

# PROGRESS.

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## EVENTS OF CITY LIFE.

### Deaths During the Week—Many Other Matters Tersely Told.

During the past year death has been working sad havoc in many homes and especially during the winter months, has the mortality been large. Some very well known people have passed away lately, people whose loss will be felt not only in family circles, but in public affairs. Death seems to be more in evidence among persons of middle age than with the young and old. The week just ending has seen many beloved ones taken away. The sudden death of David P. Chisholm came as a shock to everybody. From his long connection with the educational interests in this city had become very widely known and there were few citizens who did not know David Chisholm.

Mrs. Forbes' demise was in some ways not unexpected, her illness had been a long and serious one, and yet when it became known that death had come, the shock was none the less felt. Mrs. Forbes had devoted much of her life in the furtherance of christian work and to St. Andrews Presbyterian church, the church in which she worshipped and in whose societies she was a leading member her decrease is keenly felt. The same day that told of the death of Mrs. Forbes brought the sad intelligence of the passing away of Mrs. Gillespie, another highly esteemed St. John lady. Her death was particularly sad, inasmuch as the sickness was very brief, but such is the work of dread pneumonia. Children have lost a loving mother, and a large number a true and dear friend.

Henry Duffell's death makes still another blank in our citizenship. Quiet and unassuming, his friends were numerous, and laying down one's life at the early age of forty-four tells its own sadness. The spring months are trying on the best of constitutions and every year produces a sad list of disease's victims. This spring has not been an exception, but it is hoped that the worst is over.

#### House Hunting.

House hunting continues to be the order of the day with many of the female sex. Not that all who are looking at houses want one, not at all. For there are many who think it is part of their duty to look in other people's homes, just to see how other people live. A lady, whose house is to rent told PROGRESS the other day that one afternoon she had no less than twenty five persons to look through her place and of those she felt sure that not one half had the least idea of renting. With some, house hunting is a regular mania, not a single advertisement escapes the eye and hours are devoted over a matter in which they have no interest. It is a funny world and some people have so little to do. Landlords however, keep happy but this is to be expected. When the amount of rent is considered that one has to pay in St. John in proportion to the value of real estate here, he would be a peculiar landlord indeed who was not satisfied.

#### Rich and Yet Poor.

Some men are rich because they cannot help it, while others are poor for the same reason, but the hardest is to be rich and yet poor. This seems ridiculous on the face of it, yet such is the case with respect to a well known inhabitant of St. John. This inhabitant, whose characteristic at the present time, in his poverty, in former days saw better times. He became the purchaser of stock in a well known incorporation. This stock has its value to day, but not so to the above named, for he has lost his certificates and the company refuses to pay unless a bond of indemnity is given for the lost papers. On account of his poverty no one cares about going in such a bond and so the company keeps the money and the poor man the rest. Here is a chance for some charitably disposed person or a speculator.

#### Not Creditable.

One has but to go into the Free Public Library any afternoon to see what a popular institution that place has become. Though it is a delight to see so many taking such an interest in such a profitable pastime, yet a person cannot feel but

ashamed at the miserable accommodation afforded. For the size of the place everything is made as comfortable and convenient as possible, but for a place the size of St. John, professing to have a public library, it is anything but creditable. These are two places this city should feel anything but proud of, that is the library and the court house. Their existence would not have been fine a hundred years ago, but the court house must be older than that.

#### The Coal Question.

The price of coal still keeps up and there are not a few who will be pleased when warm weather sets in. It has certainly been a hard winter on the poor man. A correspondent wishes to know if it can be explained how it is that soft coal can be brought here from the States cheaper than Nova Scotia. The explanation seems to be that the Dominion Coal Co. are understood to be under contract with the Bay State Co., of Massachusetts to deliver about 600,000 tons yearly at a price upon which there is little or no profit so that the purchasers in Canada of the remaining tons some 400,000 are called upon to pay in order to give the company their profit. United States soft coal however is now finding its way into this market and it is hoped that before long there will be a drop in price. Hard coal still remains high, not on account of the expense of the output at the mines, but because of the high freight rates existing. May there be a change for the better before long.

