

# PROGRESS.

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## Siballa==The Event of The Week.

### THE SMITH BOYS' REASON.

He was Willing to make Amends But Didn't Want Everybody to Know about it.

A story comes to Progress from the North End of the City of a Halloween escapade in which a number of the youthful element of that section of the city, a property owner and a sergeant of police were the principal actors. The boys who, by the way, were the sons of some of the best people of the Valley, were out to have some fun. The Cabbage horn and Okum became rather tame for them, so they thought of amusement of a more boisterous nature. They lifted door steps, tore down fences and did other deeds of the Dick Turpin style of deviltry. A fence on Paradise Row was launched from its moorings, and one around the Cowan property, corner of Wall and Paradise Row also vanished into an ordinary board pile.

The day following all Halloween was one of reckoning, however, as there was a Jadas in the gang, who gave the names of the boys to the property owners whose fences had been destroyed. The services of Sgt. Kilpatrick were called and he was given the clue to bring the miscreants to justice.

The sergeant had a heart as well as a good memory, and he thought of the days not too long ago when his like other boys filled hallways with the odor of okum and did other deeds suitable for All Halloween. He called on the youths, and put the case to them as a matter of choice, whether they would make good the damage done or face the magistrate. The boys after due deliberation decided to erect fences in place of those laid low and any evening since, the sound of the hammer and saw can be heard, long after dark while the work of construction is nearing completion. Asked why they chose night for their building operations: one small boy said "well we're not experts at the biz and we don't want everybody 'Rubbering' at us, besides we get into trouble enough without being reported for doing carpenter work without a license."

### Died Far From Home.

Lloyd Hughes, aged 21, a native of London, England, died quite suddenly at the Crowley house, Germain street, this week after about ten days' illness of malaria and typhoid fever. He was cared for faithfully and well by his chum, Arthur Langford, and other friends, who did all they could for the dying man's comfort. Dr. Addy was the medical attendant. Hughes was a fine strapping fellow, the perfect type of a well set up Englishman. Hughes and Langford came to St. John from the home land last April, and proceeded to the Miramichi, where they worked four months. They then joined a harvest excursion party to Manitoba, and found labor at Madora, near Deloraine, 212 miles west of Winnipeg. While there eleven of the laborers in the field were attacked with malaria, and Hughes, who was one of them, was advised to leave the country. Accompanied by Langford, he returned to St. John, here to pass away among strangers. He has relatives in this country.

### EDWARD WILL STOP SMOKING.

Will Obey Commands of His Physicians—Salisbury will Retire next Spring.

King Edward has practically stopped smoking and will within a short time break off the habit completely. This is in obedience to the orders of the doctors, who declare themselves unable to cure the irritation in his throat if he persists in the practice.

The Marquis of Salisbury will positively retire to private life in the spring, and his successor will enjoy that conspicuous post at the coronation ceremonies for which the old cynic and philosopher cares not the slightest bit. The king and he were never friends.

When Queen Victoria died the marquis lost his best friend and the plain incitement to stir himself in his high office. He remained at his post because the Unionists had gone before the country for a new lease of power to carry on the war to its end.

The marquis now believes the end of the war is clearly in sight, and that it will be over by the time he retires—in late April or May.

Salisbury's experience with the king, even in the short space of the new reign, has only served to widen the breach between them. The king demanded a far larger allowance from the commons than his mother had enjoyed—not only that he might reign with greater state, but that he might set money aside toward the payment of his enormous private indebtedness.

The Marquis of Salisbury politely but firmly declined to give the support of the government to the king's demands, and thus incurred the deeper displeasure of his Majesty.

The Duke of Devonshire, pushed forward by the duchess is thought to be most likely to succeed Salisbury, but Balfour's

friends insist that he will be the next premier.

