

PROGRESS.

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SIXTEEN PAGES.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAR. 24

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

HAVE THEY POLICE PROTECTION?

The letter of a "South End Resident" in our correspondence column this week is exceedingly forcible and quite timely. One point of our correspondent seems to be the proximity of the Home for Incurables to houses of ill fame. While no one will dispute the correctness of his argument the thought will naturally arise, what about the rights of property owners who have had to submit to these nuisances for so many years? It is a wonder that they have submitted to the smirching of the neighborhood. The value of property must have decreased as this section of the city became less desirable to live in, and if the owners took the same stand as to their rights as taxpayers as the Messrs. PETERS did in regard to the water service at the fire which destroyed their tannery the city might be involved in a law suit on the ground of negligence. There is no doubt that the police have knowledge of what our correspondent speaks of and any excuse they may have for inaction has not been furnished to the public. In the city of New York a few days ago the society for prevention of vice took such action that scores of these haunts of immorality were broken up and the inmates either imprisoned or scattered. The district attorney not only took action against the proprietors of the houses but also preferred a charge against the captain of police who had neglected to break up these resorts.

The age is advancing and what was permitted with impunity years ago cannot be tolerated now. The fact that a portion of Britannia street has been set apart as it were for such resorts for years is no reason why this pleasant portion of the city should be sacrificed any longer. Philanthropy and vice will not associate and the home for incurables must have all its neighbors reputable. Only a short time ago the superintendent of the WIGGIN'S Male Orphan Asylum complained that his institution looked upon a "nest of brothels." Surely these are strong words. We all admit the truth of them but that fact does not appear to have penetrated the office of the chief of police.

Is there any particular reason for this? The magistrate made such a pertinent observation one morning in the court in connection with a letter he had received which charged policemen with frequenting these resorts more than their duty called for, as almost to give color to the oft repeated assertion that the dissolute houses of this city are under police protection. Is this so?

CIVIC REPRESENTATION.

The civic elections will be held in less than a month and, so far, there is but little talk of opposition to the majority of the board. If this indicates that the people are satisfied with the government of the city, well and good, but we do not think that is a fair conclusion. The civic government is not in the hands of the best men. It is difficult to explain why this is the case but the fact cannot be disputed. The position of alderman does not attract men whose ability would be of great service at the board. There is too much work for which the remuneration is nominal and the risk of blame too great for the small honor attached to an aldermanic seat. A busy man who permits himself to become an alderman finds the demand upon his time is very great. He is supposed to attend meetings of committees and any public functions in which the city is interested. He works harder than the chief magistrate

and gets but \$100 a year while the mayor draws \$1,600. To become an alderman entails an expenditure of from one to five hundred dollars. The latter figure is exceptional but in close contests such sums have been spent and, no doubt, will be again. An alderman must necessarily do many things that a citizen can well escape. He is expected to subscribe to this and that fund, to make speeches on sight, to be welcome with the younger element and to keep even with his popularity according to their way of thinking. To do this means time and money that but few men are prepared to sacrifice. This is one of the principal reasons why capable business men do not figure more prominently in civic politics. The present board can boast of some good men, a few of them with considerable experience in civic government, but there are others who could take a back seat with advantage to all parties. We want new aldermen at large, and other men for Dukes, Sydney Duffelin, Lansdowne and Lorne. The representation for Carleton could also be improved.

This is frank talk but the majority of those who have followed the proceedings of the city council will agree with it. The principal reason why Sydney should have a new representative is the fact that Ald. WARING is an employe of a firm that has received large concessions from the city and whose agreement with the corporation is not yet completed. Mr. WARING for some time while an alderman was connected with a concern that received a large quantity of work from the corporation and while this may not have been any legal objection to his holding a seat at the board the people prefer that a representative's independence should not be within such easy reach of influence.

The actions of Aldermen MILLIDGE and CHRISTIE, at the board has given the people an impression that their policy is opposition to the mayor. They did not gain any reputation by their captious and absurd objection to his worship's telegram of congratulation to her majesty and their obstinacy in not realizing when they were acting against the sentiment of the community brought nothing but ridicule upon them. Ald. CHRISTIE as chairman of two important departments attempts to act in a dictatorial way toward the council and, too often, succeeds. In this he is supported by Alderman MILLIDGE. The absence of both of these gentlemen would be a relief to the council and a benefit to the city.