#### An Evangelist's Work.

What is termed a Railway Evangelist is the latest kind of evangelist in Upper Canada. His energy in christian work is trying to put down the habit of swearing indulged in all too often by many railway employes. Some people are wondering if the preacher will reach St. John not that there is so much mission work to be done here, but a man undertaking such a noble work is a curiosity. "He wouldn't bother me" said a well known baggage master the other day on one of our trains. "I am kept too busy to swear, but I keep up a lot of thinking." If I thought he could cure me of that I would go and hear him.

#### It Was Chilly.

Those who have been thinking that the back bone of winter had been broken and had about decided to put away fur coats, got a surprise party on Wednesday night and Thursday morning. Many a winter day wasn't in it, and the further you got away from the city the colder it got. Eight below was quite cool enough to keep off mosquitoes on the streets of St. John, but by the time Welstord was reached the cipher marked 20 below. A man cannot live with a broken back bone and here he differs from winter.

#### Succession Duty.

The local government obtained nearly forty thousand dollars last year from succession duties towards the Provincial revenue. Of this amount two estates contributed over one half. They were those of the late J. D. Lewin and C. F. Woodman, the former paying \$15,600 and the latter \$6,000. It has been a year in which the rich as well as the poor has succumbed to the grave monster death.

#### Unique Experience.

Beverley Armstrong who returned this week from England had the distinguished honor of being spoken to by Her late Majesty the Queen. But Mr. Armstrong's experience was even more noted than that, for he can quite properly say that of all colonists he was the very last one to be addressed by Victoria, a unique experience.

#### A Glimpse of the Future.

Some Interesting Items Gleaned From a St. John Paper.

It is reported that a leading Scientist in the States has discovered an instrument by which it is possible to read the future. Some people believe in the great discovery. The office boy has not yet got his instrument perfected, but he has been able to turn the light on to some of the future editions of a St. John paper. The follow-

ing paragraphs are clipped as interesting to the reading public.

SEPTEMBER 1901.—The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall arrived in St. John yesterday afternoon. In the evening a grand ball was given in their honor by the Lieut. Governor. The event eclipsed anything of the kind ever given before by his honor. This morning the distinguished guests were driven about the streets of the city and shown in what excellent order our thoroughfares are kept. Their excellencies were delighted, the Duke expressing keen pleasure as he said the roads put him so much in mind of some of the rugged hills of Scotland. At noon an address was presented at the court house. Here also His Highness expressed an opinion as to the beauty of the building, the architecture particularly, taking his eye. In the afternoon the royal party were given a sail in the harbor, the mayor and aldermen were unable to attend as they had to be present at a council meeting, it being only the third held that day. At five o'clock the visitors left for Montreal. They were delayed at Fredericton junction for three hours. Here the time was pleasantly spent in taking in the beauties of that summer resort.

March 1902.—The sidewalks of St. John are in a very icy and slippery condition. Last evening no less than three persons fell breaking their limbs. It is reported, but the report is not confirmed, that it is the intention of the City Fathers to get out the sand sprinkler the week after next if it doesn't storm in the meantime.

May—1903.—Word was received today that Mr. Robertson, who has been in the old country for sometime in connection with the new dry dock, will shortly return. From letters received there is every prospect that St. John will have their much coveted dock.

Feb.—1904.—The City Council had another lively meeting yesterday. Ald. Christie was very strong in his denunciation of the South End trying to override the North End. The resolution that the Council hold meetings more frequently in the future, carried by an immense majority.

February—1906.—In the senate yesterday afternoon the Hon. David Wark moved the address in reply to the speech. The honorable senator spoke vigorously for three hours. In the course of his speech, he repeated the remarks made by him some years ago that the senate should work harder and hold late evening sessions.

June—1908.—The St. John police force presented a petition to the City Council this morning, asking for an increase of pay. A petition was also read asking that an extra policeman be placed on the Water street beat. Both petitions were laid aside for future reference. The above are some of the paragraphs we have been able to get together. In a short time it is expected that the instrument will be running more smoothly and some more interesting items gathered through the lens.