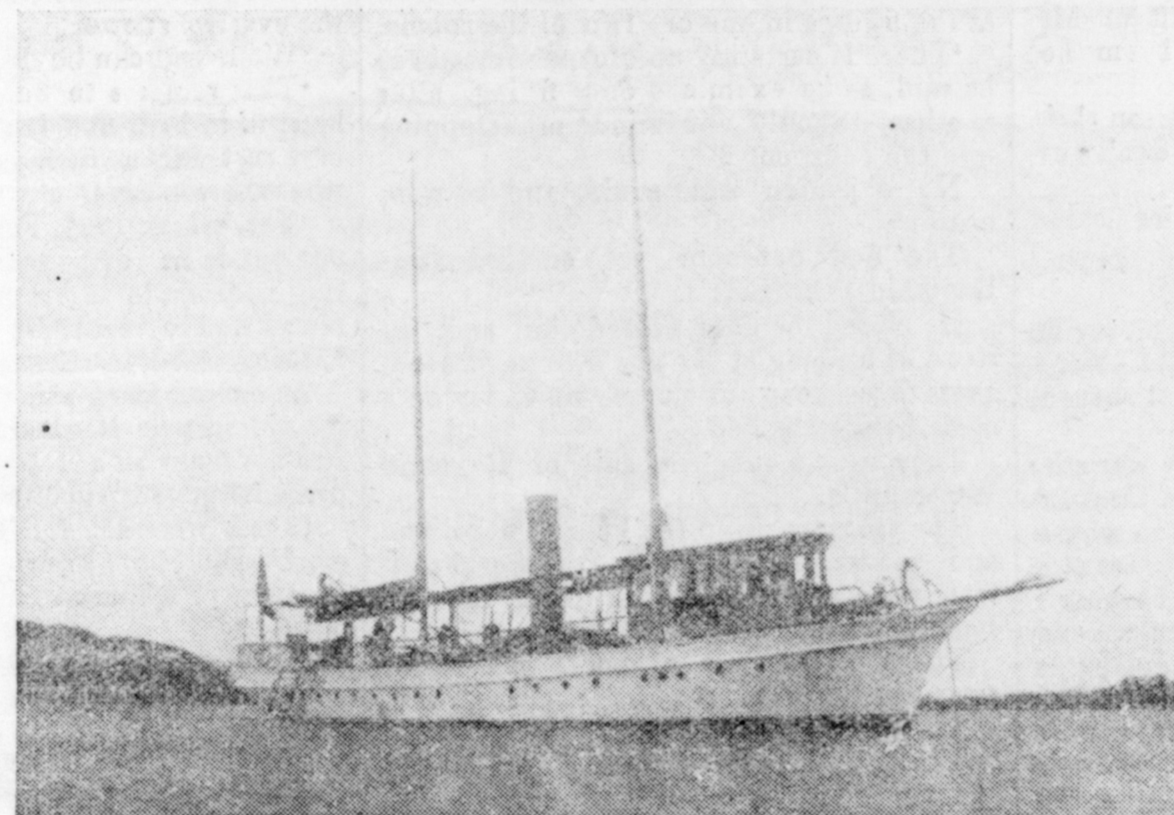
Lord Salisbury is not alone in believing that the end of the war in South Africa is at last near at hand. This belief is not engendered by trust in the efficacy of the new plan which Ian Hamilton carries to clear Cape Colony of rebels and Boers, but because of the remarkable change that has come over the temper of the privates in the Boer commandos.