What the idea of the legislature was in having two aldermen at large is not very clear. They are supposed to reside in any part of the city and represent all the citizens. In this connection the legislature had indicated that one of these men should be deputy mayor and the other hold some important chairmanship, the object of electing two men in this way would have been apparent at once. As it is now an alderman at large is not as important an alderman as the resident ward representative. Messrs. SEATON and KEAST represent all the people and can reside where they please. As they do not have the interests of any particular section to advance it seems as if they should be known as suggesting something of advantage to all the citizens. This lack of originality on their part may not be a sufficient reason for a change but it at least can be taken as a hint that more than they have done is expected from them.

THE LOTTERY CRAZE.

The lottery evil is still a live subject in Montreal and the best people in the city regard it as a curse upon the community. We know something of it in St. John. Tickets are sold here for every drawing of lotteries in Honduras and Mexico and the authorities pay no attention to the violation of the law. And yet it must be known to the police that lottery tickets are sold and sometimes prizes drawn here. The famous case of MACKAY and the syndicate was evidence enough for the officials if they were not wilfully blind. It is one of the worst kinds of gambling and yet no action has been taken by the police though only a short time ago a Brussels street beer shop was raided and complaint was made that gambling was going on there. A lottery is purely chance; the winner does not depend in any particular upon skill but simply upon what is known as "luck". It is often asserted that the people connected with the Honduras and Mexico lotteries "place" their winners and in this way keep up the interest and advertise their schemes. There are persons in St. John who have purchased tickets for years in what was known as the Louisiana, and now called the Honduras lottery, and have yet to win a prize while others have been more fortunate. Thousands of tickets were sold as a result of a \$15000 prize coming to St. John and the New England agent made a special trip here afterwards to boom the sale of tickets. This kind of gambling appeals to people who would not play for

money at a card table, where skill and intelligence are required, and who in many cases can ill afford the money that they pay for the tickets. We have no thought that the craze approaches in any way that which exists in Quebec, where in a recent sermon, Rev. Father STRUBBE said it was worse than a curse upon the city. Every financial obligation was thrust aside in order that these people with the gambling craze could purchase lottery tickets. "This system of gambling," he said, "has been done away with in every country in the world, and still it is allowed to flourish here in this province, (Quebec.) It encourages crime, as clerks will steal small sums of money from their employers, and children from their parents, with the intention of replacing it if they win something, which they seldom, if ever do, but all the time they are learning to be dishonest. It is the laboring classes, who earn their money hard, who suffer the most from the policy shop, as the inducement held out to them to become suddenly rich is a great temptation."

THIS COLUMN FOR STRAIGHT TALK.

Plain Talk for the Evangelical Alliance. TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS:—I notice that the Evangelical alliance has been making some sweeping statements regarding the sale of liquor after hours and on Sunday. I am not in a position to dispute the correctness of their assertions but I will do Inspector Jones the credit of thinking and saying that there are fewer violations of the liquor law than in my recollection. We can all remember how badly the law was enforced in former days.

There is a subject, however, that I think the Alliance as guardians, in a measure, of the morals of the city, could take up with credit to itself. It may be necessary to stop the sale of cigars on Sunday but would it not be better to attack the greater forms of vice first. The members of the alliance are aware no doubt that there are houses of ill fame on Britannia street. They have been there for years and only once in a while are brought into notice when the liquor inspector goes his rounds, or the chief of police takes it into his head that it is about time the city obtained some revenue from the privileges they enjoy. This comes in the way of fines and we know that the figures are \$100 for the mistresses and \$50 for each inmate.

The Liquor License Fund also gets from \$50 to \$150 per annum from each house for the privilege of selling liquor without a license.

These are facts, gentlemen of the Evangelical alliance, that cannot be disputed. The chief of police and all the policemen know that these bawdy houses do exist and flourish in one of the pleasantest portions of the city. The liquor inspector has never failed to find liquor when he has visited these resorts so they are not only resorts for the dissolute and abandoned but also for the illegal disposition of liquor.

Don't you think, gentlemen of the alliance, that here is an opportunity for your effort and energy, and is this not more particularly necessary at the present time when a wealthy gentleman, lately deceased, has left \$100,000 of his money to endow an institution for incurables, the site for which is but a stones throw from these haunts of vice and immorality. The work of beautifying and repairing the grounds is already going on and in a few months at the latest the institution will be open. When that is done will the influence of the alliance have cleared the street of these abodes of prostitution? Let us wait and see. A SOUTH END RESIDENT.

How to Recognize Appendicitis.

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS:—There is so much dread of appendicitis among all people that I think the following from the Youths Companion regarding the symptoms and treatment of the disease will be interesting and useful.

