

PROGRESS.

VOL. XIII., NO. 669

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY JUNE 29, 1901.

PRICE FIVE CENTS

HIS INNOCENCE PROVED.

The Jury Proclaim Harry Nelson Not Guilty—Remarks on the Trial.

The Nelson case has excited no little interest in St. John this week. Under the evidence produced at the trial, the jury could come but to one conclusion and that the honorable acquittal of the prisoner. The case was one of exceptional interest in more ways than one. Nelson is a man who bears a good name and the charge made against him was a most serious one, but beyond this the defense set up, that of proving an alibi, a defense that has failed in so many cases, in this instance was most effectual, and it was in the establishing of this defense that drew so much attention.

The charge of which Nelson stood accused was that of obtaining money under false pretenses. This was accomplished by obtaining money letters from Captain Brennan of the May Queen addressed to certain parties in the North End. The Captain had no hesitation in swearing that Harry Nelson was the man who did the act and if his evidence stood alone it was sufficient to establish the accusation. But it so happened that the accused was able to show where he was on the days and at the very hour that the captain swore that he delivered the letters to Nelson. These places were far distant from the May Queen wharf. At one time he was at a baseball match and the other at the Public Hospital, and Mr. Nelson had no trouble in corroborating his evidences and beyond question established his innocence. Captain Brennan was as positive as a man could be that Nelson was the man, he must have been sure for he would never have sworn to such, but the captain must have been mistaken, there is no doubt of that as the testimony shows. Such a statement of facts cannot but lead to serious thoughts.

It might have so happened that the dates on which the letters were given to the party at the boat were ordinary days in Nelson's life. That is there might have been nothing particular to draw his attention to the dates such as a baseball match or a visit to the hospital. Under those circumstances Nelson though perfectly innocent of the charge might have found no little difficulty in proving an alibi and the captain's story would have gone far towards conviction. Fortunately, however, as has been said Nelson was able to establish the alibi and prove his innocence. It has been said that circumstantial evidence is better than direct. The Nelson case would bear this argument out. Captain Brennan's testimony was direct enough, but it was wrong. He honestly swore to a state of facts that did not exist, but no blame can be found with him because he was mistaken. The question may be asked if persons often suffer through innocent mistakes of those prosecuting. There is no telling, Mr. Nelson has escaped, but it might have been different.

It is a wise law that says that the prisoner should be given the benefit of a doubt but do juries bear this in mind? It is hoped so. An alibi is not always an easy matter to prove. There have been many who have tried it but failed. Who can say that on account of the failure their guilt was established. The community is pleased that Nelson has come out of the trial spotless. The guilty is still at large, but the innocent has not been punished. It is better that ninety-nine guilty should escape than that one innocent should suffer.

The Rain Came Down.

It is seldom that St. John gets a down pour of rain like that which set in here last Sunday night and continued until 8 o'clock the following morning. The heaviest fall was between one and three o'clock in the morning. The total precipitation in ten hours was 4 1/2 inches. Streets were gullied out; cobble stones with which the gutters were paved were torn wholesale from their beds and carried down the hills in heaps by the torrents which ran in the streets. The catch basins were filled and choked with stones, sand and gravel and many cellars were flooded. The C. P. R. track at Sutton's was washed out and trains delayed. Farmers' crops on low lands were flooded and destroyed, many pretty gardens plots ruined, young plants of all kinds were uprooted; sand, earth and other silt were washed in on

grass lands from brooks, which, for the time become rivers. The Horticultural Association's garden and beautiful grounds at Rockwood Park, which on Sunday were admired by thousands of visitors, presented, on Monday, a scene of destruction. Water from the adjoining hills and walks had flooded in upon the lawns covering them with sand, gravel and loam, while the flower beds were obliterated and the plants uprooted or buried.

The Storm Did Good Work.

