

PROGRESS.

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THEY COULDN'T AGREE.

REV. MR. STOERGER AND HIS PEOPLE HAVE A FALLING OUT.

They Wanted him to French "Sanctification" and he did but only to a limited extent—Why Rev. Mr. Kinney Left the Reformed Baptists for the Methodists.

The Reformed baptist people are having rather serious times because of the falling away from them of some of their best ministers, and the dropping out of laymen because of schisms in the church caused by disputes on minor points of church polity or because of the morals of some of those who seek shelter beneath the folds of their religious structures.

A few days since the Rev. Mr. Stoerger refused longer to continue with that denomination, and gave up his church at Gibson or Marysville and vicinity. This of course caused a storm, and those who had been his brothers in arms and who had borne him on their shoulders spiritually considered, at once rose to denounce him and to take opportunity to cast stones at him. They evidently forgot that he was just as good a man out of their denomination as in it, yet because he left their door with the dust literally wiped from his feet, so far as their chief tenet of sanctification was concerned, they take occasion to attempt to cast contempt upon him.

The church which he led in York appears rather unfortunate in its work, pastorally speaking, as there has been, since its inception much difficulty between the pastors and congregation. This would imply that Mr. Stoerger then is not to blame but that he has done the best thing possible under the circumstances. The church wanted him to preach "sanctification," and he could do so to a certain degree, but not to the extent that they desired; consequently he had to sever connection with the church spoken of. The other clergy who labored there and who gave up the circuit for this, or some other reason consider no doubt that more charity and less sanctification would be beneficially preached to that body of worshippers. Mr. Stoerger has left the denomination and he has been roundly abused because of it.

But this is not all. Rev. Mr. Kinney broke away from the denomination some time since. It is probable this clergyman, who united with the methodists did not leave the church for the same cause as did the Rev. Mr. Stoerger, and it may be that Mr. Kinney though denounced by his old comrades in arms, is received with full and free acceptance by the people of his adoption. He not only left the Reformed baptists but he is said by them to have tried his persuasive methods to take many members of his flock with him—to carry not only himself, his congregation, but even the church building into the camp of the other party—the methodists. That he did not do so, they say, was not because of his own goodness but because the Reformed baptists fought so strenuously against him.

On the other hand, it is said that Mr. Kinney was a very successful preacher, beloved by his people, but that the church was so poor, and the claims on the denomination so great, that a living salary could not be provided him, and he had to go elsewhere. He totally disclaims this, and announces as his reasons for going over to the methodists that he had become more fully cognizant of the correctness of the methods followed by the followers of John Wesley and had decided, after due consideration to adopt these views. His congregation determined, so it is said, to follow him, having become also imbued with the correctness of methodism, and the weakness of their own religious ideas, and it was their desire, not from Mr. Kinney's promptings, that they change the church from a Reformed baptist to one having full affiliation with the methodists.

Mr. Kinney went out; so did many of his congregation; but a few remained steadfast and these held the church building, and yet worship there, dividing the time with their old co-religionists.

Then there was the very decided split and contest in this city when Messrs. Sherwood and Colwell and others went out from the ranks of the reformed faithful. A change had been made by one of the laymen, impeaching the character of one at that time prominent clergyman of the denomination, then resident in this city. The laymen, so they say, tried, time after time, to get the church to call an investigating committee to hear their complaint, or search out the facts. They pretended that they were prepared to furnish all substantial de-

tails to corroborate their charges if only accorded a free or impartial tribunal. After a time a meeting was called, but they charge that it was a "packed jury" that was appointed to try the case, that the minister was exonerated before the case was called and that the committee did not pretend to give them fair play. A lady was called from Grand Bay, or a legal parlance was subpoenaed as a witness and the laymen claim that if she had been allowed to speak she would have proved their side of the case. The church on the other hand declares that every opportunity was accorded those who had anything to prefer against the minister, and after all parties had been heard, it was decided that the charge was made out of whole cloth and that the clergyman was free from all blame. This did not suit the minority and they left the church, still claiming that they are correct and that if given a chance they can fully substantiate what they presented. This case is in a somewhat unsettled state as yet and there is every reason to believe that another opportunity will be taken to have this matter fully ventilated.

Now that Rev. Mr. Stoerger has resigned, the fire that has smoldered in this case has again revived, and another investigation will be demanded, so it is said by the laity.

