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OUR GIFT FOR NEW YEARS

LIKELY TO BE IN THE FORM OF A NEW GOVERNOR.

The Men Who had a Chance of Being Appointed but who are not in the Field now—What one who knows Says About the Situation.

The governorship has again become a live question. Despite reports to the contrary, however, no appointment of a successor to Sir Leonard Tilley has yet been made, but unless something unexpected interferes the name of the new governor will be announced before the close of the present year.

PROGRESS is in a position to state that some months ago all arrangements were made at Ottawa for the appointment of Mr. Kennedy F. Burns, M. P., to the position, he to enter upon the duties of his high office about the first of the new year. His appointment was to be made because of his claims on the party, and of his general fitness; and because of the belief that he would be most acceptable to all classes, particularly to his co-religionists, the French, of course, included. About the time that Mr. Burns had reason to conclude that his appointment was merely a question of a few months, a strong protest was sent to Ottawa by Dr. Legere who then represented Kent in the commons, but who has since died. That protest represented Mr. Burns as the enemy of the French in New Brunswick and declared that his appointment as Lieutenant Governor would be most distasteful to them. It seems that when the last vacancy in the Supreme Court Bench occurred Mr. Burns and Mr. Adams favored the appointment of Mr. Lawlor of Chatham in preference to the promotion of Judge Landry. Neither Mr. Landry nor Mr. Lawlor was made supreme court judge, and it would not appear that had it not been for the fact that the friends of these gentlemen could not agree, a Roman Catholic had been appointed instead of Hon. Mr. Hanington when the latter was called to the bench. Opponents of Mr. Burns say that the protest from the French will make his appointment an impossibility; and that, besides, Sir John Thompson would not think of appointing a Catholic Governor for New Brunswick so soon after his own promotion to the premiership. On the other hand it is claimed by friends of Mr. Burns that the only thing that gave the so called French protest any weight was the fact that it had been sent by Dr. Legere and that he was then a supporter of the government in the Commons. Since Dr. Legere's death and the election of Mr. McInerney as his successor, they say Mr. Burns is a stronger candidate than ever for the governorship, as McInerney is a warm personal friend of the member for Gloucester and will join other friends of Mr. Burns in the Commons in support of the latter. Others again say that McInerney, fearing the influence of JUDGE Landry in Kent, will not dare to support Burns.

Regarding the suggestion that it would be impolitic for Sir John Thompson to appoint a co-religionist to the New Brunswick governorship in anything like the immediate present PROGRESS may say that as a rule the premier has very little to do with the appointments of judges or lieutenant governors. Under the methods that have prevailed at Ottawa ever since confederation such appointments are in the hands of the ministers from the particular province for which the appointment is to be made. For instance, the governorship of New Brunswick is really at the disposal of Messrs Costigan and Foster, subject of course to a satisfactory consultation by them with a majority of their supporters from this province. It is only when the ministers agree upon an appointment that the members of the government, as a government, trouble themselves even the question of patronage. Then the members of the government from that particular province and their supporters in the commons are heard from and the government make what they consider the best appointment under the circumstances. Although many persons who have been applicants for office under the dominion government have thought it desirable to "pull the wires" all over the dominion in order to secure the support of this or that minister they would have worked to better advantage by trying to unite the ministers from their province and the members supporting them in their favor.

It is known that Mr. Burns has a large number of supporters among the conservative members from New Brunswick than any other candidate. It is also known that Mr. Hazen and Mr. McLeod are divided on Senator Boyd and Dr. Bayard, and that Mr. Hazen is being supported in his choice by Mr. Wood. It is further known that Mr. Wilnot is strong for Chief Justice Allen. Those who laughed at the mention of Mr. Adams' name will be interested in knowing that, next to Mr. Burns, some months ago, his chances were the best of all the probable candidates. No doubt the

same objection that has been made to Burns would now be urged against Adams. If Messrs. Foster and Costigan decided that a Catholic must be appointed, and if the French object to Burns or Adams, perhaps Senator Dever might be induced to accept the governorship!

This week the name of Judge FRASER was mentioned in connection with the vacancy. Although His Honor has been but a short time on the bench the state of his health has been such for some few years that he might accept the position if it was offered to him. In any case it is believed there will soon be at least one vacancy on the supreme court bench. Judge Palmer or Judge King it is thought will be called to the supreme court of Canada and in case either Chief Justice Allen or Mr. Justice Fraser was made governor there would be two vacancies. In that event the Catholics will press their claims for a judgeship and Messrs. McLeod and Barker will again be in the field. It is said that the story why Dr. Barker has not already been made a judge would make most interesting reading.

