

# PROGRESS.

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## WHO WEREN'T INVITED.

People Who Have Been Slighted When Invitations Were Sent for the Ball.

Something happened last Monday. The governor of the province gave a reception and a ball in honor of the visiting admiral and the officers of the warships.

When the announcement was made that such was the intention there was an air of unbelief that was not wholly complimentary but inquiry revealed the fact that the governor did intend to entertain in the city of St. John.

Invitations by the hundreds; Fabaw; they were not in it. The only term connected with the number was a thousand, and as a matter of fact 1265 were issued.

Would any one think with the limited social circle about us that some could be left out when such a number were invited? Certainly not, and yet, when Saturday arrived and some of those who might fairly expect invitation cards did not receive them there was an air of wonderment at the delay—for, of course, it was only delay.

The young man with such an elegant air and courtly moustache, even if he did come from another city, could not be so rude as to omit their names. Monday would surely bring the coveted card. The first working day of the week arrived in due season and the postmen went their rounds as usual. But the cards did not come. About this time some of the officials began to think that there was some studied insult intended. Of course, had an invitation been mailed on Saturday and received on Monday it might have been accepted, but to get one sent on Monday—never.

His worship the mayor became nervous. He had his and had the military members of the city board. Col. Armstrong and Captain Baxter were the proud recipients of an invite. Of course Aide-de-camp White had one and Chairman Robinson of the treasury board also wore a smile of acceptance. This has been accounted for by the belief that His Honor has a particular respect for finances and the city's representative in this respect could not be ignored. The better half of Ald. Macrae came from Fredericton and it was freely said that was the only reason he was honored.

Poor Ald. McMullin!—he heard that Warden McGoldrick had a "bid" and he could not think out why a catholic should be treated better than he—a rigid protestant—and he such a good liberal too, and in the same way selling business as His Honor.

What then were the feelings of Chairman Christie and Seaton or where was the pride of Deputy Mayor Maxwell, who it was rumored has been one of the committee to wait upon the governor and suggest what a nice thing it would be for him to do the grand? And Ald. Colwell too—but why say more?

The excitement grew apace and it was not allayed any when the fact became known that at a dinner given the previous Saturday the port collector, the high sheriff and a member of parliament had not been asked to meet the gentlemen who had honored St. John with their presence.

One member of the government became alarmed at the condition of affairs. What political effect this would have was a problem and so he strove to straighten matters out. But Dignity, with a very large D, stepped in and refused the eleventh hour proposal to make amends.

If South end maids and matrons wept over the idiosyncrasy of private secretaries and aides-de-camp the North end fair ones did not. There was honest indignation there. Only two invitations to the whole of the ancient town of Portland that had rendered its independence to join forces with the plebeian south and west! Why, the insult was too much. Resentment deep and real was felt and vengeance was what they were after.

But how did it all happen? How was it that so many people were not asked to meet these distinguished people? Who was to blame? Nobody seems to know yet but Secretary Barker remarked that he had made up the list from the private list of one society lady and that the invitation books of some clubs and assemblies had done duty!

Those however who saw the acceptances, say that there were many requests for invitations mixed up with them and that these ran into the hundreds. Some of the acceptances were funny enough to print, but, as there is no desire for a private funeral around this office at present the inclination is resisted.

The funny stories told about the affair would fill a page. People will laugh over them for weeks and yet all agree that the rooms never looked better, that the collation was good enough for New York and that the governor and his lady were most courteous and genial.

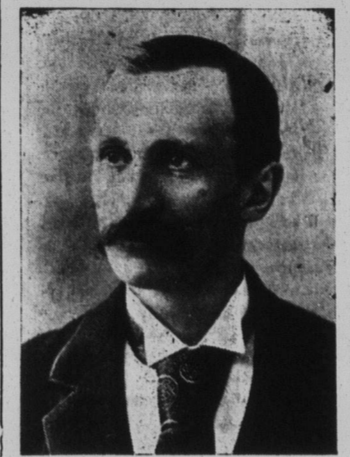
On looking over the daily papers one runs across some very funny incidents, some of which, if properly handled, would make a local "Mr. Dooley" famous in the eyes of the literary world. One such local appeared in a daily this week. It ran as follows:

"Mr. J. D. Brokenshire of Halifax, is at the Charlotte House. His visit here is to look for his wife, who he says left Halifax in company with another man. Mr. Brokenshire is convinced they are or have been in the city and wants his wife to call on him."