## PROGRESS CONTENTS TODAY.

- PAGE 1.—This page speaks for itself. Read it.
- PAGE 2.—Queen Alexandra, as first lady in the empire, successor to the Queen.
- PAGE 3.—Musical and dramatic news of the week.
- PAGE 4.—Editorial poetry and many other items of news.
- PAGE 5, 6, 7, and 8.—Social happenings in the city and throughout the Maritime provinces.
- PAGE 9.—A Maharajah's Odd Show—Fights of birds and beasts for British officers.
- Indian Girls of Beauty—The belles of the Indian territory are beauties also.
- PAGE 10 and 15.—A bright and interesting serial entitled "Under a Ban."
- PAGE 11.—Many topics of interest for Sunday readers.
- PAGE 12.—"The Sunset Limited"—A thrilling tale of railroad life in the west.
- PAGE 13.—Chat of the Poudoir and many other matters pertaining to women.
- PAGE 14.—Giving away his wealth—The novel method adopted by Millionaire Pearson for charity.
- PAGE 16.—The delayed wedding—an interesting short story.
- Births, marriage and deaths of the weeks.

## Mr. Cushing gets the Position.

### The Members of the Common Council Waxed Warm in Selecting a Director of Public Works.

The Common Council met in the common council chambers on Tuesday afternoon.

It was all about the appointment to the directorship of public works. The principals in the matter were Ald. Christie, the "Grave old Man," of the Council and Ald. Waring, of Sydney ward, who was an applicant for the coveted position.

The backers of Christie were: Maxwell, MacRae, McMulkin, Armstrong, White and Millidge. Aids. Baxter and Colwell officiated for Waring. The odds, as will be perceived, were against the doughty South end city father.

The first round consisted of protests and references; honors were nearly evenly divided.

The second opened with some hot exchanges between the medico-alderman and the south sider. A verbal passage terminated the round with the man of pills and politics having a slight advantage.

In the third round both men were on their feet and eager for the fray; neither had as yet struck a blow; the air was blue and every other old color with innuendoes and recriminations. This ended with both men in a very angry and savage mood.

At the call of his worship the mayor, Ald. Christie vigorously fought his way for the appointment of Mr. R. H. Cushing. Ald. Waring retorted saying that the whole matter was carried on mysteriously. Ald. Waring wanted to retire from the battle at this juncture, but his supporters advised him to continue.

The mayor said Ald. Waring you may continue, and then Ald. Waring informed the referee that he knew what he was about and that he was going to see the fight to a finish.

Ald. Christie opened this round with remarking that he was sorry Ald. Waring said he was lying. Ald. Waring at this juncture remarked that before he would drop the matter he would have to be carried out of the room.

After the bold defiance the battle was over, Ald. Christie seemed to be a winner.

So it passes into history that Ald. Waring, who was an applicant for the position of Directorship of Public Works, met defeat at the hands of his brother councillors. Mr. Cushing was appointed to the position by a vote of 7 to 3.

#### SOCIETY AS IT EXISTS.

The Latest Play Written By a Fredericton Author.

A Fredericton writer of some note and one who is well adapted to write on the subject, sends the latest society gossip in a dramatic form. This is his play:—

#### Social Studies.

Dramatis Personae.

Mrs. Teazle..... A old lady  
Miss Clara Kennedy.....  
..... An attractive young lady  
Mrs. Toplady..... The Hostess  
Two matrons.....  
John Thomas..... An admirer of Clara  
Scene, Fredericton—Mrs. Toplady's Drawing room, 5 o'clock tea.

Mrs. Toplady (awaiting the arrival of her guests) "I hope this will be more entertaining than that poky affair I was at last week. Nothing to talk about, no engagements no misalliances, not a breath of scandal. This town is too slow for me." (Enter Mrs. Teazle, carrying her lap dog. They kiss each other, i. e. Mrs. Teazle and the hostess. The dog had been kissed before.)

