. John, who may be living on the farm, 21 years of age or under. The answers and circulations to be in the competitors' handwriting; the quality of handwriting will not be considered; correctness in spelling will receive some consideration. The papers to be submitted to five directors of the St. John Agricultural Society for decision as to the most meritorious. If they do not decide, then the president of the society may. All papers to be addressed to the secretary on or before 1st April, 1901.

The Owner of the Road

Mr. Chas. T. Gillespie, one of the owners of Edgardo says that he owns the road this winter. Perhaps there are not many who will dispute this statement, but there are some who do. Edgardo is very speedy and a good show horse. He has shown, up to the present time, a clean pair of heels to the best of them.

PROGRESS

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- PAGE 15.—A short story entitled "The soldier's Christmas."
Births, marriages and deaths of the week.

The Holiday Theatricals.

The holiday theatrical season which opened on Christmas afternoon proved that the people of St. John could for a time support at least two good companies.