Quite a good joke is told of four men who drove from Sussex a short time ago some distance in the country for the purpose of drawing a will for an aged resident who was dying. The night was dark and somewhat stormy and probably the number was augmented to four in order that there may be plenty of company. They had however other companions in the shape of "long necks" which seemed to be quite as agreeable associates as they could wish for. When they arrived near the residence they hid the "long necks" in the brook and proceeded upon the business they had started out for. While in the house there was quite a severe thunder storm and the water in the brook increased to such dimensions that when they returned there was no sign of their favorite beverage. They had to drive back in the rain without anything and the language they used was somewhat expressive.

With the Baseballists

The Bangor baseball team meet the Alerts this afternoon and the game should prove a good one. It is hardly to be expected that the local club will secure a victory, but still if they put up the game that they are sometimes capable of giving they can make it most interesting for the visitors. Jope, an old favorite here is to catch for Bangor. During the summer Jope has been playing right field but there is no doubt that he has not forgotten to play behind the bat. Outside of some newspaper wrangling between Halifax and St. John it has been quiet among the big players this week, so this afternoon should see a large gathering at the game.

Behind Closed Doors.

The trial of Nixon at the circuit court was held behind closed doors and so consequently a great many persons had time on their hands the last day or two. It is surprising the number of people in town who have nothing else to do than to be always found at these trials. For the place the size of St. John there are apparently more well off people or people who can afford to live in idleness than to be found anywhere else. Some persons by this time must have a pretty thorough knowledge of criminal proceedings—they miss very little of it.

King Square.

The police have decided that the benches in King Square are not placed there for tramps and in future will see that loafers make themselves scarce. A very good decision to come to. Many a mother and child will take pleasure in hearing of this for now the fine summer afternoons may be spent there in some enjoyment. It was a happy thought that gave the police such a brilliant idea. If a policeman is the originator he deserves a medal.

Enjoy Yourselves.

Monday will be Dominion Day and a public holiday. All that is wanted to make the day a success is fine weather. Picnic parties will be the order of the day and at Bay shore the attendance will be large. The opera house will be among the attractions. This is sure to do a good business as it always does on holidays. May everyone enjoy themselves.

Looking For New Homes.

Mr. A. S. Murray, the emigration agent for the Dominion and the province, so far as New Brunswick is concerned, was in the city again this week and reports increased interest in this province from the standpoint of Englishmen who are looking for other locations than the home country. A number of gentlemen who are interested in agriculture and experienced in cer-

tain lines of it were here a few days ago and some of them at least went on a tour of inspection to farms recommended to Mr. Murray. This gentleman gave them all the information possible and no doubt they will be able to find homesteads quite suitable to them.

AMUSING THE PUBLIC.

What Journalists Think of Each Other—Some Very Warm Times.

There seems to be rather a warm time among our journalistic friends these days. It is a rule that never fails that when matters political assumes a quiet character, newspaper editors in order to keep their tactics in practice begin to pitch into each other and it grows warmer and warmer. This time Mr. Hawke of the Moncton Transcript and Mr. Smith of the Chatbam Advance started the ball rolling. These gentlemen are on the same side of politics just at the present time, but that makes no difference when personalities come to be discussed. Mr. Hawke got quite warmed up to his subject and has styled his brother editor "A Sow's Ear." Mr. Smith has retaliated in kind and holds the Transcript editor up to ridicule for the way he was defeated by Mr. Sumner in the Moncton mayoralty election. The fight has become so very bitter that swords or pistols would seem to be next in order. Then the St. John Sun to keep in train has ordained to play second to each of the combatants and like holding a red rag in front of two bulls it dresses up a paragraph made by one of the two parties to hurl at the other. The telegraph is not to be left out in the cold and it splurges forth with the accusation that the Sun has stolen one of its articles without crediting it.

The field of contest is expanding all the time. This week Commodore Stewart of the world thinks that it is time he had something to say. Mr. Stewart does not like Mr. Smith too well so he puts a flea in Mr. Hawke's ear. He says that "Mr. Tweedie's cocktail appendage twits Mr. Hawke with having been defeated by Mr. Sumner in a civic election. Mr. Hawke might retort that Smith was beaten by Mr. Nicols Cunningham, the junk dealer, by a large majority."