The plot of Siballa is laid in the kingdom of Comus, and woven around a secret talisman or amulet, the possession of which was supposed to perpetuate the reign of King Cole at that time ruler of Comus. This Talisman, through the intrigue of Rodriguez, Councillor of the King, and Carrabas, Captain of the Forty Thieves, is stolen from its hiding place in the Temple of Comus, and the King prevailed upon to offer a man

ificent reward and the hand of his daughter Marian in marriage to the man who should restore it. Jack Horner, a Captain in the Royal Navy, who is betrothed to Marian, hears of this, and surmising that Rodriguez is in possession of the secret, solicited from Siballa, Goddess of the Woods, who assists him to wrest the talisman from the thieves and restore it to the King, bringing just retribution Rodriguez Carrabas and winning the hand of



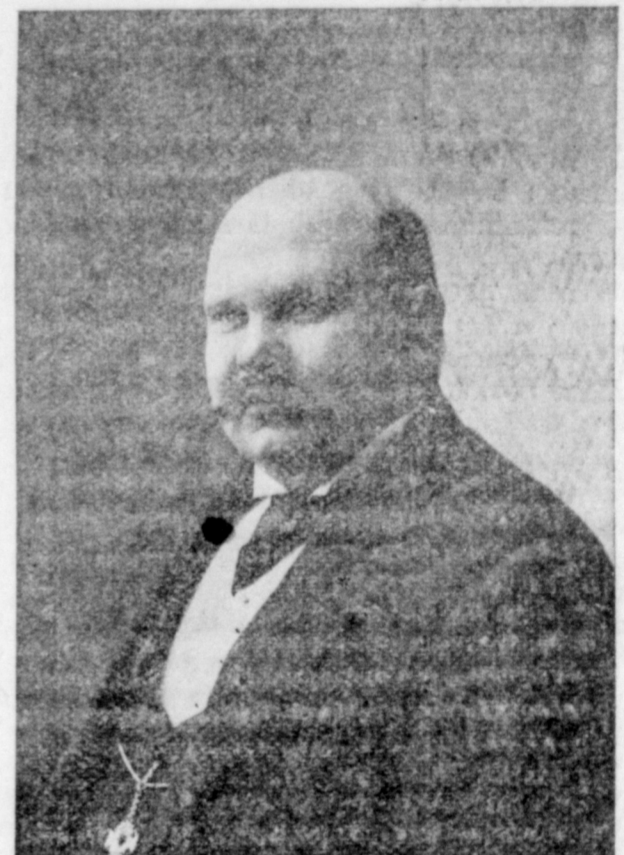
FINALE ACT I—SCENE II.



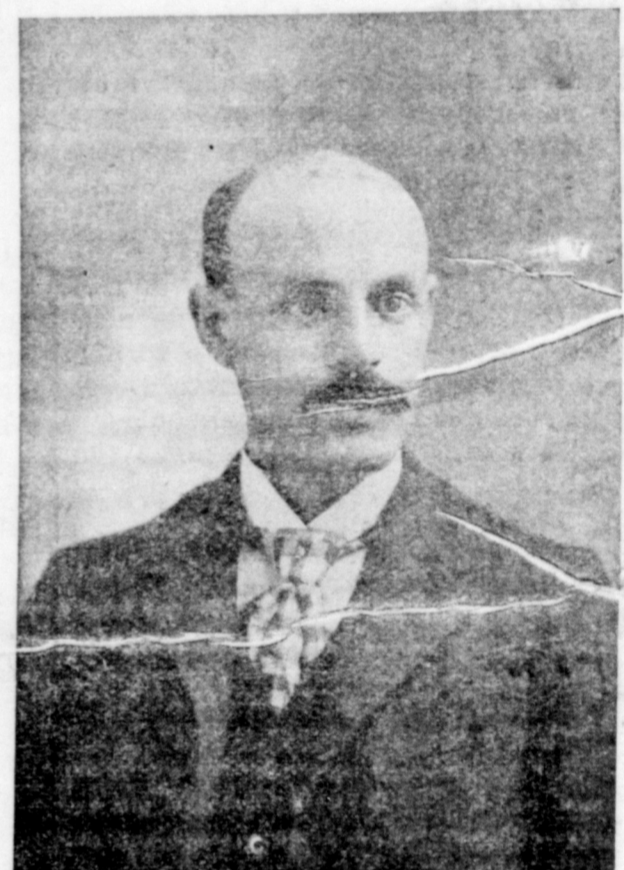
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