

EVENTS OF CITY LIFE.

Many Topics of Interest Tersely Told for "Progress" Readers.

How the city council will apportion the chairmanships of the various boards for the ensuing year is a matter of interest to a few. Since the old council has been returned in toto it is not to be expected that many changes will take place. Alderman McGoldrick's friends claim that he is entitled to an important chairmanship and feel that the general representative was not treated quite fairly last year. Other aldermen's friends feel something of the same way, so there may be some warm times ahead yet. There is such a thing as some getting too big a head and now that the city has shown such pride in its representatives some of those heads may burst.

Fredericton's Failure.

The financial difficulties of the firm of Black, Bliss & Nealis still remains an important subject in the Celestial city and even at this date very little of the truth has been gleaned. There are all kinds of stories afloat about some lady losing so many thousands and another so many hundreds, but when they are traced it all comes back to gossip. That things are not as they should be is quite evident and certainly some steps should be taken to find out how matters stand. A correspondent in the St. John Globe says that Mr. Black used fifty thousand dollars of other people's money. Creditors of Mr. Black are anxious to find out who this correspondent is, for he seems to know more than anybody else and it might be interesting to find out where he got his information. Progress does not believe that the correspondent knows anything more about the affairs than anyone else. This correspondent probably simply represents that part of the human nature that likes to jump on a man when he gets the name of being down, and his surmise of fifty thousand dollars is likely a father to the thought. If it is true that Mr. Black is a defaulter to a large extent or to any extent the facts should be made known. There is no desire for any paper to shield misconduct or at least there shouldn't be, but until that misconduct is shown patience should be shown. There is probably a long story yet to be told not only with regard to Black, Bliss & Nealis affairs but also in connection with other failures.

St. John's Female Impersonator.

St. John has sent forth to the world a goodly number of vocalists, who have won fame abroad. She still retains at home a number of artists who would have made their mark upon the operatic stage, if they had not hidden their light under a bushel. A case in point is that of the veteran soprano and female impersonator, "Jim" Mahoney, of the South End. "Jim" accompanied the Harmony Club on their Moncton trip and, after the show was over, was invited to a private house and requested to render one of his famed female impersonations. He disrobed and left off his undercoat, when the song was over "Jim" could not discover the missing articles of apparel. The singer is noted as a serio-chronic individual and had evidently become hypnotized with some of that fluid which is to be found in all Scott Act towns. The strangest part of the whole affair is that he travelled from Moncton to St. John, minus a small coat, on reaching home he found the long-lost shoulder covering, safe and sound "Jim" is just about now a very sore man. If you wish to cause him anger mention the many and divers powers of Moncton water.

Newspaper Enterprise.

There is one great thing about St. John's daily papers. They have a weakness for personals that will match any papers in this continent or in the world. If you want to make yourself known, just take a trip to Pokiok, put it in one of our city papers and it will travel into all the others and come back to the first paper, which will publish it again without knowing that it had published it before. Then again there are several gentlemen who live outside of the city whose business calls them to town perhaps twice a week but every time they come, it is bound to come out that Mr. So and So is at the Royal, or Dufferin or

Victoria. There can be no blame attached to journals keeping type set ahead to fill up space on a pinch but they should use some judgment and not dish up the old thing to often. A patent medicine cut would be a relief sometimes.

ELECTION STORIES.

It Was a Quiet Day, But Some Voted Early and Often.

Like all elections, the contest on Tuesday last has its interesting little episodes to tell. Money was a scarce article as far as the purchasing of votes was concerned,



DR. J. M. SMITH.