There being considerable difference of opinion as to how long Sir Leonard Tilley has occupied the governor's chair, PROGRESS has looked up the record and found that he was first appointed in November, 1873, and held office until July, 1878, when he resigned at the request of his party and ran successfully for the commons. He was again sworn in as lieutenant governor on Nov. 11th 1885 and has been in office since then. It is not generally known, but it is a fact nevertheless, that Sir LEONARD discouraged an effort by his friends to have them appointed for a second continuous term in 1890. He did so because he had been a member of the government when it was decided that it was not advisable to give any man a second continuous term. Sir Adams Archibald is the only man who has been three times Lt. Governor since confederation. He first appointed Lt. Governor of Manitoba; and was next appointed to a similar position in Nova Scotia by the Macdonald government. Mr. Mackenzie's government giving him a second term there.

Sir Leonard will quit the office of Lieut. Governor in a short time unless difficulties now unforeseen present themselves to the federal authorities. He has served his country well, and whatever may be said of his politics, when he was in active harness, political friends and foes will unite in the statement that he has been a fearless and just chief ruler of his native province.

The Hampton School Question.

The excitement over the school question in Hampton is rapidly approaching fever heat and PROGRESS understands that unless the action of the trustees is reconsidered by them, the present school is not likely to be very well attended after the holidays. Mr. Harrington, the teacher who has been engaged, is now teaching in the village where he was requested by the trustees to hand in his resignation. His application for a position on the St. John staff has been on file for a number of terms, and while he may be a teacher of average ability, it is strange in the light of this circumstance, that two of the present school trustees at Hampton station should select him out of seventeen other applicants, against the wishes of the people, to supplant a man who has proved himself so acceptable.

Not Much to Find Fault With.

A "rate payer" sends a statement to PROGRESS which he evidently regards of vital importance, to the effect that a corporation team and attendants were seen one day last week taking rubbish from the back yard of street inclined G. H. Martin. PROGRESS is not inclined to overlook the faults of civic officials, but if Mr. Martin never does anything worse than permit one of the city teams to take a load of rubbish from his back yard, the citizens will not have a serious grievance. The impression is pretty general that Mr. Martin has made a very good official, who attends to his business and does his work in a very thorough manner.

It Must Have Been a Waterbury.

The ticket seller of Daniel's Specialty Company has another anecdote to tell as the expense of the public: A few nights after the company's engagement here a good sized silver watch could be seen among the piles of tickets at one side of him and before all the audience had entered, one of the ten cents thrown in the opening was accompanied by the remark "here's ten cents, give me my watch." The explanation it was that on the evening before one of the boys about town had pawned his watch for ten cents to enable him to buy a ticket for the show.

Better Have Said Nothing About It.

PROGRESS is requested to state that a report said to be current about the city to the effect that a young lady intended bringing an action for breach of promise against a Halifax man, is not correct. Certainly if it was the young lady who made the request of PROGRESS, she seemed to be more in a congratulatory than a retaliatory mood.

THEY WON'T SIGN THIS.

THE RECORDER'S IRON BOUND RECEIPT OBJECTED TO.

The Connellys Have No Money Yet—Some of the Reasons Why—Mr. Kelly sets the Example of the Coast Contract—Mr. Chealey gives His Son a Soft Soap.

The difference between Contractors Connelly and the Board of Works seems to have assumed greater proportions than ever this week. On Wednesday an additional certificate for \$3,500 was given by the engineer but as the contractors refused to sign the recorder's iron-bound receipt, no money passed to them from the chamberlain.

There is not much doubt but that a considerable claim will be made against the city for extra towage. Some of the aldermen who are not members of the Board of Works, and some who belong to that branch of the city's departments claim that the fault lies with the specifications, but the city engineer who performed that part of the work claims that in his original draft he had fully provided against any charge for extra towage but that when the specifications were printed the clause agreeing that the dumping ground should not be more than a mile from the works, was inserted. Now they find out that at low water when it is possible to push the work forward that there is no spot in the harbor, or at the mouth of the harbor within a mile of Sand Point, where the mud can be dumped. The water is not deep enough to allow them to go on the flats, and if it is dumped in any other place, damage is apt to result to the approaches of the harbor. Those who have looked over the specifications carefully, claim that Messrs. Connelly are correct in their contention, while others hold a directly opposite view. Certainly if a settlement is not arrived at speedily the difference will become a very grave one.

