

PROGRESS.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, JULY 14, 1888.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

EVENINGS OF ORATORIO, AND A MATINEE OF MORE POPULAR MUSIC.

Meritorious Productions of "Judas Maccabaeus" and "The Seasons," which were not patronized as they should have been—How the Numbers Were Sung.

Orchestra, "Hungarian Rhapsodie, No. 2".....List
Listemann Sextette.
Song, "The Two Grenadiers".....Schumann
Sig. Ronconi.
Flute Solo, "Concert".....Demerseniann
E. M. Heindl.
Orchestra, (a) "Cazconette".....Gouldard
(b) "Turkish March".....Beethoven
Listemann Sextette.
Violin Solo, "Slavonic Fantasia".....Vieuxtemps
Herr Listemann.
Song, "The Blind Girl's Song".....Ponchielli
Miss G. Bowen.
Concerto.....Weber
Miss Bowen and Orchestra.
Cello Solo, "Andante".....Nardini
Herr Adolf Sailer.
Duet.....Donizetti
Miss G. Bowen and Sig. Ronconi.
Overture, "Masaniello".....Auber
Listemann Sextette.

Such a feast of orchestral music has rarely been presented to a St. John audience as that given at this matinee. Not content with gratifying the hearers with their own concerted pieces, the Listemann sextette accompanied the song and duet. The only number they did not play was Herr Sailer's cello solo (a capital performance), which was accompanied by the piano, played by one of the sextette.

Herr Listemann shows what a really good musician he is, not only by his splendid playing, but also by the fact that he always seems to gather round him men of talent, who are perfectly in sympathy with himself.

The most noticeable numbers were undoubtedly No. 1, "Hungarian Rhapsodie No. 2," by Liszt, and No. 4, (b) "Turkish March," Beethoven, the first being specially fine in power and tone, and the latter being played with a beautiful expression of crescendo and diminuendo. Of Herren Listemann and Heindl, it is simply necessary to say that they have neither of them gone back in their art, but rather, if it were possible, advanced. Such fine players will always meet with an enthusiastic reception wherever they appear, and though St. John audiences may sometimes not be large, yet they will make up for the lack of numbers by the heartiness of their applause, as on Tuesday last.

Miss Bowen showed a distinct advance by her playing of the Weber Concerto, this being clearly the best performance this talented young lady has given in this city. Miss G. Bowen (Signor Ronconi's pupil) made her debut, singing "The Blind Girl's Song," and also a duet with the signor. This young lady gives promise of a fine mezzo-soprano voice, when it has fully developed.

Signor Ronconi's fine voice appeared to advantage in Schumann's "The Two Grenadiers," and he seemed fairly at home with the German words.

Steady and patient work must tell, and this was amply proven when the Oratorio society gave the most complete performance, on Tuesday evening, that it has as yet given.

Mr. Gubb never had his chorus in better control and they, the chorus, never put more light and shade in their singing or answered the controlling beat of the baton in a better manner. The parts were well balanced in tone, though the six tenors were heavily handicapped as to numbers. They answered bravely, however, throughout the evening, but it must have been a heavy tax on them to sing against such a great array of basses. Mr. Gubb has reason to be proud of the work done by the chorus and he can also feel proud of the great strides that the society has made under his able tuition and guidance. The best chorus was decidedly, "Hear us, O Lord," at the end of the first part, being given throughout with hardly a fault. The others most worthy of mention were, "We Never will Bow Down," "See the Conquering Hero Comes" and the last, "Sing unto God."

As to the soloists, the society has never presented a stronger array of talent.

Mrs. Houston-West sang all her numbers beautifully, but was specially successful in "From Mighty Kings" and "Wise Men Flatter May Deceive You." This lady's charming voice may not have all the beauty and freshness of youth, but the tone is full and not impaired and her execution is very perfect in every way.

more spontaneous and hearty applause than greeted this gentleman on the conclusion of the favorite number in this oratorio.

Rev. J. M. Davenport sang all his numbers with that careful execution and finish for which he is noted and merited the hearty applause he received. He was at his best in "So Rapid Thy Course Is" and "Father of Heaven."

The great range of Signor Ronconi's powerful voice was well adapted for the allotted music, his best number being "The Lord Worketh Wonders."

Of the accompaniments, when it is said that Miss Bowen was at the piano, Mr. Morley at the organ and the Listemann sextette as orchestra, nothing more need be said. All did their parts admirably, tending to enhance the perfect success of the whole performance. There was but one thing to mar the evening's enjoyment and that was—empty seats.