Who failed to defeat the Veteran Dr. Christie.

but this did not hinder some old time tricks being resorted to. In one ward an energetic voter is said, for the sake of a glass of beer, to have personated prominent rate-payers no less than four times. As only one party was represented at the polling booth, and the bribed person voted for that party, the vote seems to have come pretty high. At another booth the returning officer is reported to have been kept pretty busy in casting the same man's ballot over and over again. At many of the polls Dr. Smith had no representative, so the doctor can have the consolation of feeling that the votes he received at those polls were unsought and untampered with. On the whole the returning officers found it a very slow day. They had lots to eat, but generosity in certain other quarters was much missed. In one Ward there was as much as an hour and a half difference between votes on one occasion. It was a sleepy day and in one case one of the hired teams in a City



DR. CHRISTIE,

As he appeared on Election Day.

Ward, so far forget about there being a city election, that it travelled all the way to Loch Lomond before it woke up. The whole election had more of a funeral appearance than anything else, and it was a funeral for some.

Sad Death.

The death of Mrs. Emmerson wife of the member for Westmorland, was heard with much regret. Mrs. Emmerson had many friends in different parts of the Province. In Fredericton, she was particularly well-known, having regularly accompanied her husband to the capital during the sessions of the Legislature. Her

demise has cast a gloom over many places. Of loving disposition she had endeared herself to many and passing away in the prime of life, her death is mourned by a large number. To the bereaved husband and family much sympathy is extended.

THE TABLES TURNED.

A Strong Proof That Force Overrules all Manner of Hypnotism.

Everybody in this part of the hemisphere has read of or seen the "Professor" of hypnotism, forgettism and many otherisms, who is at present sojourning in this city. The Professor is well up in the art of Svengalizing his subjects, but this week he ran across an unmagnedizable object, in the person of the proprietor of the hall where he was holding his seances.

It was a clear case of Greek meeting Greek, with the odds in favor of the heavy-weight. As a business venture the Professor's stay in this city has not been a very lucrative one. In fact, it is said that the exchequer of the hypnotist had almost reached its level, but still business is business, and the manager of the hall wanted a vision of some of the coin of the realm in return for the use of his premises. The Professor had evidently fell in a trance and forgotten all about his monetary obligations. The muscular cigar dealer-proprietor was not so forgetful a nature, however, and vainly endeavored to impress upon the showman's mind that he would like to see the color of his money. Persuasive eloquence did not seem of any avail so, it is supposed that the Professor tried to make the husky Institute man an unwilling subject of his hypnotic power.

The sequel came in a rather unexpected manner. Cash, cold, cold cash was instantly demanded by the irate manager of the hall; it was not forthcoming; then threats were used, all to no avail. At last force was brought into play, and, instead of being hypnotized by the professor, the cigar man turned to the tables and did the hypnotizing himself. The amount due was flashed up, the professor changed his quarters in mesmeric manner and saved himself the trouble of taking a journey from a very high window to terra firma. Hypnotism or whatever you like to call it, is a very great power, but a strong arm with a still stronger grievance has no fear of any uncanny power possessed by the average man. Then again it was a case as the pugilists would say 'of a light-weight bucking up against a heavyweight.' Force overrules all manner of hypnotism and if you don't believe it ask the Professor who came to St. John and found out for himself.

An Exciting Time.

Tuesday was a great day in St. John. Shortly after two o'clock, the new hook and ladder truck, drawn by two spirited horses marched down King street. Crowds

THE LATE CIVIC FIGHT.

All the Old Aldermen Strike an Easy Snap—Dr Christie Again Invincible.

The great interest that citizens of Saint John have in Civic elections is something exceptional. This year 1901 will go down to history as unique. Of the fifteen gentlemen who represented the city during 1900 no less than twelve had the honor of being returned by acclamation this year. Three were opposed or were supposed to be opposed and consequently the community under the present system of electing aldermen was called upon to shoulder the expense of what may be termed a grand election. The result of that contest is already



JAMES SEATON.