"The vermiform appendix, inflammation of which constitutes appendicitis, is a curious little offshoot from the large intestine near the point where it is joined by the small intestine. It is a hollow tube about as thick as a lead-pencil, from an inch to several inches in length, which communicates with the cavity of the large intestine but is closed at its free extremity. Nobody knows definitely what its use is, and many think it has no use at all.

"It is a popular belief that inflammation of the appendix is often caused by the lodgement in it of a grape-seed or some similar little body, but as a matter of fact this very seldom occurs, and no one need deprive himself of a delicious and nourishing fruit from any such fear. There are probably very few persons of middle age who have not had appendicitis, but fortunately they did not know it. It is only when the inflammation becomes severe, and involves the parts about the appendix, that violent symptoms appear, and this occurs in only a small proportion of cases. The disease is more frequent with the

ROYAL BAKING POWDER ABSOLUTELY PURE Makes the food more delicious and wholesome

young than with the middle aged or old. In mild cases the only symptom is a slight dull or colicky pain in or near the right groin. When the inflammation is more severe, or extends to the neighboring parts, the symptoms become more pronounced. There is a sharp pain in the abdomen, signs of dyspepsia—loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting, and bowel disturbance—are present, and there is often slight fever. In the most serious cases, a sudden, violent pain occurs, there is marked fever, and the patient is depressed and presents all the signs of being very ill. Hiccough is often a distressing symptom. The treatment of appendicitis is one of the points upon which doctors disagree. Some believe that in nearly every case a cure will follow rest in bed, a milk diet, cold applications to the abdomen and sedative remedies. Others assert that an operation is necessary in every instance, and that this should be performed the instant a diagnosis of appendicitis is made, before serious symptoms appear. The proper course here as elsewhere, is doubtless the middle one, for in many cases an operation is absolutely necessary to save life, while in others recovery will take place without subjecting the patient to this serious risk. In any case a sufferer from appendicitis is in danger, and should be under the constant care of his physician."

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS:—In Halifax the people are making a complaint because telephone service costs so much. It seems they pay \$40 a year in that city and it was stated by way of argument in a recent discussion there that in St. John the charge was only \$25 per annum. The gentleman who made this statement did not take care to get the facts. Business houses pay \$35 a year in St. John and a smaller rate for residences. One of the curious things about the telephone business is that the greater the number of telephones the greater the percentage of expense. In almost every other business its increase means a decrease in the percentage of expense but in this it is different. When there were a hundred telephones the next subscriber could only talk to that number of people but now he can talk to 1200 or more. His opportunities for making work are greater and nowadays the tendency is to save time and steps and use the telephone for that purpose.

THE COST OF TELEPHONES.

What Does This Mean?

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS:—In a recent issue of the Montreal Star I notice the following in the subscriptions to the Patriotic Fund. Presbyterian churches, N. B., per Bank of New Brunswick, St. John, N. B.—The above includes an amount from the Carleton Presbyterian church, St. John, of \$23.00

What does it mean? READER [Probably a typographical error—Editor PROGRESS]

JOYS AND WOES OF OTHER PLACES.

Trouble Ahead. (Sackville Cor. Woodstock Sentinel.)

The air is charged with the coming storm of matrimony. It is silently whispered, 'Who'll be the first?'

A New Way of Putting It. (Oak Bay Cor. St. Croix Courier.)

It is expected that wedding bells will ring ere long, as another of our fair daughters is soon to join that mighty throng.

Because the "Mails" Gather Here? (East Newbridge Cor. Sentinel.)

The only excitement in the village at present is the new post office, which has been stationed at Mr. Owen McCarty's.

A 'Tip' for Weary Willie. (St. Davids Hill Cor. Courier.)

The men are all getting out wood, and from the appearance of the yards there will be no lack of wood for next year.

Lord Robert's Remark Deciphered. (St. Andrews Beacon.)

When Lord Roberts suggested that Cecil Rhodes be put in 'chains,' he must have meant that he be placed in communication with a 'chain' letter fund. He would have found his time pretty fully occupied under such circumstances.

Will be Found on the Map Now. (Richibucto Review.)

Richibucto has at last awakened to the fact that she is part of the British Empire and last Thursday when the news reached here of the relief of Ladysmith, her loyalty was clearly manifested.

There are Others. (Exchange.)

A petition from a number of ratepayers of Wolfville was handed to the Mayor last week, requesting him to call a public meeting for the purpose of passing an act to authorize the borrowing of \$30000 to purchase the American House property. The Mayor declined to call the meeting, on the ground

that "less than one quarter of the ratepayers of the town were qualified to vote," that is, their taxes were unpaid.

Halifax Waking up. (Exchange.)

