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last column.

VOL. II., NO. 98.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1890.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

SOME SHARP PRACTICE.

HAPPENINGS IN THE LIVES OF
ENTERPRISING CITIZENS.

Legal Tricks Not Hard to Learn—Fate Gleaned
Entrusted to Their Care Will Be Plucked
With Promptitude and Despatch—A Merchant
Who Can Give Pointers.

"I think that in justice to the honest lawyers, you ought to publish the name of the attorney who absorbed the poor widow's money," said a member of the profession to PROGRESS, the other day. "It is not fair that the innocent should be confounded with the guilty."

In reply to this PROGRESS has to say that while it is true a number of attorneys have been spotted as the right man in this case, it is of opinion that not one honest lawyer has been suspected.

If certain men have been suspected without cause, it is for them to ask the question whether the general tenor of their professional lives justifies the suspicion that they would do such a thing, if they had a chance. Do the people who point to them simply judge them on general principles, though in ignorance of the facts of this particular case? It is for the lawyers themselves to answer this question.

Some of the lawyers who have not been objects of suspicion have grown reminiscent since the story was published. In a group of men chatting the other day, one of them pointed to an attorney who was skipping blithely along the street and said:

"I believe Leech is the man referred to by PROGRESS. It sounds just like a case of his here in the settlement of an estate in which out of several hundred dollars' worth of assets the widow's share amounted to just \$13."

"There was another St. John lawyer," it was remarked, "who was entrusted with \$125 worth of bills to collect. He collected them to the extent of \$96, and in making his returns brought his client 65 cents in debt to him. Thus the man was 65 cents out of pocket by the transaction."

"Perhaps he is the man, but I took it to be Sharkin. Don't you remember that case in which he collared the money entrusted to him to pay off a mortgage, and there came very near being trouble about it?"

"I wouldn't put it past Shysterman," observed another. "I heard of a case in which a piece of land was put up at auction and withdrawn. Shysterman was the solicitor. Immediately afterward, a young man who was interested in the property made a word of mouth bargain with Shysterman to give \$400 for it. Shysterman stipulating that the money must be paid before 12 o'clock that day. The young man soon found a person who was willing to buy the property from him for \$500, and sent him to Shysterman's office to look at the deed. Shysterman, finding out what was up, kept the intending purchaser in his inner office until noon had passed, the young man waiting in the outer office because Shysterman was "engaged." When noon passed without payment being made, Shysterman's conscience permitted him to make the sale himself and secure the \$100 for which the young man had worked so hard in vain."

"A man is never sure of land until he has a deed of it in his hand," remarked another of the group, "and that is where the lawyer comes in handy sometimes. Why, there was a case before the courts, which never came to trial, where a St. John man sold a piece of land in the country over and over again, simply because the men to whom he sold it never could show any deed from him. It happened this way: 'About 20 years ago, the St. John man, I will call him Wrencher, sold 200 acres of land up river to a man by the name of Wrongway who paid him for it, but received no deed. Wrongway supposed that it was all right and that Wrencher was out of the transaction forever."

"Some time afterwards Wrongway was considerably surprised to find that Wrencher had sold 100 acres, or half of the lot, to a man who has held it ever since. Wrongway had no deed to show and did not want to go to law, so he let the matter rest, contenting himself with the 100 acres which remained."

"This made two sales of the land by Wrencher."

"Wrongway subsequently sold his 100 to a man named Brown, who gave him a note for \$600, while Wrongway gave him a bond for a deed."

"Brown had been in possession a couple of years, when Wrencher again turned up, claiming that he owned the land. Brown believed him, and purchased from him for \$400, paying \$250 in cash on account."

"This made three sales of the land by Wrencher."

"Several years passed, Brown owing, as he supposed, a balance of \$150, when one day Wrencher sent him word that, 'rather than have any trouble,' he would give him a trifle to leave the land, or he would let him stay on it at a rental of \$24 a year. He would not sell it to him unless he gave him \$400 more, in addition to the \$250 already paid. Brown had no deed,

but as he had already bought the land once from Wrongway and once from Wrencher, he did not feel that he could afford to pay out \$400 more, but was willing to be led to the tune of \$200."