Who was elected one of the Aldermen at large on Tuesday.

well known. The three old councillors who were opposed were Mr. Hilyard, Mr. Seaton and Dr. Christie. The two former as aldermen at large, and the latter as alderman of Lansdowne Ward. Why these were opposed remains one of these mysteries that even time will hardly be able to solve. Dr. Smith and Mr. Wilson certainly had the right to offer themselves as candidates, but before they decided upon such a course the public had at least the right to expect that they and their friends sincerely felt that they had some chance of success. Looking at the contest of Tuesday however, from an impartial standpoint, the gentlemen who opposed the old representatives, must have known that they could not possibly have succeeded in their undertaking, or else they were very much deceived by some persons. The defeat that Dr. Smith and Mr. Wilson met with does not reflect to their credit. Both have been candidates before and both have suffered defeat, but those defeats were insignificant compared with the defeats of Tuesday last. Mr. Wilson failed to poll much more than the third of the vote of his lowest opponent and Dr. Smith did no better. It was a clean sweep for the old aldermen and it would have been much better for the taxpayer and all concerned had there been no contest.

As pointed out before the interest in the contest was something wonderful. Of over nine thousand ratepayers in St. John, a little over half did not feel it necessary to pay their taxes in order to qualify to vote and of these four thousand and odd who paid their taxes, not one half took enough interest in the contest to go to the polls. The number who voted for Dr. Christie and Dr. Smith were 2092 but from this it must not be judged that that number cast their ballots. If there is any truth in the stories that are afloat Tuesday's election was little less than a farce. Some of the few who took an interest in the day's proceeding can tell of numerous cases where parties voted four and five times. At many of the polls some of the candidates had no representatives and the contest was simply ridiculous. It is a wonder that there were not many more than two thousand voters. There might have been a thousand legitimate votes but no one would like to vouch for that fact. This is a pretty state of affairs truly. Dr. Smith and Mr. Wilson can feel from the number of votes they received that about one eighteenth of the ratepayers of St. John John desire them as alderman. This proportion is hardly large enough in warranting them in thinking that the public desire their services. Such is the history of Civic elections in St. John for

the year 1901. It is not a creditable showing and it is about time that the public at large was taking a little more interest in their affairs. The great trouble with the majority is that they grumble too much and act too little. The new council can feel that they have been an endorsement from the city and though they have carried everything before them their great victory is not to be attributed so much to the good feeling entertained towards them by the citizens as to the apathy and lack of interest people take in city affairs.

DEMISE OF A DOG.

An Important Item That Appears in This City's Papers.

Pat, the canine mascot of the Dufferin is fatherless. His sire, who bequeathed his name to his redoubtable son, was a Scotch Irish terrier, and died a few days ago in Sydney.—Telegraph.

Friends of the Dufferin Hotel in the days when E. Le Roi Willis managed it, will all remember Pat—old Pat—the pet Irish terrier who was so friendly to his friends and so much the opposite to those he disliked, and will hear with regret of his all too sudden demise which occurred at his new home in Sydney day before yesterday. Commercial travellers especially all over the Dominion knew old Pat, and his son and successor, Pat, jr., who now occupies the Dufferin throne with becoming dignity, has scarcely taken the old dog's place in the travelling man's affections. Pat, jr., is in deep mourning for his illustrious sire.—Sun.

Card of Thanks.

The sincere thanks of Pat Junior, of the Dufferin Hotel, are hereby tendered to his numerous friends, for the great sympathy shown him since the recent death of his beloved father at North Sydney.

Welcomed to St. John.

The Rev. J. D. Freeman comes to St. John warmly welcomed by all. As pastor of Germain street Baptist church, he comes to fill the position in a most important church and the place of a clergyman who was very much beloved by his congregation. That Mr. Freeman will fill the high expectations of his friends, goes without saying. As pastor in Fredericton he displayed the best qualities that go to make up a Minister of the Gospel. He is young, energetic, in manner and a forcible preacher, and Germain Street Baptist is to be congratulated on its admirable choice.

Died in Boston.

News was received here this week of the death in Boston on Sunday last of Mrs. Eliza V. Shephard wife of Mr. Louis Shephard of Roslinvale. Decade spent the greater portion of her life in this city and was much loved by a large number of friends. Two sons by a former marriage, Messrs. Charles and James Gerow survive her.

PROGRESS

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