HE WANTED THE WRAPPER

How Soap Wrappers Play a Leading Part in Every Day Life.

HALIFAX, March 25.—Attorney-General Longley some time ago lectured before the Fort Massey Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor on "altruism," in which he showed how beautiful a thing it would be for men and women to think more of the interest of others than of themselves, but how infrequent, if not impossible is such a condition of mind or of society. He concluded his rather pessimistic lecture by expressing the belief that christian civilization in this nineteenth century has brought forth some fruits of "altruism" which had not been before seen to anything the same extent in the history of the world. This lecture, it is almost needless to say, was delivered before the occurrence of the incident which is here narrated.

A certain soap manufacturer, is offering a bicycle and other prizes for the greatest collection of soap wrappers an advertising or catch-penny dodge which seems to be working well, and which here in Halifax has brought out a striking instance of "egoism," the opposite of the attorney-general's beautiful but rare "altruism". The dramatic personae were a large grocery merchant on Hollis street, his porter, and a clerk in an adjoining place of business.

The porter was collecting the bicycle-earning soap-wrappers, a very legitimate enterprise, doubtless, for a porter. One afternoon, while next door entered the shop and asked for a bar of soap, naming another brand than the one in which this incident is based.

"Why don't you take—soap it has those bicycle wrappers?"
"All right let me have it."
"You might let me have the wrappers; I'm saving them for the bicycle competition," was the next remark, made by the porter, and he added "I'll give you a dollar for them if you wish."

"Oh, never mind the dollar, you may come in the shop and take them off, and the wrappers are yours," said the clerk who seems to have been the most altruistic of the trio.

The soap was delivered and the wrappers found their way into the porter's pocket. The sale of the box of soap was duly entered in the sales book.

By and by the large grocer returned and shortly after, in looking over the sales book saw the transaction. The merchant's eyes sparkled. "Ah," thought he, a nice little collection of wrappers for the bicycle. Master and man were entered in the same class; competitors for the same fascinating bike! Each was after the bicycle, in ignorance of the aspirations of the other. The merchant soliloquized further: "I'll give myself in to that clerk and ask him for the wrappers," so he went.

"Would you mind giving me the wrappers from that box of soap you bought from me? I'm in for that bicycle."
"Awfully sorry," the clerk made reply, "but I gave them to your man."
"Too bad; can't you get them from him and give them to me?"
"Can't do it. He offered me a dollar for them, which I refused, making him a present of the wrappers; a bargain's a

bargain, and it's too late now, I can't go back on it."

The merchant turned away with some degree of sadness, but hope had not vanished from his eye. There still was a chance to get the pieces of paper, and that chance he would try. Returning to the shop he called his porter into the office.

"You sold a box of—soap; what did you do with the wrappers?"
"I have them, sir."
"Would you mind giving them to me? I particularly want them."

"I want them myself, sir. I sold the box of soap to—, and he gave me the wrappers. In fact I offered him a dollar for them, but he refused the money, and I think they are my property."

"I'm running this business was the merchant's rejoinder, and you must let me have the wrappers. Get them."
"No, I won't get them, for you; I've got a good collection and I wish to add those, which I honestly obtained. I'm trying for the bicycle, which goes to the holder of the largest number."

"Give me the wrappers or leave our employ," was the ultimatum of this merchant to his porter.

"All right sir," was the reply of the sturdy employe, as he turned, not to get the wrappers for "the boss" but to reach his coat, and throw up his job.

The man lost his place but maintained his dignity, and now merchant and exporter are probably both hustling on equal terms for all they are worth to see who will secure the coveted wheel.

Attorney-General Longley's Fort Massey audience of some time ago, who listened to the lecture on "Altruism," when they hear of this incident, will almost to a man sympathize with, and back up the porter.

GRANTED HIM A RESPITE.

The Dalhousie College Reporter Narrowly Escaped a Ducking.

HALIFAX, March 25.—The lot of the student reporter, the reporter who contributes to the press and who attends college, is apt not to be a happy one. This was shown at Dalhousie college this week in the case of a bright young man who employs his leisure moments in giving to the newspapers the college news as he hears it. A few days ago this young man wrote a thrilling account of a midnight escapade in which some college boys had taken down a portion of the college fence at a place where they desired a gate. This gate it appears had been asked for but never granted, so, more in the spirit of fun than anything else, the brave college boys, at the mystic hour of midnight, removed the palings. All the details of the destructive work were given, but the reporter considerably withheld the names of the daring deprecators. He added, by way of ornamentation to the narrative, that the president of the college had taken the matter into consideration and that some students would probably be expelled from their alma mater.