"While affairs were in this unsettled state, one Wakeup appeared on the scene as an intending purchaser and offered Wrencher \$300 for the land. Wrencher wanted more, but a bargain was finally struck for \$320."

"This made the fourth sale of the land by Wrencher."

"Wrencher said he did not want the money but the interest. Wakeup had at that time about \$500 which he had entrusted to Wrencher for safe keeping. No deed was executed, though one was drawn out and not signed. Subsequently Wakeup paid Wrencher \$250 on account of the land, leaving, as he supposed, about \$250 due, Wrencher still holding Wakeup's \$500 for safe-keeping. When Wakeup subsequently asked for the deed, Wrencher said something about the interest, whereupon Wakeup spoke of the money of his which Wrencher held and the subject was dropped."

"Not long after this Brown, who was occupying the land under Wakeup's supposed title, was sued by Wrencher, who told him that the land had never been sold to Wakeup."

"Some months later Wakeup met Wrencher and asked for his deed. Wrencher calmly told him that he had sold the land to another person."

"This made the fifth sale of the land by Wrencher."

"Wakeup was naturally annoyed, and demanded his deed, whereupon Wrencher denied ever selling him the land."

"At this juncture, Brown became alarmed and abandoned the land to Wrencher's undisputed possession."

"Wakeup then tried to get a settlement with Wrencher, but as they had a variety of dealings with each other and Wakeup kept no books, it looked for a time as though he would not only lose the land but his money. A suit was begun and Wrencher showed fight, but weakened and settled for \$300 and costs before the case came to trial."

"I have not heard whether Wrencher has succeeded in making a sixth sale of the land."

"Wrencher is a St. John merchant with the three R's—Rich, Religious, and Respectable."

"So you see the lawyers are not always the sharpest men where points of law are in question."

FUN FOR THE BOYS.

Policemen Who Labor Under the Delusion
That There is a Fire.

People who have been abroad about 7 o'clock in the morning, recently, have noticed an unusual activity on the part of certain policemen. Sometimes one of the force would be running at full speed down King street and across Market square in the direction of the North End, while at other times a bobby would be rushing up King street at equal speed, waving his baton and apparently in a state of intense excitement. Those who followed him to find out what was up were somewhat puzzled to find him subsiding into a state of rather sheepish quietness as soon as he came in sight of Breeze's corner. These peculiar actions have not been confined to one or two policemen, but appear to be common to all of them who are in the vicinity of Canterbury street about that time of the morning.

One of the daily papers has a large gong in its press room, for signalling from up stairs to the pressman and engine driver. It sounds a good deal like a fire alarm striker, and the bad boys around the office were very quick to tumble to the fact and give the policemen the benefit of it. The officers are in habit of making an early call to get copies of the paper, and when a North End man who has brought over a prisoner and is off his beat, hears 143, he makes a full speed for the North End station. So, when another hears 27 he runs himself out of breath to reach King square. The boys know just what boxes will most excite the officers, and they hit them every time.

The best part of it is, when one policeman gets sold he is so anxious to see some one else made a victim that he discreetly keeps silence about the matter. In this way the boys have had plenty of material for their interesting experiment. And they have had lots of fun.

A Pointer for the Janitor.

The recent discovery by the principal of the Victoria school that loafers can gain access to the basement of the building during school hours, seems to point the moral that the janitor should attend to his business. If he is not paid enough to enable him to give his attention to the premises during school hours, his salary should be increased. It wouldn't make any difference to the rate-payers. The assessment gets there just the same.

Ceiling Decoration a specialty of Wilkins & Sands, 266 Union street.

CHESLEY IN THE FIELD.

A REQUISITION WHICH HE WILL
UNDOUBTEDLY ACCEPT.