The second concert, Wednesday evening, was the performance of Haydn's *Seasons*, parts I. and II. Taken as a whole, the work was given in an excellent manner, but was not so perfect as the *Judas Maccabaeus*. There was a lack of attack in the chorus, and the soloists all did their work finely, yet the music seemed scarcely to suit them so well as on the previous evening.

The best chorus was "Hark! the Deep Tremendous Voice," in the second part, which gave the singers full opportunity to show power and tone. Mr. Gubb had his chorus again well in hand, though there was not quite such a rapid response as was so apparent previously.

Mrs. West again sang her music beautifully, her best number being the recitation, "O Welcome Now," and the aria, "Oh, How Welcome to the Senses."

Mr. Parker naturally held his audience during the whole time he sang, and though he did not have the same occasion for exhibiting his magnificent vocal powers, his efforts were all triumphs, especially in "Distressful Nature Fainting Sinks."

Signor Ronconi, for whom an apology was made on account of cold and hoarseness, after singing a few bars seemed to recover his voice, and sang even better than on the previous evening.

LOCKED IN THE SHOP.

Twenty Thousand Dollars of St. John Money.

No Person Responsible to the Investors for It—They Cannot Get Security, Yet They Continue to Play With the Tiger—Drive It Out of Town.

About \$20,000 of St. John money locked up in the "bucket shop!"

Twenty thousand dollars in the hands of an irresponsible party who, if he wishes, can close up shop tomorrow and leave its owners in the lurch, with nothing but worthless slips of paper to show for their "investments!"

The story of the "bucket shop," published in last week's PROGRESS, caused quite a sensation among the local dealers, who are anxious to get out of the clutches of the concern before any exposure takes place. They are not quite certain, either, whether the dealers do not come under the provisions of the new law.

But PROGRESS has been asked to state how the dealing is carried on in the "bucket shop" and will try to answer the question as best it can.

It may be stated, first, that the system has been changed recently to avoid the new law passed at the last session of the dominion house. The concern on King street has been run by Davidson, Ledden & Black, Davidson & Ledden Bros., Ledden Bros., Correspondent of Ledden Bros.

It is under the latter name that orders are being received at the present time and the result of the change is that all deals, instead of being made by Ledden Bros., are made through them and they are in no degree responsible.

But to explain how the "investments" are made: A person who wishes to patronize the shop fills out an order requesting the "correspondent" to buy or sell at least 20 shares of a certain stock, handing in with it \$20, which margins the stock three-quarters of a point, the other quarter being the commission of the shop, viz., you pay \$5 for the privilege of investing \$20.

THE PRESS OF HALIFAX

AND THE MEN ENGAGED IN mouldING OPINION

In Nova Scotia—Who They Are and Some Idea of Their Work—A Good Lot of Fellows Engaged in Newspaper Work—Halifax Papers.

HALIFAX, N. S., July 12.—Like their brethren of St. John, the Halifax journalists are a modest, unassuming lot of young men. They take great pleasure in writing the history or good work of any prominent man in the law, medicine or theology, but when one of their own number makes a hit—by a brilliant stroke gives to the public a clear view of a perplexing question, or throws out a suggestion that will become of benefit to the country—the Halifax journalist does not think it his duty to tell the public the name of the benefactor. Therefore, although he moulds the opinions of the people, the newspaper man personally is known by very few.

It will be my endeavor to give PROGRESS readers a quiet introduction to some of the really able men who occupy positions on the Halifax press. But first let me call your attention to the fact that nearly every shining light in Acadian history was at one time or another a "newspaper man." Joseph Howe, the champion statesman, served an apprenticeship at printing, rose to be editor and owner of one of the best papers we ever had, and in the midst of public duties found time to write for the *Nova Scotian*. Hon. William Annand came to Halifax from Musquodoboit to assist Howe in the newspaper business, and afterwards worked hand and hand with him in parliament and in the sanctuary. Hon. W. S. Fielding, the present provincial secretary, is an old reporter and editor; Judge Weatherly, Hon. J. W. Longley, Hon. S. H. Holmes, Postmaster Blackadar, and a number of others prominent in nearly every walk of life, have graduated from the editorial office of one of the Halifax dailies.

Those who hold the reins and fight the battle of the present day, have not yet arisen to any great eminence, but they are all young men, and many have promising futures. The senior of local journalists is Mr. J. J. Stewart, of the *Herald*. Mr. Stewart is not more than 48 years of age, and besides being political editor, he is president and controlling stockholder of the leading government organ in the province. Mr. Stewart is a lawyer, at one time partner of the present deputy minister of justice. He is very little known in the city, but his opinions are the key note for Toryism throughout the country. He is an enthusiastic Nova Scotian, takes a great interest in the history and literature of our province, and is at present engaged in making a collection of books, stamps, coins, relics, etc., relating to local history. His two papers on "The History of the Press in Nova Scotia" read before the Historical society, last winter, are the only published record of that interesting portion of our history.