Up-to-date it has not been ascertained whether Mr. Brokenshire discovered his erring spouse. She is asked to call upon him if she is still in a reverent mood. The possibilities are that she call has not been made. The gentleman in quest of his wandering wife should invoke the assistance of the St. John day and night detective bureau; if he has not already done so he does not know what he is missing. They can discover any-

thing from a truant school boy to a hole-in-the-wall bar-room, that is always supposing that some one has given them a pointer as to the location of the person or object they are after. That these deductions are founded on well grounded facts needs no other evidence than that of the late burglaries on Douglas Avenue. The vigilant police have not, as yet, brought to light any of the perpetrators of these daring crimes, but then, nobody has told them who committed said burglaries.

Chief Commissioner La Billois.



CHIEF COMMISSIONER LA BILLOIS.

Above is a splendid portrait of Hon. Mr. La Billois the present chief commissioner of public works of the province of New Brunswick.

Mr. La Billois has been in the legislature of the province for a long time and for many years occupied the position of a member of the government without office.

The agricultural interests in the province pointing to the necessity for a department to look after that important industry found a gentleman in Mr. La Billois who was well able to give it intelligent attention. In the recent re-arrangement of the government the more important portfolio of commissioner for public works has fallen to his lot that he will conduct the affairs of this important department with distinction and energy is not to be doubted.

## BREEZY DAY IN COURT.

Dr. Earle and Judge Forbes Disagree Upon the Propriety, of a Question.

Tuesday morning; all kinds of things were said, and some strange things happened.

The trial case of Mr. McDuffee vs. Knodell was on. Mr. W. B. Wallace and Mr. G. H. Belyea are counsel for the plaintiff, and H. H. Pickett and Mr. A. O. Earle, Q. C. for the defence. His Honor Judge Forbes was presiding. The special incident to which PROGRESS refers hinges on an election personation which was brought up during the examination of witness Geo. A. Knodell.

Mr. Wallace made the query "if the son of Mr. Knodell who was present at a certain conversation was not the same son who personated at the last election?" Objection was made to this leading question and Mr. Knodell very decidedly refused to answer. This is the point where the judge got in his fine work. He ruled that the question was in order and that the witness "must" answer it.

Lawyer Earle made a vehement kick and protested in divers ways that the question was one which had nothing to do with the case, that there was not the slightest need of such a question, no authority to bear out such a ruling, etc., etc. That air which was already tinged with verbose legal terms began to assume a corcelean hue.

It was a case for a legal tug-of-war, Judge Forbes from the bench, Mr. Wallace at the bar, insisting that the question should be answered, Mr. Earle was just as forceful in his arguments and emphatically argued that Mr. Knodell should not answer.

Act No. 2 in this domestic drama introduced Judge Forbes in the act of ordering Lawyer Earle to sit down. The Judges' request or demand was then met by a decided refusal on the part of the wrathful disciple of Blackstone. The constable of the court at the command of the judge made his appearance on the scene at this point, said constable received the judge's order to arrest the irrepressible lawyer. The climax and last scene in Act No. 2 was the indignat attitude of Lawyer Earle when he discarded his gown and in language forensic and forceful, with fire in his eyes and features all ablaze he stated that it he should be committed, he would withdraw from the case, he did so with all the wrath of a pent up mind.

Much comment has been caused in local legal circles by this court incident. Citizens of St. John are used to justice in every form, we have had English justice, Irish justice and justice from away back; but this incident seems to have brought into play a new element in matters affecting court decisions. PROGRESS will not pretend to be able to decide which is wrong, judge or jurist, but one thing it does know is that our courts are looked upon, in a great many instances, as realms where justice is not always dispensed with that spirit of broadness and fair play, which one would imagine to be synonymous with British rule.

St. John's Clever Equine: "Barney," the horse owned by the American Express Company is a familiar and well known figure to all on Newspaper Row, as well as to many others in different parts of the city. Barney's acquaintance is widespread, and his fame has gone abroad for he has been in the present position a long time, and none can be found who stuck closer to business or performed their duties with greater persistency than has he. He is over twenty years old, and has been driven by the genial Dave Belyea in rain or shine, thirteen years, during which time the sagacious animal has, according to his veteran driver, gotten fully into the inside track of affairs, and could almost carry on the business himself. He has never been known to forget a familiar stopping place, showing particular craftiness, where the train is behind hand by his precise pace, or lively career when she is on time. Working from six in the morning till six at night in his regular routine Barney makes a living model of a sturdy, business-like horse-hood, for weaker minded equines to copy. May he long live to carry on his faithful work and receive the familiar pats and salutations of the friendly passer-by.