What Is Thought of His Chances, and of Those of Mayor Lockhart—The Contest in Victoria Ward Begins to Grow Interesting—The Prospect in Other Wards.

This has been a fair to middling week for alderman candidates, and several men have come to the front. More may be expected next week, and indeed at any time before the nominations close. As only two weeks remain before election, it is time that those who expect to run to win were up and at work.

Victoria ward has, if anything, too many candidates. Some assert that Ald. Law and Busby are league together, but this is denied by Ald. Law, who says that there is no such combination, and that he has "nothing to do with Busby."

The stock of Ald. Law has not gone up during the week. Victoria ward, as a whole, is not in favor of the Leary dock scheme, and so long as Ald. Law opposed it his chances were pretty good. When he ratted they decreased a good deal, but he capped the climax when, though unable to attend the last council meeting, he sent a note requesting that his vote be recorded as in favor of the Leary scheme. If he sent the note with the impression that it would count as a vote, it is evident that he has a good deal to learn about parliamentary bodies in general and the council in particular. It amounted to nothing, and merely served to place him on record as favoring a thing which a good many of his supporters opposed.

It was different with Ald. Busby, who was present and voted for the scheme. He had nothing to lose and was aware of the fact. His only hope lies in Ald. Law being able to carry him along, but from present indications Ald. Law will have plenty of work to carry himself.

Mr. James Seaton is looked upon as having a chance of representing Victoria ward in the next council, but declines to make any combination with other candidates. Mr. Forrest's prospects are also good, while another claimant has come forward in the person of Mr. Henry Dunbrack.

Mr. Arthur Howe has been reinforced in Stanley ward by the advent of Mr. E. H. Turnbull as a candidate. If the latter can work for himself as well as he worked for his party in the local election, he is pretty certain to sit in the council next year.

During the past week a requisition has been circulated in Queens ward asking Mr. W. Watson Allan to be a candidate, so that it is now definitely settled that there will be an interesting contest.

There seems to be little or no prospect of any serious opposition to the return of Aids. Barnes and Blackadar in Kings. One or two names have been mentioned during the week, but probably more in joke than otherwise.

Ald. Morrison, who had concluded that the prospects in Prince ward did not warrant his offering again, has reconsidered his determination and is now in the field. Efforts have been made to induce Mr. John McKelvey to be a candidate, but he has declined, although it was considered that he had very good prospects. Mr. John S. Nickerson, who is well known to the electors, is the latest candidate to come forward in Prince ward. He announces that he is running on his own account at present.

There is as yet no opposition in Lansdowne or Dufferin wards, though it is hardly in the range of probability that there will not be a contest in the latter.

Col. Cunard is out as a candidate in Sydney ward, and ought to have pretty good chances of beating somebody.

Whether Mayor Lockhart is to serve a second term or not is as yet an open question. A good deal depends upon what candidates are in the field. The partizan zeal of the mayor in appointing the committee on the Leary dock plans has, without doubt, lost him the votes of many who had made up their minds to support him. They cannot overlook the fact that he abused his position by appointing a committee composed of men biased in favor of Mr. Leary, with the exception of Ald. Shaw, who would be virtually off of the committee by his absence while attending the legislature.

A requisition is in circulation asking Mr. John A. Chesley to be a candidate for the mayoralty. Mr. Lockhart is said to feel very confident that he can beat Mr. Chesley, and a good many people who do not favor Mayor Lockhart think so too, provided that the contest is limited to them. Despite what Mr. Lockhart has lost, there are still a good many people who think he is a good enough mayor and that precedent should be followed by giving him a second term. In such a single contest he would sweep everything in Carleton, have a majority in most of the city wards, and split the vote in the North End. This is the way it looks from a wholly disinterested standpoint.

A third man of the right kind, might improve Mr. Chesley's chances, and a third

man with a clean record might beat both the other contestants.

