

PROGRESS.

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A CITY'S WELCOME.

St. John People Give Lord and Lady Minto a Most Enthusiastic Reception.

There were many vacant seats in the St. John churches last Sunday evening, but standing room on Pettingill's wharf was at a premium. If the citizens of St. John have one characteristic more prominent than any other, it is to be present when anything is going on. Last Sabbath this peculiarity of people was plainly manifested and the thousands that flocked to the harbor side, had some of their curiosity satisfied. Not entirely for this would be impossible. Even after the distinguished visitors had retired for the night, hundreds stood about the Royal Hotel corner, hoping to catch another glimpse of Lord and Lady Minto. The opportunity did not present itself but those who had remained so long standing, had the satisfaction of knowing that if anything happened they would have been there to have seen it.

That the governor general and his wife received a hearty welcome, is but mildly expressing the case. That they have enjoyed themselves thoroughly may be taken for granted. That the programme arranged for their entertainment is subject to much criticism may also be accepted as a fact. That there are many things yet to learn is all but too true. However from experience comes knowledge and when the Duke and Duchess of York come it may be shown that out of the past, wisdom has been gained.

The proceedings began on Monday with the presentation of an address. This address was very handsomely gotten up, it was worded very well and the mayor performed his functions in a becoming manner. It is hoped, however, it will form the last address to be presented in this way. It is a useless proceeding and has become worn out. The next piece on the programme has occasioned no little criticism and properly so. Why it is considered necessary to turn out our fire department every time distinguished persons visit the city is beyond comprehension. If there were anything truly wonderful about it, there might be something in it. If these Excellencies had come from some backwood's village and had never seen a fire engine or a galloping horse they may have witnessed something novel, but as it is known they both have done considerable travelling and have visited places somewhat larger than St. John and as His Lordship is quite noted as a horseman, it is quite probable that the distinguished visitors have seen fire engines and fast horses before this. It is all nonsense to allege that the exhibition was one showing how quickly the department can turn out to an alarm. It was a well known fact that the firemen were aware that an alarm would be sounded and so were prepared. There would have been no excuse, if the brigade had not turned out quickly. But their excellencies did not even have the privilege of seeing so fast driving, as the streets were so crowded it was impossible to move with any rapidity. If the hose had been laid and the ladders run up it might have added a little interest, but the apparatus simply turned about and walked back to the rooms. Truly it was a wonderful sight. It had not been for the truckman that got in the way and made so much amusement for all, the farce would have been very flat indeed. The fire ladders did their part well as they always do. But don't let the exhibition happen again. It must give an impression to visitors that we have no better way of entertaining them.

The reception in the evening was a very pretty affair though not as many attended as might have been expected. It was PROGRESS privilege to gain a bird's eye view of the affair. It would hardly be right to criticize too severely the whole proceeding, but it might be just as well here to state that if some people before they attended receptions of this kind, if they were to erect a dummy in their back parlor and practice a little before hand they would make a much better appearance. Others again want to get it into their heads that such people as Lord and Lady Minto are but flesh and blood and if their

little fingers should be cut, they would bleed just the same as anybody else. The awe, nervousness and awkwardness displayed by some people and people too who should be able to do better, was something surprising, judging from what one witnessed Monday evening, it would be amusing to see some presented at one of Queen Alexandra's drawing rooms.

The greatest blunder of the whole programme, however, if it can be called by so mild a name, is that of mission and not commission. If there is one thing in which this province takes particular pride, it is in its beautiful St. John river. To think that such distinguished visitors as Lord and Lady Minto should come to us and be allowed to depart without seeing this lovely river, cannot be imagined. St. John, Fredericton and the whole Province have worked hard for years and spent considerable money to induce tourists to visit us, and when this grand chance of presenting one greatest attraction to parties whose commendation would aid us so much, the opportunity is allowed to slip by, who are to blame? It cannot be that there was no time, because the time spent in viewing the fire brigade and a sail about the harbor could have easily given away to a trip up the St. John river. The omission of the trip is to be much regretted. It is a bungling piece of business for which there is no excuse.

The trip on the Scionda was a very pleasant affair. Of course there were some people annoyed because they were not asked, but this was to be expected. If His Worship had asked half the town there would have been still some put out. It is the way with all such invitations. The mayor could only ask a limited number and probably his selection was the best that could have been made. The trip was one that their excellencies enjoyed and was well put on the programme. It is a pity that the same cannot be said of other events put on the list.