The good people of Halifax are engaging in the exciting game of 'progressive dominoes' this winter.

A Jolly Good Fellow. (Yarmouth Herald.)

Major Jolly is going to Halifax to see the departure of Lord Strathcona's Horse, among whom he has no less than five personal friends. He has been a fellow passenger across the Atlantic with three of them.

The Sister City Has Them Too. (Halifax Echo.)

Pro-Boers are not in high favor in this city, but British fair play gives them a chance. Some of them, however, trespass upon good-nature and forget that under no other flag than the one they abuse, would such liberty of speech and action be tolerated.

"Bobs" Takes the Big Apple. (Yarmouth Paper.)

The officials of the local government are sending to Lord Roberts and Capt. H. B. Stairs, South Africa, each a barrel of nonpareil apples, grown by J. E. Starr, Starr's Point, Kings.

A Benighted People. (Marion Ridge Cor. Island Reporter.)

The chief subject for discussion here is 'What century are we in?' or, who can furnish argument enough to prove either contention.

This "Girl" Keps Her Dates. (Meteghan River Cor. Digby Courier.)

We understand that Messrs. John and Philip Comeau have sold their schooner, Adouciac, to Captain Dennis Melancon. We are sorry to lose this vessel, for she has been so regular in her trips that we always looked for on certain days, and we were not disappointed.

VERSES OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY

Legacies. London Daily Chronicle.

The dog is yours; and so's the photo frames, Them pictures wot I cut, and my new box. The pack of cards, the dominoes, an' games, The knitted needles, and the knitted socks, An' all, except the letters and the ring— You'll find them all together tied with string.

My public clothin'—that goes back to stores, My kit'll sell by auction on the square; An' other fellows will be 'formin' fours An' makin' time in boots I used to wear. They're welcome; but you won't forget to send The ring an' all the letters to my—friend?

The pain ain't near so bad as wot it were The day they dragged me from the limber wheels Aint I wreckt! for God's sake don't tell 'er; Say it was fever—peaceful—in the 'file; An' write about the wreaths, the "Jack," and the band, An'—send a bit of hair you understand?

The ring—O a no, the Doctor lets me talk, I ain't a-tirin'—"cept a tummy light, An' just a feelin' that I'd like to walk To where it seems to flicker in the night. Better for me to go with achin' head Than go in trouble with my say unsaid.

The ring—it ain't long since she sent it back; I never meant no 'arm, God only knows, But there—I can't tell now—looked very black, And she believed the others—I suppose. I'm sorry for 'er now—that cursed wheel!— You see she is a woman, an' she'll feel.

The dog is yours, I told you that before. The spurs you'll find 'em in my private kit. The letters, an' the ring, an' nothin' more,— An' hair—it's foolish—but a little bit.

'Our Father'—Lord, how strange! It's—all—ri'—slr. The left—an'—th'—ring—an'—hair—for 'er! Modder River, Feb. 10. Edgar Wallace.

Hic Jacet. Oh hard is the bed they have made him, And down on the blankets and cheap, But there he will lie as they laid him; Where else could you trust him to sleep?

To sleep when the bugle is crying And cravens have heard and are brave, When mothers and sweethearts are sighing And lads are in love with the grave.

Oh dark is the bedside and lonely, And lights and companions depart. But lief will be lost them and only Behold the desire of his heart.

Oh thin is the quilt, but it covers A sleeper content to repose, And far from his friends and his lovers He lies with the sweethearts he chose.

Burnished Out. He was going home at night, And he sat Down beside a lady—no Harm in that! She was rather young and fair, With a wealth of burnished hair That was coiled in careless masses round her head. Others may have been entranced Others may have shyly glanced But he merely took his paper out and read.

They were closely huddled up In the car, There were sudden swerves, with now and then a jar; Heads were swayed this way and that, And sometimes the one who sat There beside him, as they sped upon their way, Brushed his shoulder with his hair But he didn't know or care— He was reading what had happened through the day!

There was one who sat at home, And he knew She would meet him at the door— Happy two! What were other women's charms While she stood with waiting arms? Ah, he loved each raven tress upon her head With a true heart and serene He rushed in where she was queen— But the happiness they had, alas! is dead!

O, he told her all the truth, And he swore On the Bible, but she turned, And she tore! She had found a burnished hair Resting on his shoulder ere He had swept across the threshold, and to-day He can neither say nor do Aught to make her think him true— Shun the women and the cars that jolt and sway.

He framed a song of birds and bees, A gentle springtime ode Of babbling brooks and leafy trees— And next day it snowed!