Mr. Henry D. Blackadar, senior member of the firm of Blackadar Bros., is the political editor of the *Recorder*. He is a son of the late Hugh Blackadar and has spent his whole life in the office of the *Recorder* and, if rumor speaks correctly, that time has not been thrown away. Mr. Blackadar is a well known local politician and there are very few who take a greater interest in civic affairs. He was for a term chairman of the school board and has had a standing invitation for a number of years past for aldermanic honors from one of the largest wards in the city. In the political department of the *Recorder* he has the assistance of Mr. Charles P. McLennan, a Dalhousie student and a young man who is making quite a name for himself in local newspaperdom.

The political editor of the *Morning Chronicle* is not officially known, but general opinion gives the attorney-general, Hon. J. W. Longley, credit for the majority of the "leaders" and we think public opinion is not very far wrong. Mr. Longley is too well known to need any sketch in this article. Suffice it to say that he is a bright, forcible writer, a conscientious thinker and one of the best speakers in the house of assembly. His championship of commercial union has made his name and opinions known throughout America.

The *Echo*—the new evening venture—claims to be independent. Its editor is not announced, either, but I think Mr. J. M. Geldert, jr., the efficient reporter of the house of assembly, writes the most of the crisp little editorial paragraphs that are one of the features of the *Echo*. Mr. Geldert is a lawyer, a stenographer, amateur photographer, musician and a first-class writer.

The local editors are much better known than the political editors. William Dennis of the *Herald* is the "hustler" in these parts. He has a long and brilliant record as reporter on the *Herald* and *Winnipeg Times*, is an enthusiastic interviewer, agriculturist, and the father of the Maritime Press association, for it is he who deserves

UNDER WAY AT LAST!

A Meeting of Those Interested in Building the New Opera House.

By announcement in the advertising columns of this paper, all persons interested in the plan for an opera house are requested to meet at the warehouses of President A. O. Skinner, next Thursday evening.

PROGRESS has no doubt that the response to this call will be hearty and unanimous. The business before the meeting, in the opinion of some of the gentlemen most deeply interested, is to re-organize the directors.

There is no question that this should be done. That body ought to be composed of men who would be willing to serve as workers, rather than figureheads.

The new directors should organize at once, and take steps to complete the canvas for subscriptions. Until all the stock has been taken, they should meet twice a week. On these occasions, let them go through the directory from A to Z, and provide that every citizen shall be solicited for a subscription by that director who can best reach him.

Then a call should be made for a percentage of the stock subscribed, contracts should be let and the work of construction—on the Dockrite site, of course—should be begun immediately. Let the people see that the opera house is going forward, and they will come to the aid of the plan. A foot of bricks will go further than a mile of arguments.

If Thursday night's meeting accomplishes as much as it should, and as PROGRESS believes it will, the opera house will be open for business next winter.

IT LOOKS LIKE A JOB.

Many Portland people have doubtless never heard of, or if they have heard of it have overlooked, the fact that Ald. Murphy is entitled to the credit of saddling them with an unnecessary expenditure.

That gentleman's little scheme was to have Mr. Jos. Sullivan appointed to superintend the building of the new retaining walls—and he succeeded. Mr. Sullivan will receive a salary of \$2 a day while the work is in progress. It is interesting to note in this connection that roadmaster Brown was understood to be perfectly able and willing to oversee the work himself as roadmaster Dunlap always did; and as he drew the plans for the wall he ought to be capable to do it.

THE CREDIT FOR FORMULATING THE SCHEME THAT GAVE US A FLOURISHING SOCIETY REPRESENTING THE JOURNALISTS OF THE THREE LOWER PROVINCES.

William D. F. Smith of the *Recorder* is also one of the old hands. Smith is a clever cartoonist, a racy descriptive writer and a "funny man" of the *Recorder*. Many credit him with that great parody, "The Quercetown Council," but I know better. "Twas one much younger and very little known"—but don't say I told you.

James McQuinn of the *Chronicle* handles the local department of the leading Liberal journal with good effect. McQuinn is known as "Old Reliable" and at present divides his time between the office of the *Chronicle* and a snug little farm at Shubenacadie.

William Dunn, son of the manager of the *Chronicle*, has made a great success of his management of the *Echo*. Although only a few months old, this little paper is one of the brightest and best written of the five dailies that compete for public patronage in Halifax.