Remarks On the Side.

Judging from the number who attended their Excellencies arrival supporters of the Sunday Observance law, have yet a few converts to make.

His Worship and the aldermen looked very well in their good clothes and silk hats. They are not a bad looking crowd when dressed up.

The reception room in the court house looked very pretty, but still many think that the Royal Hotel parlor would have been a much more suitable place for such an affair.

Several men were noticed wearing black neckties, and which was certainly bad taste at an official reception when all are supposed to be in full evening dress. St. John men surely must know that there is only one full dress and that it cannot be altered; the officers of the Fusiliers were present in full uniform and added much to the brightness of the room and the success of the affair.

Was there not a mistake in the manner the City Fathers were introduced to the Governor General? The deputy mayor and county warden came away down on the list.

Lord Minto was greatly taken with the harbor. He wants to see us when we get that dry dock.

It is the consensus of opinion that the visitors behaved themselves very well and are a good looking party.

And they go away without seeing the Rhine of America.

NOT ANNA EVA.

But Another Mind Reader on the Visit of Their Excellencies.

A mind reader has furnished PROGRESS with the inmost thoughts of those interest-

ed in the recent visit of Lord and Lady Minto.

What He Thought.

As the Curlew approached the wharf—Wonder if the people of St. John ever saw a Governor General before?

As he landed—Wonder who is the biggest man in St. John, the one with glasses or the one with all the brass buttons.

As he drove to the hotel—Wonder who made the streets of St. John.

As he entered the Royal—This is as good a place as I have struck yet, if it weren't for that blooming address in the morning.

As he retired for the night and looked at the crowds on the streets—What a lot of fools there are in this world.

As he approached the Court House—Wonder if that building was built before the flood.

As the address was being read—What a lot of nonsense 'his is.

As he viewed the fire brigade—Wonder if they think we have never seen a fire brigade before.

What he thought of writing when answering correspondence—St. John is a fine looking City, has a beautiful climate and an enthusiastic people—Will come again.

What She Thought.

Just the same as her husband—"Two souls with but a single thought. Two hearts that beat as one."

What They Both Thought.

At the reception—This is tiresome—wish it was over.

What Men Thought.

These are days made for enjoying ourselves. Let us rejoice.

What the Ladies Thought.

Isn't he handsome? Isn't she just too sweet for anything.

What the Kids Thought.

Not half as good a time as if they had come when there weren't no holidays.

Press Should Speak Out.

A St. John newspaper says that it will not discuss the question whether the Sabbath Observance law is proper or not, that it is a subject for the Legislature to decide. Such kind of journalism is of a cowardly nature. It is the duty of the press to point out what is right and what is wrong and not try to shield itself behind somebody else. If it thinks the Sunday Observance law right it should not be afraid to express that opinion. Legislatures are composed of representatives who are supposed to act in accordance with the wish of the people, and how better can they form an idea of the public desire except through the medium of the press.

PROGRESS

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TODAY.

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A Record Breaker.

The International Steamship Company report that the tourist travel over their line up to the present time exceeds that of any previous year. This is welcome news and as the travel is on the increase the season is apt to be a record breaker.

RECEIVED EXPENSES.

How a Collection was Made to do its Duty—What a Newspaper Witnessed.

A newspaper man had the privilege not long ago of attending a striking religious service held within a hundred miles of St. John. He had often heard of these gatherings but had never before had the opportunity of being present at one. Being in the vicinity where one of these great assemblies is held and being the Sabbath day, the man of the quill thought that he could not occupy his time to better advantage than by attending the service.

It was a very large building he entered, much larger than the ordinary place of divine worship, but large as it was every available seat was occupied. Upon a raised platform at one end sat some four or five gentlemen dressed in long black coats and wearing a most solemn countenance. One of these occupied the chairmanship and opened the proceedings of the day. After a few introductory remarks which it was impossible to catch the speaker got quite warmed up to his subject. He told how the gentlemen who sat beside him had come a great distance in order to preach and tell them all about religion. They had come at a great sacrifice to themselves. They charged nothing for their valuable services, the only pay they required was that when they departed they would leave with a conscience that they had done good, while this was true it was nothing but right that the visitors should not be out of pocket on account of their coming and that they should have at least their expenses paid. The treasury was at the present time some Forty-three dollars short and before proceeding further he would ask the audience to make the deficiency good.