Thus far the student-reporter had his innings. Then the rank and file of the college boys had their "go." When they cast their eyes on that college reporter next day, a couple of hundred stalwart fellows, whose energies had by no means been all diverted in the direction of brain culture, but who had lots of physical strength, made a rush for him.

"To the water tank!" was the cry. "Away with him!"

Then there was a mad rush for the ducking place, the resistance that one poor fellow most concerned could make hardly counting for anything. Just as the place of water was reached some one, more soft-hearted and forgiving than the others, suggested that the young man of journalistic proclivities be given a chance, without recourse to the extreme penalty of college student law.

"Let us postpone the ducking till tomorrow," he suggested, on condition that an amende honorable be made which will be satisfactory to students, college, and professors."

The idea proved contagious, and a respite of 24 hours was granted. The college reporter who was being thus roughly treated, though he did not mention it, might have brought an argument like this to bear on the mob. He might have said: "I know who the fence iconoclasts are; if you push this affair to an extreme I will divulge the names and then where will they land?" He did not say this, but possibly because he did not, and kept the names to himself the students were the more disposed to give him the chance of the "explanation" which was duly forthcoming next day. The enterprising college reporter found that a college mob is a fearful thing, as he had often read that any mob was cruel and dangerous.

SOME CIVIC QUESTIONS

WHAT SOME OFFICIALS RECEIVE THEIR SALARIES FOR.

Queries That Cover a very Broad Scope—The Rate-payers are Taking a Deep Interest in the Approaching Election—Some of the Candidates in the Field.

The rate payers are taking more than ordinary interest in the approaching civic contest as attested by the very systematic canvassing and the large number of candidates for the official positions of alderman and mayor. All the old board will be found in the fight except Mr. Wilson, and there is or will be a new man running in every ward. Among these are J. K. Dunlop, E. N. Sprague, H. Giggery, N. W. Brennan, R. C. Elkin, R. J. Armstrong, A. W. Macrae, and ex-aldermen, Blizard, Seaton, Baxter and Baskin are also in the field so that there is every chance to make a selection.

The canvassers are as numerous as the candidates, and just as perplexing and hard to understand. This is caused by the great interest taken in the fight and the desire of each ward, or a section of each ward, to be represented by their own candidate at the council board. The ladies particularly are in the fight, and they do assuredly ask pointed questions. A well known citizen presents the following poems to PROGRESS.

What work have the tax reduction association done to benefit the city?
What remuneration do the Salvage corps receive?

For what do the civic officials receive a salary? My reason for asking this question is the Recorder, Sheriff and Chief of Police are constantly asking for extra pay.
Is it necessary for a man to swear that he is worth a certain sum (above all just and lawful debts) before he can become a candidate for alderman or mayor?

This first question is one that covers a very broad scope, and may be interpreted in so many different ways that an exact answer is difficult to reach. For instance there are those who on reading it would at once conclude that it was pure sarcasm, and was intended to imply that the Tax Reduction Association had done "no work," little or nothing for the city, only increase the taxes, issue bonds and hold on to office. This may be the reply of some. Others will say the trouble with the T. R. A. is just this. The city in its dealings with it was like the boy who saw a very lively hornet buzzing past and wanted it. When he got it he did not care for it so much—he wanted to put it down again. The T. R. A. claim that they were fully prepared to reduce taxes on every hand but the city while they voted for it did not really want it. If it was decided to curtail expenditures on King street the alderman whose district that was, very speedily learned from his constituents that tax reduction must not begin there. If it was attempted on Paradise Row, the fat went forth at once—don't begin tax reduction here. If Moore street extension was stopped because money was scarce and the taxes had to be curtailed Alderman Millidge was at once seen about it, and told that in that particular place there was not the least necessity for tax reduction. So it was all over the city—the people had tax reduction or really did not want it—so that the association did little or no "work" in the particular line of tax reduction. They have done considerable in the way of tax increase however—but this will have to be discussed later.

The second question—that respecting the Salvage Corps, will also have to be stood over for a time.

