

# PROGRESS

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY AUGUST 13 1900

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## INDIANTOWN FIRE MONEY.

A Whole Lot of Fire Sufferers are Kicking About the Way That Last \$5,000 was Divided.

Ever since the fire sufferers of Indian town answered the summons to attend the relief money distribution at Mr. James Reynolds's office on August 2nd there has been a turbulent sea of indignation among most of them. The alleged unfairness displayed in sharing the funds and seeming partiality has brought forth everything else but expressions of satisfaction from many of the victims of that May catastrophe of last year, while on the other hand not a few are as mum as oysters, and quite content with the generous allowance made them by the dispensing committee.

Pretty nearly everybody is familiar with the facts concerning the agitation brought about by certain members of the Common Council to have at least some of the relief money of 1877 withdrawn from that big fund for disbursement among the needy ones of Indian town. The efforts of D. J. Purdy M. P. P., Ald. Macrae, McMulkin and others in this direction were strenuous and ultimately successful. The government allowed that five thousand dollars could be very well taken from the Relief Society Fund, and divided equitably among those who lost by the more recent big blaze. That this money was equitably divided is the question in point, a whole host of fire sufferers claiming it was very unfairly disbursed.

The committee selected to dispense the aid was composed of Messrs. C. A. Everett, Jas. Reynolds, Dr. Inches, Ald. McMulkin and Judge Tuck, and it is upon the devoted heads of these gentlemen the censure of the Indian town people is falling. Ald. McMulkin, being the representative of the fire-swept ward, and supposed to have prepared the list of needy ones, comes in for lion's share of the criticisms, which however some claim is unfair. Nevertheless the people are thoroughly aroused, and apparently the more they talk the matter over among themselves, and as additional facts are gleaned, the greater grows their indignation.

Among townspeople generally, but particularly those immediately interested, it was taken for granted the supplementary distribution of aid was for those who were really in need, having sustained serious losses in the fire, and who had not yet recovered from the set-back. This included old and indigent people, widows, inviolated citizens, etc. In view of this quite a number of burnt-out folk sent in no application for money whatever. Now they are kicking themselves, so to speak, for since the distribution it is learned that rich and poor alike made application, those who might be termed rich coming out the big end of the horn, while their worse-off neighbours, and greater sufferers by the big blaze have had to be content with the smallest sums given.

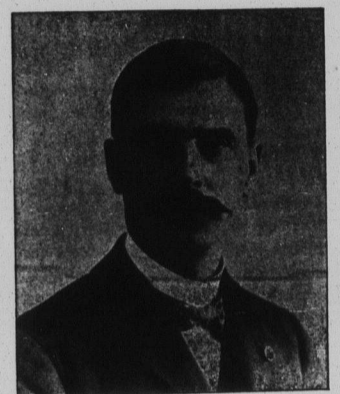
According to the discontented ones it seems as if the distributing committee arranged their list of money grants according to the prominence of the recipient, or in other words, the better known people were pampered with large sums, while the quiet living and obscure sufferers were meted out in tiny dribbles. Then again it is a notorious fact that those having liberal insurance were considered just as worthy of attention at the hands of the committee as those who were unfortunate enough to be robbed of their home and chattels without a cent of insurance to give them a start again after the blaze.

In many cases the committee seem to have displayed the wildest kind of discrimination in allotting the money, giving equal shares to persons whose fortunes were entirely different after the conflagration. One person with ample insurance to cover losses would receive the same amount as a citizen losing all with no insurance. Many were sent off without a dollar's insurance or no insurance, and this too seems very strange to many people.

It is said that 223 fire sufferers made application for relief to the committee entrusted with the disposition of the Relief Society's \$5000. If each applicant had received an equal share that amount would have been something over 22 dollars, but a large percentage of the needy ones were handed over a miserly to

dollar bill, while people who could buy and sell them a half dozen times over received four, five, six and seven times ten dollars. Naturally enough this sort of dealing caused a furore.

The money subscribed for the St. John



C. B. ALLAN.

Grand Master of the Independent Order of Oddfellows for the Maritime Provinces: Elected at a recent Convention held in Halifax.

fire sufferers years ago by kind friends all over the world and which has since been in the care of the Relief and Aid Society was supposed to have been given for the benefit of those who were in need, persons actually in want of prompt monetary assistance in order that the necessities of life might be provided. In abstracting the five thousand dollars from this fund for the Indian town people the same idea must surely have prompted those instrumental in securing it. But if report is to be believed, and report is pretty general in this particular, needy persons in the other end of town have been most unfairly dealt with, when compared with those who are not feeling the effects of the devastating fire of a year ago.