If Ald. A. C. Smith were not obliged to attend the legislature he would find himself embarrassed by the position he would have to take in the mayoralty contest. The relations of Mr. Chesley to the opposition ticket in the local contest would make it compulsory on the alderman to stand by him, but in so doing he would be in antagonism to the electors of Brooks ward, who advocate the dock scheme with as much zeal as the alderman himself has advocated. Ald. Smith will probably find business very pressing in Fredericton until after the 8th of April.

THE MAYOR AS AN ORATOR.

An Unsuspected Fund of Eloquence Revealed to the Citizens.

The citizens of St. John do not think that Mayor Lockhart has given them a square deal, in a matter entirely apart from the dock business, but one which is even nearer the hearts of the people. He has been wilfully suppressing the fact that he is an orator before whom the most eloquent of the opposition members from St. John might pale, and that he has a fund of eloquence undreamed of by his most intimate friends.

Those who have heard His Worship at an art sale in his auction room know that he can point out, in chaste language, the beauties of a carload of Canadian oil paintings. Those who have listened to him at Chubb's corner know that he can grow graphic over the value of real estate at Bugtown, or the advantages of Nova Scotia windfalls as a basis for prime apple pie, while as an authority on the value of stocks, second-hand furniture and crockeryware his opinion is worth its weight in gold. It has never been suspected, however, that he was really and truly eloquent. He would have denied it had any one made such an accusation, as nobody has ever dreamed of doing.

When he was elected mayor he excused himself from an inaugural by asserting that his predecessor had covered the ground so thoroughly that there was nothing more to be said. Until Thursday night no one regretted this fact very much, but since then the citizens have been kicking themselves all around town, because they allowed that, and other opportunities of hearing him to slip.

Flushed with his victory on the dock scheme, the mayor has unguardedly revealed his hand and shown himself in his true colors as a finished orator. The occasion was the winning of a skating race by Mr. Hugh J. McCormick. The mayor was unable to be present, but he rose to the emergency in an address which he sent, which painted in glowing colors the nobility of purpose that, in these degenerate days, could be found in a championship race. With a tinge of sadness he referred to the fact that the noblest pastimes are degraded to the sole purpose of money-getting, even if it may be added, as the highest civic offices are sought for the sake of the salary. He spoke with pride of the additional renown which had been given the city by Mr. McCormick's brilliant achievements. In conclusion, said His worship, "flushed with victory, bearing with unassuming modesty the accumulated honors so squarely and gallantly won, and so copiously showered on you, we, your fellow citizens, ask your acceptance of this address and the accompanying watch and chain as a slight token of the estimation in which we hold you."

If Mayor Lockhart is re-elected, nothing will satisfy the people but an inaugural couched in the same kind of language.

ANOTHER STEP IN ADVANCE.

The Front of the Opera House to go Up This Spring.

With the other believers in the St. John opera house, PROGRESS is glad to see the plans for the front building ready for the contractor. A description of the plan has already appeared in the press, and repetition is unnecessary, but a glance at the drawings will soon convince even the sceptical, who have lost no opportunities to talk down the idea, that the front building will not only be a credit to Union street, but to the city.

The Messrs. Dockrill build the front, and that is a pretty good guarantee that no time will be lost in the work. In fact, the second day of May will find the workmen on the spot, and the first day of August will see the tenants again in possession. This is the present plan, and it is but fair to assume that it will be carried out. The walls of the opera house must go up conjointly with those of the front building, and when the latter is completed, the entrances (side and front) of the opera house will also be finished. The directors of the latter company have got some work cut out for them to get stock and keep pace with the erection of the front building. There would be no doubt of their success if they showed confidence in themselves—they want to do that, and the stock will come all right.

READY FOR THE FIGHT.

GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION IN
BATTLE ARRAY.

Mr. Stevens Has Blood in His Eye and a Black Valise in His Room—What May Happen When Mr. Hanington Gets Excited—The Spring Smiles of Dr. Stockton.