This is all very interesting journalism. It is time that these personal quarrels have little to do with the people's interest, but at the same time they are very amusing and make much enjoyable reading.

PROGRESS

CONTENTS

TODAY

- PAGE 1.—This page speaks for itself. Read it.
- PAGE 2.—The Hale Method in Dentistry—Dr. Maher's great achievement in this line in St. John.
- PAGE 3.—Musical and Dramatic news of the week.
- PAGE 4.—Editorial, poetry, and many other timely topics.
- PAGES 5, 6, 7, and 8.—Society news from all over the province.
- PAGE 9.—A Widow's Bid—Old Timer's views on baseball—The Little seed—Why Carnegie gives to libraries.
- PAGES 10 and 11.—Final instalment of the serial "On the Eve of St. Valentine."
- PAGE 11.—Many stories of interest to Sunday readers.
- PAGE 12.—Make way for the Ladies—Anecdotes that will cure the blues.
- PAGE 13.—Chat of the Boudeir—The latest in fashion realms.
- PAGE 14.—The Demon of Homicide—An article worth reading.
- PAGE 16.—Kidnapped Guard—A slyto Rio Grande. Births, marriages and death of the week.

The Vacation.

Yesterday the public schools closed for the summer holidays. During the year both teachers and scholars have done admirable work and have well earned a vacation. That all may enjoy the rest for weeks is the wish of all.

A Fine Excursion.

Nearly five hundred persons enjoyed the Policemen's moonlight excursion on Tuesday evening. The weather was all that could be desired and there was no mishap of any kind to mar the trip. The cops feel happy over the success of their undertaking and will probably try it again.

HE ROUSED THE BEARS.

A Hero at the Park—A Raided House—Examinations—Events of Local Interest.

The bears at the Park continue to be as good a drawing card as ever, the children especially delight in paying a visit to this locality. The beasts enjoy many gifts and take everything coming their way. The other day one of the small boys had the misfortune to lose his hat through the iron bars and for a time was in great distress. The genial lawyer who takes such an interest in the park management happened to appear on the scene and comforted the youngster by informing him that he would regain his lost hat. Then the athletic performance began. The spectators were few but this was owing from the public being ignorant of what was to be, and not from the fact that the show was not worth seeing. The cage was after several attempts scanned and the brave rescuer descended right among the wild and ferocious animals. A regular Daniel in a bear's den. There was a difference in this case though from the Daniel told of in Biblical history. In the latter case the lions stood their ground even if they could accomplish nothing. But the bears! their jaws were not locked, neither were they blind; they looked, they saw what had come among them and to use the words of the small boy, "they put." They could not find their holes quick enough, the bears were scared. It cannot be learned what the frightened animals thought, such information might be of some interest.

SHE NEED NOT COMPLAIN.

The Result of a Petition—How One well Known House Was Raided.

The public has been informed that on Tuesday afternoon Chief of Police Clark, accompanied by Sergt Kilpatrick, visited Ada Wilson's house on Britain street. The visit was made as a result of a petition sent to the police by some of the residents in the vicinity, requesting that the house be closed up. The officers after entering the house, found there, besides the proprietress, five other young women and a Jew peddler, who was selling goods. Ada Wilson was able to appear and talk to the chief, who gave orders that the house must be closed by the first of July.

Miss Wilson has been more fortunate than some of her lady friends have been. Sometime ago a number of houses were raided in the South End of the city and the domiciles closed up. The proprietresses and the inmates were prosecuted, and for the action taken the police force received a fair share of praise. In order to put these places out of existence it did not require the presentation of a petition nor is it believed a visit from the chief of police in the broad light of day. Miss Wilson might certainly congratulate herself that she has not been over harshly dealt with. She and her friends have not only not been persecuted but she has been given an extension of time in which to close her house. Can it not almost be said that this place has been given permission by the police to carry on its business until the first of July? It looks very much like it. The police may have its own reason for dealing with this house differently from the way it has other abodes, but to the public they do not seem quite clear.