As a matter of fact not a few residents in Indian town are in a better financial position today than they ever were before the fire. The ready cash afforded them by insurance made it possible for them to build homes of their own, and stock up anew with furniture etc. But those who found it hard enough to make both ends meet before the fire, let alone indulging in such luxuries as fire insurance policies, are now being bowed down with the burden imposed by the consuming flames. Homes have had to be reared anew, and furnishings gathered about piece by piece in a struggling manner. Ready cash had they none, and some stood in all they owned after that fatal blaze—a few work day-clothes, while their neighbors cheerful and buoyant in spirits tripped merrily to the banks to get their insurance cheques cashed.

And yet these more unfortunate ones were largely dismissed with such sums as \$10, \$15, \$20 or \$25, the monied burnt-outs being tendered \$30, \$40, \$50, \$60 and as high as \$70.

PROGRESS was refused a look at the list of applicants and their allowances, the reason given for the refusal being that it has been pre-arranged by the committee not to allow the list to become public, as some persons might be undesirable of having others know that they had applied for relief, and as to what they received.

It can be seen this excuse was in its itself of a flimsy character, for PROGRESS has learned that the list was shown to outsiders. Nevertheless requests have been so showered upon this paper to print even an unofficial list that an endeavor has been made to get at some of the names and bequests. The following was learned and while a few discrepancies may be found among the amounts here quoted, on the whole the list is pretty nearly correct:

Name	Insurance	Loss	Grant
J. Cowan	None	All	\$15
John Blizard	None	All	\$30
John Whisp	Some	All	\$50
Jas Hutchison	Some	All	None
Arch Starkey	\$50	All	None
Thos Mc Cann	?	All	\$25
O Akersley	?	Part	\$40
Miss Coleman	\$700	All	\$40
John Smith	?	All	\$40
Geo Graham	\$1,000	All	\$50
Robt Burke	None	All	\$10
Jas Chas	Some	All	\$10
Widow Stevens	None	All	\$15
Miss Waters	None	All	\$25
Miss Waters	\$500	All	\$50
Mrs Andrews	?	Part	\$30
Mrs Barry	Good	Part	\$30
Mrs Mason	?	All	\$40
Mrs Kingston	\$500	All	\$40
Dennis Lynch	\$500	All	\$40
Ed Fisher	Some	Stock	\$40
Widow Dalton	None	All	None

Commenting upon the above unofficial list it might be stated that Warren Coleman is an old man unable to work. John Blizard is 80 years of age and was badly burned in the fire. Jas. Hutchison, Bertha Brown and Arch Starkey made no application, thinking the money was for the real needy ones. The widow McCann is an invalid. The question marks stand for indefinite information.

Rough on the Sky Pilot.

HALIFAX, Aug. 15.—The Halifax Echo caused a great sensation last week by the publication of a paragraph about the marriage of a reverend gentleman. The error,—a most amusing and laughable one,—was caused by the transposition of several lines of type in the make-up of the paper. An idea of the real effect of the mirth provoking transposition, can be gained from the paragraph as it appeared:

Among the passengers per the steamer Boston yesterday morning were Rev. and Mrs. W. Alvin Robbins, who were married last Thursday at Batavia, New York. Mr. Robbins is the only son of Mrs. Chas. K. Robbins, of Chebogue Point, and recently graduated with honors at Bates College, Maine, and his wife is Miss Fannie Starkey of Batavia, New York. They were met at the wharf by a number of relatives at Ferry Point last Thursday night and became a total wreck. A port was by the cable chafing against the rocks on the bottom causing it to break.

Sportsmen Beware.

Already a few venturesome sportsmen, over anxious for the shooting season to open have banged away at the snipe on Courtney Bay flats. Its well for them the flats are so far from the gaze of the law defenders and that a chase in the mud would be of great advantage to the man with the gun, for as snipe are late several would have long since been arrested and asked to answer the charge of killing game out of season. Sept. 1st is the earliest day for shooting the tiny snipe and Sept. 20th for woodcock and partridge.