FREDERICTON, March 13.—The House is in session once more and Fredericton is happy. The military peep-show on the square was imposing, and the amount of awe and reverence produced by the gleaming sword of the commandant, and the gold lace and plumes of the governor, is thought to have been fully up to the average crop of former years. Thanks to the threatening aspect of the soldiery the mob did not molest the governor nor his staff in any way. In fact, so friendly and indisposed to violence did our people seem to-day that it is now believed that the governor might even have come down with his ordinary every-day clothes on and opened the House without any display of arms at all. It certainly speaks well for the governor and for the peaceful character of our citizens that no blood was spilt; in fact, the only claret visible near the House to-day was in the fiery eye of Mr. Thaddeus Stevens. It is an open secret that Thaddeus is after gore.

Some excitement was caused on Queen street last evening, by the arrival of a large black valise which was carried into the Queen Hotel by two porters, closely followed by a tall gentleman attired in a loose-flowing, black Astrachan, dog-skin coat. The valise was taken up-stairs and deposited in number 57. Its owner registered himself as Thaddeus Stevens, M.P.P., Moncton. Mr. Stevens does not expect a dissolution of the House so soon as he formerly did, and has, therefore, engaged apartments for the whole session. While it is true that Mr. Stevens has no yellow valise with him, a pair of Morocco slippers of a deep yellow shade were, it is said, seen at breakfast this morning, which were much admired by those present.

For a man who is to be consigned to political oblivion in a few short days, Premier Blair persists in wearing a look of great indifference. It is rare that a prospective corpse is disposed to make things funny for the mourners as Mr. Blair seems bent on doing. The smile that wreathed his visage this afternoon, for instance, when his gaze rested for a moment on the sombre face of Thaddeus would make the fortune of the author of "Heavenly Love," if it could only be transferred to that famous picture. It would certainly have had an overshadowing effect upon the other cherubs. Whatever Thaddeus may think about it, Premier Blair seems to have great faith in the longevity of the Government. He predicts that the Opposition will not be able to muster more than one-third of the House when the first test vote is to be taken.

Mr. Speaker White has a big contract on his hands, one would suppose, in trying to fill the seat that Mr. Stevenson, Mr. Lynott and Mr. Pugsley have recently filled.

Mr. Hanington did not care for the Speakership, seemingly. He will be the Peter Mitchell of the present House it is thought. Which side he will hit the harder, Government or Opposition, remains to be seen. It is certain that he will have something to say, and that brother McDade, the official reporter, will be very busy while he is saying it.

Engrossing Clerk Beckwith will be missed from the Assembly. Mr. Hughes who assumes the position, consequent upon Mr. Beckwith's removal, is a clever young man, who will doubtless perform the work with diligence.

Mr. McLellan is not lost, but only gone up higher. His beaming face was not seen in his old place in the Assembly today, but a countenance which bore a marked resemblance to it was seen in the Legislative Council. Mr. Holly having resigned, his seat has been taken by Mr. McLellan, who thus retains his position in the executive council.

The tactics of the opposition during the next week or two will be watched with interest. Nobody in Fredericton believes that the government in danger, but a breezy session is anticipated by all. Those who profess to know say that the stumpage question will be the strong card of the opposition; they also say that this will ensure Mr. Phinney's voting with the government. That there is any such revolt from the government ranks as some of the opposition leaders have claimed is emphatically denied in well-informed quarters here.

Even while I write all doubt of Mr. Hanington's opportunities for eloquence begins to vanish. He is to be leader of the opposition, and his mighty voice will reverberate through the halls, with the always possible contingency of the plaster on the ceiling coming down and the glass in the windows being shivered to fragments. The Roaring Dan will be heard from, and don't you forget it.

McDade looks pale but determined. He has seventeen pencils sharpened at both ends, including the celebrated Alward

automatically as often as required.

The choice of Mr. Hanington has made Mr. Gregory very sad. It will be remembered that George F. failed to materialize at the close of the poll in York, but he has appeared to think that he is still an honorary member of the house and of the opposition. He has been punctual in his attendance at the caucuses, and some have had the idea that he wanted to run the machine. His candidate for leader was Stockton, with Atkinson as an alternative. The caucus got over the difficulty by adjourning when he was present and picking on a man to suit themselves.