Another topic that has touched the minds of those who flock about the city building is the disposition of the orders for the policemen's coats. Those to be made for the south end division of the force seem to be located in the Market Square establishment of Mr. James Kelly, while the coats for the north end will be supplied by Mr. Stevens. Mr. Kelly makes thirteen and Mr. Stevens ten. Mr. Stevens is a tenant of the city in the old police building in the north end, while Mr. Kelly appears to have the necessary "affluence" to draw the order in his direction. In the meantime the other clothing establishments in the city who put in a tender are wondering how it all came about and to what PROGRESS can gather they are apt to wonder for some time. The department of public safety has certainly a way of its own of doing things and the responsibility must rest equally with chairman Chesley and director Wisely.

Which of these gentlemen are responsible for the appointment of young Chesley to his position in the Electric Light Station will be harder to determine. All that the public know about it now is that some time ago the last engineer allowed one of the dynamos to burn out, that he was discharged for what appeared to be a piece of negligence, and shortly afterwards a son of Safety Chairman W. A. Chesley was appointed to the position at \$60 per month. The young man in question may be perfectly well able to do the work, but those who are quite well acquainted with him cannot explain how he obtained his knowledge of electricity, while the fact that his father is chairman of the safety board should have prevented his appointment, especially since he already held a position on the City fire department which is also controlled by the same chairman. PROGRESS understands that when appointed engineer of the Lighting Station he had not resigned his position in the fire department of the city for which he drew \$150 per year as assistant foreman. He has however resigned this position since his appointment in the Electric Light station.

ONE TEACHER BEARS THE CUT.

Moncton Trustees Make Their Economy Felt by Miss Keohan.

MONCTON, Dec. 7.—The recently published report of the late meeting of Moncton's Board of School trustees not only affords ample food for thought to all fair minded people, but it also furnishes an excellent text for the most advanced homily on woman's rights, that has yet been written, and would be sufficient excuse for the most patient Griselda who ever lived, throwing off her meek submission and clamoring for the rights so unjustly withheld from her down-trodden sex. This meeting bears a curious resemblance to the famous council of Trent in one respect though not, it is needless to say, in any other.

Students of scriptural history will probably remember the assertion some historians make, that when the different books of the New Testament were being collected and placed in their proper order and those of which the Divine inspiration was not considered clearly proven, expanded from the bible; the epistle of the holy Polycarp,

first bishop of Smyrna was thrown out by a majority of one, although all the other half of the council believed it to be inspired. Now the place where the resemblance comes in, is just here. When the committee on teachers' salaries, made their report, they announced their recommendation that no reduction should be made in the salaries of the teachers with the solitary exception of Miss Keohan, whose stipend they proposed reducing from \$340, to \$240. Why this young lady should have been selected as the one victim of the committee's anxiety to economize it is hard to understand; all the other teachers retain their salaries intact while this one is thrown out—not exactly a situation perhaps—but at least of a \$100 a year, which is most justly her due seeing that she teaches the second highest grade in the school, her grade being next to that of principal Wilbur, whose salary is \$700 a year, while that of Mr. Trites teaching a lower grade is \$600. One member of the board to his honor be it said, moved that Miss Keohan's salary remain at \$340, but the motion was not seconded and was immediately followed by one from another member recommending its reduction. This motion was at once seconded, though it is worthy of note that the sister in charge of the Convent school receives \$300 a year for doing work that is not more difficult. It is also worthy of note that instead of lowering the salary of each teacher say five dollars a year, and thus taking a fair percentage from the entire staff, it was considered advisable to make one bear the entire burden of the retrenchment decided upon by the Board. It is a shame that a woman should be paid less for doing superior work than a man receives for his services in a lower grade. Worst of all, this sort of injustice can have but one result, if not now, in the near future, and that result will be the employment of an inferior class of teachers, because the bright, intelligent girl who has brains enough to make her way in the world, will give the profession of teaching a very wide berth when choosing her career in life on account of the starvation pay and the dead level of mediocrity demanded, since the more highly educated teachers and those competent to take charge of the higher departments are paid the same salary as the young girls who are teaching their first school.

It would be well if the school trustees would look at the matter from this point of view and take action in the present case by restoring to Miss Keohan her original and well deserved stipend.

SCHOOL WAS LET OUT.

When it Was Discovered That St. Peter's Janitor Had Died of Fever.

Superintendent John March of the Board of School Trustees received quite a shock a few days ago when he learned that the janitor of St. Peter's school building of the north end had died from typhoid fever and that the seven schools in the building were full of pupils as usual. He acted with promptitude and before half an hour had passed there was not a child in the building.