## Their Pride in Their Party.

Old Time Liberals of Kings County Say What They Think About the Present Administration of Affairs.

The presentation of an address is usually a tedious affair and one that public men as a rule, endeavor to avoid but on this, the eve of a political campaign, and at the conclusion of four years of Liberal government, the people and the politicians may be excused if they indulge in such methods of expression. The address to Minister of Railways Blair at Sussex Thursday evening was largely political, and yet personal enough to be gratifying to him as showing the opinion of the majority of the people of Kings County (through which the Intercolonial railway runs) upon his management of that branch of the country's service. PROGRESS reprints it as a fair expression of what the people think of Liberal rule.

"To the Honorable Andrew G. Blair, Q. C., LL. D., M. P., minister of railways and canals:

"Sir.—In welcoming you to the county of Kings we desire to take the opportunity of testifying our high appreciation of the distinguished and signal services you have rendered to your country in the performance of your public duties. We have not failed to observe with pride that to your conspicuous efforts is to be attributed much of the marvellous progress in material well being and national developments that have been achieved in Canada under the present administration. The past four years in the life of this country have been memorable by events that will be forever illustrious in history by reason of their enduring and elevating effect upon the national spirit and consciousness of the Christian people. The sense of national unity that has sprung up among us, the pride of race that has been awakened in us, the grandeur of the imperial destiny that has been opened before us, constitute for Canada an imperishable source of strength. These things have lit up the imagination and stirred the patriotic impulses of the people, they have infused emotion and courage into our national life, they have inspired enlarged views in the political habits of thought, they have dispelled unworthy and sectarian prejudices, they have created wholesome influences in moulding sound opinion upon public affairs. A course of policy which has effected these striking and invaluable results cannot be too favorably spoken of and should be kept in grateful remembrance. We believe we are stating the wise and accepted opinion of Canada and the ungrudging testimony of the empire that the preferential tariff

inaugurated by the government in favor of the motherland in addition to being a substantial and practical measure for the promotion of trade between the motherland and ourselves has been of one of the most effective means of creating the splendid imperial spirit vibrating in every portion of the empire today of illustrating to the world how real and responsive is the union of all the communities within the circle of the empire, and of inspiring our people to dedicate the valor of their sons to the maintenance of British rule in South Africa.

"The phenomenal progress in material advancement made by Canada under Liberal rule is most gratifying to persons desirous of seeing the prosperity of the country placed upon a firm and ample basis. We believe that the increase in the trade of the country since the accession of the Liberal party to power is to be directly attributed to the wisdom of the reforms in the fiscal policy adopted by the government.

"Recognizing that the unparalleled prosperity being enjoyed by Canada is in no small measure due to our improved trade relations with the United Kingdom, arising from the preferential tariff we note with pleasure that the government has expressed its intention to steadfastly maintain this feature of its policy. The large and growing market in the United Kingdom for Canadian agricultural products is of the highest value to Canadian farmers and we are appreciative of the course of action pursued by the government in bringing the trade relations between the two countries closer together. The impetus experienced by the commercial and industrial interests of the country owing to many important modifications of

the tariff effected by the government has necessarily been of marked advantage to agriculture.

"We have been most favorably impressed with the vigor of management, brilliant executive gifts and patriotic and constructive policy displayed by yourself in administering the government railway and canal system of Canada. The extension of the Intercolonial railway to Montreal has been immediately attended with profitable results, and has been the means of enabling you to employ the railway as a great artery for carrying the trade of Canada through the port of St. John. An enterprise of such magnitude cannot fail to be of the utmost consequence to the city of St. John and the neighboring counties. We believe that you should be encouraged and supported in this great undertaking by the patriotic citizens of the province, and that the faith you entertain in its practicability should be endorsed by all citizens anxious to witness the realization of St. John of its just ambition and natural destiny to be a chief commercial gateway for Canada. As minister of railways and canals you will have a paramount influence upon the pressing question whether the trade of Canada is to be carried on through Canadian ports, and we have no doubt that the disinterested and patriotic course you have uniformly pursued in dealing with public and national interests will also mark your action in relation to this very important matter.

"In conclusion we beg to assure you of our pride in the Liberal party and our unwavering attachment to principles that have been vindicated by your distinguished colleagues and yourself with so much advantage to the country and honor to this people."

## PROGRESS

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