Despite Dan's triumph, Dr. Stockton looks as becoming as ever. It is reported that he has a new spring smile in which he will appear out in at Easter.

FLOTSAM.

MASONIC MATTERS.

The Red Cross—Other Events of Local Interest to the Craft.

A number of candidates received the Red Cross degree in Carleton Council, R. C. K., held in connection with the regular meeting of the Encampment of St. John, Wednesday evening. The banquet on the premises, prepared under the direction of Sir Knight G. Gordon Boyne, was worthy of the occasion. The cruciform tables were handsomely decorated and supplied with a very tempting array of viands. About 60 members and visitors were present, including some of the fratres of De Moloy Preceptory and Past Preceptor Greenfield, of Toronto.

In compliance with an invitation from St. Stephen Encampment, it is expected that a working staff of St. John Encampment will visit St. Stephen at an early day and give an exemplification of the various degrees and orders.

It is possible that a similar staff from Carleton and other chapters may visit the border town about the same time.

The proposed exemplification of lodge degrees under the direction of the Grand Master, will make the annual communication of Grand Lodge, in April, of special interest to the members of the craft in general.

The Masonic club continues to thrive and receive steady additions to its membership. The only difficulty now is that it has not room enough in its present quarters. So many find it a pleasant place of resort that its utility can no longer be questioned. Every member has the right to introduce a friend, whether such friend be a member of the fraternity or not, and visitors are always welcome.

"WITHOUT PERMISSION."

The Fusiliers Band and a Widow Desire to Express Their Thanks.

As was stated by the musical critic of PROGRESS, last week, the recent concert by the Fusiliers' band was carried to a successful issue by the men without any assistance from the officers. It was a financial as well as a musical success, and that it did more than interest the public is shown by the following acknowledgment:

I beg to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of one hundred and fifty dollars from the band of the 62nd St. John Fusiliers, the proceeds of the concert held at the Mechanics' Institute, on Thursday evening, February 27.

HARRIET ELLIS.

The band also desires, through PROGRESS, to thank the ladies and gentlemen who assisted at the concert, as well as the public for their liberal patronage.

A formal card of thanks to this effect was sent to the *Sun* office, the other day, the men being willing to pay for its insertion, if necessary. The business man of the *Sun* is known to ordinary mortals as Mr. W. C. Sterling, but in the pomp and pride of military life he is Lieut. Sterling. It was in this capacity that he refused to publish the card of thanks unless the name of Capt. Edwards was signed to it, and rebuked the band for offering to publish it at all "without permission." Mr. Holly declined to acknowledge that the officers had anything to say about their card of thanks, and so, by the authority of Lieut. Sterling, Mr. Sterling of the *Sun* refused to publish it.

Look Out For Their Portraits.

There are some good looking men in the house of assembly, and there are others who—to use a homely expression—will never be hung for their beauty. PROGRESS has the portraits of the most of them, and proposes to publish as many of them as possible in the few short weeks of the session. The first group will appear next Saturday with appropriate letter press from a live correspondent.

They Won the Oysters.

The North and South wharf curled for the oyster Monday evening, and the "hucksters" won by 18 to 12. The game was pronounced the best of the season—at any rate it was the jolliest. The "hucksters" are open to a challenge from any rink in the province for the same wager.

The Opinion of Everybody.

"I like my engraving very much," writes a customer of PROGRESS' Engraving Bureau. "Your engraver does admirable work, and I am satisfied."

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ments?"
n one side I noticed "Is Heaven
hen on a corner was "Good
ave you used Peach's soap?"
of the iceberg, in big letters,
eleven dollar ulster can't be
en down near the base I could
newspapers are good, some
at the best is the best." On
ak was a white dummy on
was a big storm overcoat,
th letters which I could not
On one side of the iceberg
divertments of American
European on the other. Near

to see you have acquired a
or drink," broke in the other
advise you to stop it."
American.

For Toilet Soap in