From what PROGRESS can learn, it appears that the physician who attended the janitor entirely ignored the regulation requiring him to notify the authorities of the existence of such a serious case. The janitor had been ill for some time and died in the building before Mr. March or any of the trustees were aware of the fact. Just before his death his wife and daughter were taken seriously ill with the disease, so that they could not be moved, and permit the building to be fumigated immediately. It is bad enough when the physician fails to give notice of the existence of typhoid fever where only the inmates of a house are liable to catch it, but where there are some hundreds of children such negligence appears to be nothing short of criminal.

If reports are true the introduction of stoves in the centennial school building was not made too soon, for an official of the school board is responsible for the statement that the boiler was in a very dangerous condition, before they discovered it. PROGRESS has spoken before of the necessity of regular inspection of the steam boilers in all the schools as it is far better to begin it before an accident happens than after such an undesirable occurrence.

Keeping up His Reputation.

The Gleaser appears to be wonderfully agitated over the anecdote related in PROGRESS last week about Mr. Gregory and his paid in advance subscription of 4000 years, and claims that another gentleman has paid for PROGRESS 6000 years in advance. At two dollars a year that would foot up \$12000. Phew! The records don't say so, and if Mr. Crockett had wished to avoid a false statement, a telephone message to the gentlemen in question would have saved him the trouble of writing the paragraph. But Mr. Crockett has the journalistic reputation of being an energetic liar, and he seems determined to sustain it.

COTTON MAKES US CASH.

BUT JUST HOW MUCH NO ONE SEEMS TO KNOW.

Mr. Connor Says He is Not Responsible Though Favorable to Mr. Sturdee's Candidature—He is in the Field and Asking for Votes.

In spite of all reports to the contrary there is not much doubt but that a considerable number of people in St. John are interested more or less in the fluctuations of the New York stock market.

The recent sharp advancement in the price of cotton has set many rumors afloat as to the various amounts cleared by some of the speculators who had bought as largely as they were able. Those who are in a position to know say that cotton has been very low for a long while, and the shrewd buyer has been anticipating an advance. When PROGRESS heard the story first it was stated that a gentleman who is known to be quite keen in his operations and very correct in his judgment had made all the way from \$100,000 to \$120,000 by the advance in price. The statement on the face of it appeared extravagant and investigation proved that there was not sufficient foundation for its being made. In fact it is now thought that the official in question was not nearly so large a gainer by the advance as some other merchants who are known to have active agents in New York watching their interests. The cotton mill in this city has one thousand bales of cotton on hand which will probably last them nine or ten weeks. It is understood that had there been sufficient capital the mill would have liked to purchase about four thousand bales, and that instructions were partially given to this effect, but whether it was able to purchase or not the fact is that there are but one thousand bales on hand. Had the other three thousand bales been purchased and sold and realized a profit of two cents or more per pound, as it was possible to do, the net sum of some \$30,000 might have been placed to the credit of the concern. But it takes money to make money in these days. The amounts made by other gentlemen who bought cotton are variously stated from \$500 to \$10,000, and as more than a dozen of them are mentioned it is likely that the amount made will aggregate at least \$50,000.

"IS NOT RESPONSIBLE."

That's What Mr. Connor Says About Mr. Sturdee's Candidature.

Alderman John Connor is a regular reader of PROGRESS and, when he gave his copy careful attention last Saturday, found that he was booming Mr. H. Lawrence Sturdee as the next mayor of the city of St. John. That was the information PROGRESS had received and gave to the public.

One part of it was strictly correct—in fact it was all true enough except that Mr. Connor was booming any one as a candidate. He assures PROGRESS that he was not instrumental in bringing Mr. S. forward, though he thought it was very probable that he would vote for him.

Mr. Sturdee acknowledged that he was in the field for mayor and had already begun his canvass. It is nearly four months before the election takes place and if he interviews 50 or 60 voters each day he will have done a fairly comprehensive stroke of canvassing. Since his name has been mentioned the people seem to take to the notion pretty readily and but few objections are raised to his candidature. It is really surprising how few well known citizens care to run for the chief magistracy and as Mr. Sturdee has had a good deal of experience and made a fair record as mayor of old Portland no fault can be found with what is thought to be a necessary qualification for the office—civic experience.

In the meantime Mayor Peters is regarding the horizon of civic politics with an anxious eye. The weather looks threatening and the chances are even that he will not face the storm.

How a Jewish Custom is Carried Out.