Hiram Wier, of the *Mail*, is the local authority on theatricals, and through his knowledge in this particular line of journalistic work is enabled to give the public the best dramatic criticism published. He is also said to be "Felix," a writer of society chat and gossip for the *Mail*.

James W. Power, son of Hon. M. J. Power, and sporting editor of the *Recorder*, is perhaps as well known in St. John as in Halifax. Jim is a great authority on horse and it was through his single-handed effort that Halifax now divides her horse races between running and trotting instead of all running, as it was a few years ago. Jim is an enthusiastic lover of sport, and has received many compliments from the New Brunswick papers for his admirable and accurate reports of interprovincial sporting events.

The rest of the boys all deserve particular mention, but I think I have already infringed too far. W. Bowes, of the *Chronicle*, belongs to Moncton and was at one time on a St. John daily. Jack Baxter and Harry Harvey, the marine editors of the *Chronicle* and *Herald* respectively, are two hard-working men, who succeed in using up two or three columns nearly every issue. James McGowan looks after the sporting for the *Echo*, and J. Watson Fraser for the *Mail*. William Seabrooke does court and general reporting for the *Herald* and Fred Monaghan occupies a like position on the *Chronicle*. So much for the dailies. At another time I may endeavor to tell you something about the weeklies and those who edit them.

EMMOUTH ST. S. S. PICNIC AT WATTERS' LANDING, TUESDAY JULY 24, WILL BE THE BEST OF THE SEASON.

The old people and the young people of Brussels Street Baptist church will emigrate for one day this week to Watters' landing and forget the city and enjoy the country. May Tuesday be a fine day! Everybody should go to this the prettiest and most convenient spot on the river and help each other have a good time. The announcement elsewhere gives every information and commodions, fleet boats and cheap tickets should require no other inducement to draw a grand crowd.

St. John Presbyterian church Sunday-school will hold its annual picnic, this year, on the beautiful grounds of Mr. J. D. M. Keator, at Nauwigewauk, Tuesday, the 17th. The excursion is in charge of an efficient committee, who have arranged a rare programme of sports, for which suitable prizes will be offered. A refreshment table will be under the supervision of the ladies of the church. Many other attractions will be provided, which will make this one of the best Sunday-school picnics of the season.

One Hundred and Fifteen Pupils.

Since the professors of the Berlitz school have opened their classes in New Brunswick, 115 persons have joined them and the number is increasing every week. The exhibition, Thursday in the Victoria school building, went off splendidly, and was a great boom for the Berlitz method.

Open to the Public.

That enterprising firm, Bell & Higgins, will open its factory doors every afternoon next week and allow the people to see how cigars are made and to examine the stock which makes them. Bell & Higgins advertise certain things, and the people can see for themselves if their factory is what they say it is.

Forepaugh Coming!

It is quite probable that Forepaugh's circus will show in this city this summer. Its management are arranging for the advertising boards in town and country, and that is a pretty sure indication that St. John is on the route of the great show.

Bargains in Blank Books, all kinds, at McArthur's Book Store, 80 King St.

The "Sardine" Trust May Fail.

There is a deadlock between the sardine fishermen of the islands and the factory owners at Eastport. The latter have formed a trust to pay no more than \$5 a hoghead of sardines, whereas formerly the price has ranged from \$2 to \$60. The fishermen refuse to accept these terms and will not work the weirs, greatly to the embarrassment of the factories. The odds are strongly in favor of the fishermen if they have the backbone enough to hold the strike, but it is believed they will do so as they have been very prosperous for a few years and are "well fixed."

McAlpine's Directory.

McAlpine's Directory for 1888-89 has just been received by PROGRESS. It is the only directory of St. John has, and will, of course, be read by every one who needs such a book. But many absurd and laughable errors render the book less valuable than it might be. Mr. McAlpine, no doubt, is diligent and correct, but in some of the more serious possible ways the errors have been themselves conspicuous.

Wheelbarrows, Poles, Hooks, Lines, Concertinas, Enclosure, Blank and Memo. Books, etc., etc., at the Union Streets, and Princess Streets.

& Daly

Goods, and Double Widths, Newest

5c. per pair.

and Cream, is very extensive in the City.

& DALY,

171 Union Street,

PICNIC.

Watters' Landing,

WEDNESDAY, the 10th instant,

BASE BALL.

TO BECOME A PLAYER,

History of Explanation of the Game

ARTHUR L. HARRISON'S,

Waters and Fish.

Providence River do;

Dispensing of Prescriptions.

Attention is Given to

Standardized Strength used.

M. B. MOVEY,

Dispensing Chemist, 186 Union Street.