Some Examinations.

This week a number of young dentists, graduates of well known dental colleges were called upon to undergo an examination at the hands of certain local examiners in order that they be able to practice in this province. This examination was held under the provisions of a New Brunswick act. It seems extraordinary that such an examination must be held. One would think that a man showing a diploma from such well known dental colleges as Boston or Harvard that it would entitle him to practice anywhere. The same rule exists in the case of law. No matter how famous a college a man may obtain his degree at, he must before he can practice in this province pass another examination. In regard to the latter, however, graduates of the Kings College Law school are not required to pass such an scrutiny. Why the distinction is made with this one

college is not quite clear. A graduate of King's can hardly be said to be in any superior position to a graduate of Harvard or other well known universities. In all these cases such examinations may be quite right if the diploma did not represent that of a college of standing but to ask the best of graduates to be tested by men who it may be have not had the education of those being examined, appears to be rather a stiff proceeding.

Pleasing Exercises.

Many interested friends assembled at Mrs. Robinson's kindergarten class rooms in Leinster street church on Wednesday afternoon to witness the pleasing exercises in connection with the graduation of the two young ladies who have just completed the course of training in kindergarten work. The rooms were artistically arranged for the occasion, an abundance of ferns, field daisies and caraway blossoms being used in the decoration.

Mrs. Robinson opened the exercises with a welcome address and a brief account of the studies of the course. Then followed piano solos by Mrs. J. M. Barnes, and vocal solos by Miss Hea and Mrs. W. E. Jones. An essay on play by Miss Mary Louise Burdette, one of the graduates, showing how play was utilized as an educational agency in the kindergarten and the happy transition from play to work, was listened to with rapt attention. An essay on work by Miss Isabelle Jarvis of Truro, the other graduate also occasioned much interest. This included a talk on manual work, showing how it was carried on in the kindergarten and its benefits to the child. Rev. Mr. Freeman and Dr. A. A. Stockton gave a brief address dealing with kindergarten principles, hoping for their adoption by schools in general and advocating the establishing of mission kindergartens. The diplomas were then presented, the young graduates presenting a pleasing picture as they stepped forward, gracefully attired in white. After this Mrs. Robinson made a very earnest plea for the establishment of mission kindergartens in the city, suggesting that the different churches might contribute to such a worthy object, which would so well repay their efforts. The pleasant afternoon closed with light refreshments of fruit-punch and cake.

Chance for Legislation.

What new legislation may be adopted at the next session of the House, is rather a little early to prophesy. Last year Mr. McKeown's bill that a man should vote whether he had his taxes paid or not was the novelty of that session. What will be the next scheme promoted? It is not too soon for some of our brilliant representatives to think out something. If there is a man bold enough he might father an act that is now in force in Pennsylvania. This act exacts that bachelors are to be fined \$100 each every year they remain single after reaching the age of forty, and an additional \$100 if they marry women who do not reside in Pennsylvania, the money to be paid to "old maids" who are over forty, if any can be found brave enough to admit that they have reached that era of ripened girlhood." Here is a chance for someone to make himself famous. It would be a little hard on the bachelors but it might help many a girl.

Friends Surprised.

The friends of Mr. E. H. Turnbull were somewhat surprised to read in the papers this week the announcement that next month that he is to take unto himself a wife in the person of Miss Page an actress. The event is to take place in London. Everyone knew that Mr. Turnbull was a great admirer of the stage but no one thought that such important steps were so near at hand.

This is the First.

The drowning of young Cameron in Courtenay bay on Wednesday is the first of that never failing crop of summer drowning accidents. Every year has its list of watery graves. Many a life has been lost in Courtenay bay and it ever keeps to the front with its misfortunes and horrors.