Few people are aware, perhaps, that one of the Jewish customs very strictly observed in large cities is also carried out here as rigidly as possible. On every Monday and Thursday the Rabbi of these people in company with one or two others of his church visit one of the slaughter houses near this city and select an animal to be killed for their use. With him the Rabbi carries a huge broad bladed knife, sharp as a razor, and perfectly polished. At his request the butchers sling one of the animals after which no one but the Rabbi himself is allowed to touch it. With one keen, powerful stroke the throat is severed, and an examination is afterwards made to see if the lungs of the animal are in a perfectly healthy condition. If they are discovered to be connected in any way with other parts of the body the carcass is rejected and another animal is stung by the butchers for their inspection. Sometimes as many as three or four are rejected before a suitable one could be found. The fore quarters and the head are the only portions that the

rabbi and his people take with them. After the animal is dead the butcher can proceed to dress it, but until then no one must lay a hand upon it except the rabbi. The meat thus selected is brought at once to the city and is then considered perfectly fit to be sold to the people of the church.

THE EXCUSES OF A JURY.

How Busy Citizens Tried to Escape The Welton-Randall Trial.

To get a competent jury to try the Weltons and Randall on the second trial, which began Thursday was as difficult as it was amusing. Some fifty good citizens were asked by the sheriff to leave their business at this busy Christmas season and sit from now until the new year perhaps trying to find out whether the prisoners are guilty or not guilty. The majority of them put in an appearance, but they all brought a look of anxiety along with them and awaited the result with more interest than the men on trial or their counsel. Many of them had a stock of excuses as well and there was where the fun came in. The challenges by the crown and the defense came in the natural order. Whether it was intentional or not the number of good presbyterians among the chosen twelve seem to be in the majority while two other religious bodies lack representation.

Among those who came into court with excuses and certificates was Mr. John Allingham, who was left off account of an ulcer; Mr. Dunbrack had the chills badly and was successful in escaping, but Mr. James Kelley, in spite of his protest that he was very busy and had many policemen's coats to make, was promptly sworn in.

Mr. Bell was so vigorous in his statements against the accused that he was stood to one side, but the panel being exhausted before the jury was complete he had to stand the ordeal of a trial before two jurors who did not find him coup-tent.

E. J. Armstrong stood in some fear of being selected. He is a busy printer and it would have paid him to forfeit a reasonable fine and continue to devote all his time to his business. Good fortune favored him in being asked to stand aside at first and before he was called again he had remarked to such an extent that a peremptory challenge greeted him. Ald. McKelvey and Mr. Chas. K. Cameron hoped against hope and were promptly sworn in while Mr. Barnes secured his release by stating that he had made arrangements for a business trip. There was the usual crowd of curious spectators and the number of lawyers who moved about the court and ante rooms indicated that the barristers roll was not on the decrease.

Rev. Sidney Welton looks as fresh, watchful, and aggressive as usual, while his brother's appearance would indicate that he does not take unkindly to his forced quarters. Cephas B. had evidently had a very close interview with a barber, and Rev. Sidney displayed a large emblem of some society in his white shirt front. Not so with Dr. Randall. He wears an anxious, haggard look which plainly shows the mental suffering he has undergone. The trial was adjourned from Thursday noon until Friday, and was resumed about the hour PROGRESS went to press.

The Alleged Value of a Reputation.

Mr. Carroll, or rather Mr. Peter O. Carroll of Pictou, has been at some pains to gain some further notoriety for his connection with the Steadman tragedy. To this end he has had a paragraph inserted in a New Glasgow paper to the effect that he had sued PROGRESS for \$10,000. The appearance of this item in a city paper was the first intimation that PROGRESS had of the monetary valuation Mr. Carroll placed upon his reputation. The suit may have been entered, but up to this writing the writ has not been served. When it is, PROGRESS will have much pleasure in giving Mr. Carroll a further introduction to the public.

Not a Partner In Any Firm.

If Attorney-General Blair carries out his original intention of leaving Fredericton by the 10th of December he will be a citizen of St. John this week. So far PROGRESS can learn he has not perfected any plans of a professional nature incident to his living in this city. It was rumored that he had made arrangements to become a member of one of the first legal firms in the city, but it is understood that this is not the case. Whether Mr. Blair "goes it alone" in this city or becomes a member of any present firm, there is not much doubt but that he will have enough to do in a professional way.

Their Joy is Not Unmixed.

The clerks in the post office department of the custom house have been saving themselves lately for what is sure to come between now and New Year's. Christmas presents and the postal service have an intimate acquaintance of late years, and the custom department of this branch dread the approach of the festive season.