## PROGRESS CONTENTS TODAY.

- PAGE 1.—Indiantown Fire Money—how it was distributed.
- PAGE 2.—Miraculous Escape—A fatal canoeing adventure at Grand Falls. Ferville young lady saved. Price Webber writes of the old time militia in St. John. General miscellany.
- PAGE 3.—Musical and Dramatic. Choice Selections.
- PAGE 4.—Editorial, Joys and Woes of Other Places. Poetry. Sunday observance and its different phases. The law quoted. The Central railway accident. The Whittaker sentence. A word about the exhibition. The King Square band stand. Inspector Vincent and the License Law.
- PAGE 5.—Nearly three columns of bright new personal paragraphs. All the weddings of the week too.
- PAGES 6, 7 and 8.—Personal items from all the cities, towns and villages in the three provinces.
- PAGE 9.—Town Talks including: To Save the Lives of Brallem. Fitz a Popular Hero in St. John. Worthy of a Better Conversation. An anti-Noise Crusade in St. John. That Union Street Flying Machine. She Walked on the Pavement.
- PAGES 10 and 11.—Conclusion of serial story, "When Stormy Winds Do Blow."
- PAGE 11.—Sunday Reading.
- PAGE 12.—How Shanghai was Stirred Up.
- PAGE 13.—Chat of the Boudoir—fashion notes etc.
- PAGE 14.—Another of Dr. Klopsch's Famous Indian Famine Letters.
- PAGE 15.—Fort Bob Cap—A pleasing short fiction. Births, deaths and marriages of the week in the three provinces.

## HUNGRY CHORUS GIRLS.

The Very Little Faust Maidens Were Great Eaters—How a Young Citizen Found Them.

During their stay in town the Very Little Faust company entertained a small sized army of people—both on and off the stage. The show was of that breezy effervescent nature, which is just the thing for hot summer nights, and coming direct from

were't.

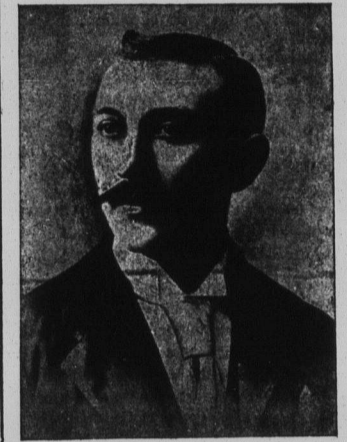
So a slip came in from the office with \$6.30 marked on it, and the young man's face lengthened. While he was paying the bill his charmers skipped merrily away.

Some others of the chorus did not fare so well. Their dudes were a little short of cash, so they brought up in the lunch wagon on Market street for refreshments.

In Halifax too the chorus girls indulged in a lot of free eating and drinking. A party of commercial men, stopping at one of the hotels heard that several of little Faust's were roomed in No. 41, while their apartment was No. 32. When the boy called at their door to take their order for liquid refreshment they told him to call at No. 41 and ask the ladies to have some refreshment with several gentlemen in No. 32.

"Oh thanks," cried the girls "bring us up four pints of champagne."

The drummers nearly dropped dead for it just cost them eight dollars.



FRANK S. MERRITT.

Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias in New Brunswick: Elected at the Convention held this week in Woodstock.

Boston's buzziest theatre the sixty members of the aggregation were crumpled of Americanisms, and needless to say anything they said or did "went".

It is seldom the St. John mashers are treated to such a thoroughly good-looking and truly juvenile bevy of chorus girls as came with the travesty company. They acted sang and danced themselves in the favor of these gay Lotharios long before a chance was afforded to see if their hair was really real, and their faces naturally pretty. But after the curtain went down on the last act and these dainty bits of feminine humanity tripped forth from their dressing rooms in two, three and quartettes the Johnnies were right on hand for any kind of an introduction, verbal, ocular, aural or by signs. In other words they hung about the darkened doorways on Union street and tried their best to accompany the girls to their homes. Those whose hearts were less faint "caught on," while the others had to be content with standing by and looking "sheep's eyes" at the chic Yankee as they flitted by.

There were more than enough chorus girls to go round, so several of them had to wander to their boarding houses in little groups unescorted. On Wednesday evening four of these lonesome ones were humming their way to their abode on Peter street when a well known young citizen came along. He had no particular taste for the company of chorus girls just then, as he was coming from the home of the fair charmer he calls all his own. But his affections were abruptly switched off onto another track.

"Excuse me sir," coyly ventured the prettiest girl in the bunch, "but can you tell us where we can find a restaurant about here? We're so hungry after that tiresome show!"

The young citizen did not take long in guessing who his fair questioners were, and with all the gallantry he could mustered piloted them to a Charlotte street eating establishment.

From Waterloo street to Charlotte was more than enough of a walk with the chorus girls to completely win him over. They talked so sweet, smiled so divinely and used their eyes and tossed their heads so effectively that the staid young citizen was completely captured. And it was his first experience with chorus girls too.

But, tut, he would not hear of their going into the restaurant alone; if his company was not intrusive. Of course the young ladies had no objection to his eating with them, and so the least commenced.