As to question No. 3: "For what do the civic officials receive a salary? My reason for asking this question is this, the Recorder, Sheriff, Chief of Police, are constantly asking for extra pay"—we must at once plead ignorance. No man, no court, no tribunal of any kind whatsoever, from the British Privy Council to the Jewish Sanhedrim could tell for what do the civic officials receive a salary. Close observation of the city accounts and of the bill presented, leads us to say that the civic officials receive "increase of pay" for everything except breathing. They have not presented a bill for that yet, but it may at any time be forthcoming. A few weeks since his honor Judge Forbes very learnedly discussed this matter in regard to the Sheriff's bill in connection with the Kelly & Murphy assignment and his honor did not explore all the avenues nor point out all the resources that contribute to the wages of the sheriff. As it is with him so with the recorder only more

so. The work for which he may receive salary from the city is as boundless as the universe, as diverse, as peculiar as the fish of the sea, and as sure as a bear trap. He can send in a bill to the board—can tax costs for preparing that bill, can charge for making out the costs, can ask a fee for this making out and then send a constable to collect that fee, taxing for his charges, and so on infinitum. It really depends on the magnanimity of the man, that the city has any funds left at all after his charges are paid. Were it any other than the present incumbent one would not be responsible for a dollar being left in the treasury. As to the chief of police—he can charge what he pleases but the council consider that their chief aim in life is to dispute his bills and keep him down to shoal water all the time. There seems to be a peculiar idea floating around the civic boat that the chief of police can do the best work when his staff of men is reduced; when they are poorly paid and have to do double duty. When the chief presents a bill as he has to do for extra work, or pay it out of his own pocket (as he very often does) every alderman adjusts his glasses, shakes his head sadly, and says within himself—"There is something in that; I must watch it." This he proceeds to do—all of them proceed to do so; and the bill is cut down, the money voted being inadequate to the work required and the police service thus greatly hampered. Some bills are not to be questioned but police accounts must be very closely scrutinized. This is the rule, not because the chief is not respected, but because it has become the fashion and every man has to do it—the people decide and desire.

As to the fourth question we will beg the pardon of our questioner and at another time attempt to fathom the mysteries it covers. Civic questions have never been understood, when you think you have delved to the very bottom they rise before you again in newness of life and activity till you just hang your head in shame, and declare—"This is a mystery. Our friend is evidently about to cast his first ballot—when he becomes older in civic matters he will reach the conclusion most people have—just to vote blindly and be glad they are doing as well as they are.

SOME ELABORATE MILLINERY.

H. G. Marr Brings Some Elegant Work to St. John.

Mr. H. G. Marr's Union street millinery store presented a very busy scene during the last few days, unusually elaborately preparations being made for his spring millinery opening which takes place next week. Mr. Marr fully expected to be in larger quarters for this event but circumstances have prevented his removal before the first of May.

Though the career of this establishment has been brief, its success has been truly phenomenal, crowds daily besieging the store in search of first class work at very low prices. Mr. Marr has done a splendid business, in his line since coming to St. John and he hopes to increase it materially this spring.

His showrooms are resplendent with bright flowers, and gay colored ribbons filmy chiffons, feathers and ornaments at wonderfully cheap prices. His stock of untrimmed hats, all in latest styles is very large, and it might almost be said that they are being sacrificed in order to clear before the spring moving begins. Dainty creations fresh from the hands of leading milliners of London, Paris, New York, and Toronto will be offered to St. John ladies next week, and those in search of something smart and up to date, at popular prices, will be repaid by a visit to Mr. Marr's establishment where everything in the way of good stylish millinery will be found at the very lowest prices.

POTILLOS IN NOVA SCOTIA.

Civic and Provincial Candidates are at Work in Halifax.

HALIFAX, March 25.—It used to be said that there was more politics to the square inch in Nova Scotia than anywhere else in the world. For some years past there has been strong reason to doubt the truth of this remark. Whether or no, the people of Halifax will have politics enough for the next four weeks to last them for a long time to come. We are in the thralls of provincial and civic elections. Canvassers are out for aldermen, for the mayorality, and we have entered on a provincial election campaign. The local elections will take place on April 20th, and a week later will come the annual civic election in which the chances are there will be some hot contests. If there is any significance in the meeting held in the Charles Street Methodist Church on Monday evening there will be a chance for the so-called temperance people to show how strong they are. The federal election, for the vacant seat in Colchester County is the same date as the local elections.