The hostess—Oh Mrs. Teazle, how do you do? What is the weather like?

Mrs. Teazle—The walking is very slippery, but have you heard the latest?

Mrs. Toplady—No, tell me before the others come. Is it a banker or a lawyer this time?

Mrs. Teazle—Will Clara Kennedy be here to day?

Mrs. Toplady—I'm expecting her every minute. Let's hear about it before she comes.

Mrs. Teazle—Well, in the first place you know, Clara has an admirer.

Mrs. Toplady—Oh, do hurry, or they will be here.

Mrs. Teazle—You know I dislike gossip, so perhaps I'd better say nothing more about it.

Mrs. Toplady—You can tell me, you know I don't repeat things.

Mrs. Teazle—Well, would you believe it, Mr. Thomas actually joined Clara Kennedy at the post office, and walked all the way down Queen street with her, and they say he is going to take her to the theatre this week.

Mrs. Toplady—The brzen hussy! What's the town coming to? I never did such a thing.

Mrs. Teazle—No, I should think not, and this was in broad day-light too which is so much worse! I should think her— (Enter Clara)

Mrs. Toplady—Oh I'm so glad to see you, Clara. I was afraid your engagements, (or shall I say your engagement?) would prevent your coming.

Clara—Engagements? This is the only engagement I have.

Mrs. Teazle—I admire innocence! The post office is a very interesting place some times.

Clara—Yes, everyone goes there, and I'm pretty lucky in getting letters.

Mrs. Toplady—Is that all you find there?

Clara—I noticed the steps were very icy, and the sidewalk is not much better.

Mrs. Toplady—But here are some more arrivals.

#### (Enter two matrons.)

It's so good of you to come.

1st. matron—I never miss an opportunity of coming to your house.

2nd. matron—Yes, and I just dote on five o'clock teas. (Turning to Clara) Well, Miss Kennedy, how popular the post office seems just now?

(Clara aside) I wonder what these old idiots mean. (aloud) It must be, we see so many people there.

1st Matron—It is so nice to have a companion. I wish I was young again.

2nd Matron—They say Shute has some very nice engagement rings.

Mrs. Toplady—Mrs. Teazle do you take both sugar and cream? Clara, I know you only take cream.

2nd Matron—Yes, Jack thinks some one sweet enough without any sugar.

(Exit Clara, after telling her hostess what a lovely time she's had)

Clara (walking home) No more five o'clock teas for me, the oldhags! I suppose I'll have to join one of the squads of girls. But I do want to go to the theatre.

Old ladies in the distance, smiling, and exchanging stories about the married men.

#### The Grocers' Picnic.

The Grocers' picnic financial affairs have not yet been settled though it is understood that several of the grocers feel that matters should be straightened out so that long unpaid bills should be attended to. The other evening a meeting of the executive was called and all attended except the chairman of the ticket committee and the secretary. Owing to his absence it was found impossible to adjust affairs and the meeting had to adjourn in consequence. The public hope that since the ball has been started rolling, something definite will be done. As matters now stand the grocers are put in an unfavorable light. If the picnic had not paid there might be some excuse, but it is generally known that it did pay and so the bills should be attended to at once.

#### Mr. Baldwin and His Trip.

Mr. W. S. Baldwin with his friend, Mr. Henry Tetrault, of Augusta, Me., are in the city renewing old acquaintanceships and making many new friends. "Bill," as his old friends know him, needs no introduction. He has lived in this city, almost, if not quite as long as in Augusta and he is as cordially welcomed here as there. Pleasant recollections surround him whenever he returns, and this is not the first—nor may it not be the last—that PROGRESS has had the opportunity of greeting him and his friends.

#### Forester.

It was a pleasant entertainment given by Court La Tour I. O. F. at Forester's Hall, Thursday evening. The hall was completely filled with ladies and gentlemen and a most enjoyable evening was spent. The different Forester courts are becoming quite noted in the way of entertainments and that given by La Tour fully kept up the reputation of the order in this line.