Cold chicken, steaks, pastry, drinkables, fruit, in fact everything or anything the girls wanted they could have. The young man was in the jolliest of moods and the girls just loved him to death as long as his generosity kept on tap. One would have thought the fragile creatures, would be possessed of dainty appetites, but they

weren't.

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AMELIA WASN'T ARRESTED.

She Goes to the Police Court When She Gets Good and Ready.

The following expressive letter bears truth on the face of it. PROGRESS is glad to print it because it will give the public an idea of what an eyesore Sheffield street is to a city like St. John. There is a great deal of traffic to and from the exhibition grounds and the street should be cleared of the human trash that infest it.

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS: I would like to know how it is that on Sunday when the Artillery regiment was coming out of the Barrack Green to go to church, Amelia Francis was out on Sheffield street tearing the clothes off Minnie Campbell and using some of the most disgraceful language that any human ears ever heard and at that very moment Carmarthen stood at the corner of Sheffield was crowded with men, women and children from the respectable parts of the city to witness this disgraceful scene. Sergeant Campbell put in an appearance and caught the last odor of that most sacred music of Mrs. Francis. Instead of him going and arresting her he merely went to her house and held a private conversation with her. That same afternoon Amelia Francis again got out on the street and insulted an up town lady that was passing through the street by the name of Mrs. Morrison by throwing stones and using some more of her delightful language. That was told to Sergeant Kilpatrick and he reported her for throwing stones and using abusive language. Sergeant Campbell told her on Monday to be at the court Tuesday morning at ten o'clock. He also ordered several of the respectable people who saw and heard Amelia Francis to appear as witnesses against her. They were all in court except Amelia and she was racing up and down Sheffield street saying that she did not have to go to court when Henderson and Ritchie ordered her, that she would go when she got ready, and when she would go Sergeant Campbell would get her out, and sure enough she did not go until the afternoon and all the witnesses were gone and she was ordered home. If it had been anyone else barring Nell Mitchell and Amelia Francis and Lottie Hornet, three of the most noted characters of that street, they would have been dragged to the court before eleven o'clock Tuesday morning and would have been justly punished. These three women constantly get intoxicated and abuse respectable citizens when passing through the street. If these three women were off that street the street would be ten times better.

A LOWER COVE RESIDENT.

August 14.

Died in the Lunatic Asylum.

Some time ago PROGRESS printed an interesting story of the Salvation Army rescue home and the maternity hospital work that was being done mentioning in that connection the reformation of a well known woman, Grace Walker. For some time her mind appeared to be weak but she was a constant and devoted attendant upon the children. This did not continue however and it became necessary to remove her to the provincial lunatic asylum where she died a week or two ago.

W. West, 61.  
C. Peden, 66.  
E. Thomas, 71.  
Wm Keith, 71.  
Greenwood, 46.  
E. Sworth, 61.  
Amos Fountain.  
Chas Brown, 88.  
A. A. Brown, 7.  
Artha Gould, 88.  
Armstrong, 66.  
Amor Edge, 91.  
James Gorman, 23.  
A. Lawrence.  
R. George Dunn.  
E. Armstrong, 65.  
D. Grant, 4 mos.  
Girouard, 10 mos.  
Alex P. Nevers, 81.  
Ross Murray, 82.  
James McKenzie, 82.  
Laurie Burgess, 37.  
Elizabeth Phillips, 62.  
Charles Theriault, 64.  
Wm B. Stewart, 78.  
Susan Murray, 27.  
Denise Campbell, 69.  
Lyda, John Young, 22.  
Allan McBeane, 62.  
Stephen McInnis, 62.  
Edith M. McKinnon, 64.  
Mrs. Thomas Seaman, 64.  
Mrs. John Wilkie.  
Wm. William Taylor, 10.

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Yarmouth 3.25 p. m.  
arr. Digby 11.25 a. m.  
Y. Halifax 8.20 a. m.  
arr. Digby 8.30 a. m.  
Annapolis 4.50 p. m.

YARMOUTH.

Yarmouth 4.00 p. m.  
Halifax 3.15 p. m.

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Halifax arriving in  
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except Saturday at  
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0, trains will run daily  
1900.

AVE ST. JOHN

Yarmouth 6.30  
Fergusson, 7.15  
W. Glasgow and  
and Point du  
12.00  
12.45  
13.45  
14.45  
15.45

to the train leav-  
for Quebec and Mon-  
mouth.

to the train  
clock for Halifax.  
Sleeping cars on the

AT ST. JOHN

Halifax, 6.00  
7.15  
8.30  
9.45  
10.15  
11.30  
12.45

Eastern Standard time

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Gen. Manager  
St. John, N. B.