"Who will start the collection at \$10?" Everybody looked at his neighbor, but there was no response. The newspaper man began to wonder what he had struck. His hand went into his pocket and clutched the little money he had and thought of divers things. There was the board bill yet unpaid and several other little matters. "Who will start at \$5?" That sounded better, but still no response. Come now, who will say one dollar?" Silence still reigned. "Twenty five cents then?" and still no answer. It looked bad for somebody, but the speaker did not seem discouraged. It only urged him to greater efforts. It appeared to be a hard one to get that ball started.

The appeal evidently at length got too strong for the gentleman on the platform and one of them rising carefully unbuttoned his coat, drew forth a fat looking wallet from an inside pocket, opened it and cautiously counted out a few bills and laid them on the table. His other platform friends not to be outdone in generosity quickly did likewise. Then it was that the vast audience got on to the big heartedness thus displayed and the rush to the platform became general. No one was going to be outdone by strangers like that and bills piled in one after another. The newspaper man still clung strongly to his pocket and moved towards the door. All the excitement, great as it was, had not been sufficient to convert him from his past wicked course. Once more he breathed heaven's pure air. He had not waited to hear what the grand total amounted to but he felt that the deficiency had been well met. Nor had he the opportunity of attending the next meeting so was never able to tell what the next deficiency happened to be.

As he wandered back to his hotel, not a sadder but perhaps a wiser man, thoughts came to him of boyhood days. He remembered once attending a service in a country church where the minister announced that he had been under heavy expenses the past week and would like a generous collection himself by putting a silver dollar on the plate. Nearly everyone did like wise and the result was a very handsome offering. The service of the present somehow or other seemed to call back long forgotten days.

WHY OF COURSE.

A Competition That has Raised Criticism—The Explanation Given. Some correspondence has reached PROGRESS

criticising a city firm that recently offered ten dollars for a suitable name for a brand of tea. This firm has announced that none of the names sent in were suitable and they had chosen another word. It is this action that has called forth criticism.

An enterprising St. John Daily held an interview with the firm and this interview is to say the least rather interesting. Paraphrastically told the substance of it is about as follows.

The firm replied that of all the names sent in not one suited them.

(Of course they didn't.)

They would cheerfully have paid ten dollars for a name that suited them.

(Of course they would have.)

But they had to be judges in the case themselves.

(Of course they had.)

The word they did adopt was not sent in by any correspondent.

(Of course it wasn't.)

Else they would have announced the sender's name and awarded the prize.

(Of course they would have.)

They do not feel that there can be any ground for complaint.

(Of course there isn't.)

They advertised in good faith for something they did not get.

(Of course they did.)

And they acted in perfectly good faith. Why certainly.

The add would have been much more effective however if the prize had been made \$5,000 instead of \$10.

PROFESSIONALISM.

Too Much of It in Baseball: Local Players Should be Encouraged.

The Caribou baseball team managed to defeat both the local teams. The visitors are a strong combination and play good ball. When it is considered that the Caribou are made up entirely of professional players who draw salaries amounting to \$200 a month, the Alerts and Roses need not feel ashamed of the games they put up. It is questionable whether the importation of baseball players is a good thing or not. Many have the idea that with proper practice local men can put up just as good a game as is required. There would be much more interest manifested and much more in it for the players if professionalism is weeded out. Dick Tibbitts who took hold of the Tartars manifested that local players can be made to play ball with the best of them, and if it can be done once, it can be done again. There is plenty of good material among both the Roses and the Alerts to put eighteen first class men in the field. The importation of men is growing every year and it is not making baseball any more popular. Tip O'Neill who played with the Roses in their second game against Caribou, did not show that he had gone back any in either batting or fielding. If next year the Alerts, Roses and Tartars start out with playing entirely local men, it will be found that they will succeed all right. As it is now there is getting to be too much professionalism in the game and judging from past history this means the death of baseball.

Lord Minto's Opinion.

Lord Minto is said to have expressed himself very strongly with regard to his present visit to New Brunswick. He had read much concerning the Province and had expected much, but what he has seen exceeded his greatest anticipation. He has been very much taken with our harbor and thinks that we cannot have anything else but a great future. His Lordship was also very much struck with the beauty of Fredericton and thinks that tourist travel must ever increase. It is pleasant to know that the governor general has enjoyed his visit so thoroughly and can speak such kind words about us. If he had only seen the St. John river he would have very much more to say about us.

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