PROGRESS.

VOL. VI., NO. 309. ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1894. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

"PASTOR IN PAROCHIA."

RECTOR LITTLE HOLDS THE FORT AGAINST ALL COMERS.

His People Vote Him a Salary of One Dollar a Year—They Could Not Starve Him Out on Forty Dollars Last Year—An Instance Where the Law Needs Amending.

Rev. H. W. Little, S. A. C., is rector of Sussex, and apparently intends to hold that position against all comers, he he wanted there or not. Whether he remains there for the glory of the thing or for the good that he can do as a member of the board of home missions, is a question for his friends to answer. Certain it is that the salary is no inducement, for that has been fixed by his f[illegible] at the sum of one dollar per annum. It is needless to say there is now less trouble in collecting the minister's salary in Sussex than in any parish in Canada.

Rector Little is a living contradiction of his own name. He is a big man, so big that he is a conspicuous figure among his fellow clergymen on occasions of synods and other ecclesiastical functions. Big as he is, however, his ideas are a good deal bigger, and his parishioners long ago came to the conclusion that these ideas were entirely too big for the circumscribed area of the parish of Sussex.

Four years ago he became rector, succeeding the late honored Canon Medley, and the parishioners thought they had secured a treasure. The new rector was an Englishman, a fact which of itself carries a good deal of weight with some people who do not think native provincialists are smart enough to be bishops or clergymen, he was well informed on many topics, had travelled in various lands and was an able speaker on questions apart from the propagation of the faith. They considered it an honor to have such a man, and no doubt Mr. Little thought so too. He began to run matters on a new plan, as though he proposed to inaugurate a new era in Sussex, and he appears to have done so beyond the limits of the most sanguine expectation.

The story of his extravagant purchases and the piling up of liabilities he was unable to meet was told at the time, and need not be repeated. For a while it seemed as though the trouble was over, and that there would be a more satisfactory condition of affairs in the parish. It was only for a time, however, and a year or so ago Mr. Little was requested to resign.

He declined and as there was no way of compelling him to do so, the parishioners did what they considered was the next best thing. They reduced his salary.

This was at the Easter meeting in 1893, and a very remarkable meeting it was. The session began at 8 in the evening, but Mr. Little managed matters so that it did not get to work until 11.45, when the warden's accounts were passed and the rector declared the meeting adjourned. The parishioners refused to adjourn, another chairman was elected and a strong resolution was passed demanding the rector's resignation. This was followed by another resolution reducing the stipend to forty dollars a year. Then the usual officers were elected. In the meantime, with midnight Easter Monday had passed, and there was an attempt to contend that the elections were null and void through not having been made on the day prescribed by law.

Since that time the relations between pastor and people have been somewhat strained. The rector, it is said, has not touched the forty dollars granted to him, but has contrived to live without it, though just how he has done so is best known to himself and his adherents. It is a matter of record that his horse and cow have had no superfluous flesh on them, though it is said the cow has of late been placed in better hands, where it will have a more visible means of support. Mr. Little, with his family of immigrant boys, has managed to pull through, and he was on hand as lively as ever, at the Easter meeting last Monday night. There was a large attendance, 34 being qualified parishioners of Trinity church, and the remainder visitors who expected to see some "fun."

It may be mentioned incidentally that during the past year the rector has expressed his opinion of his opponents pretty freely in and out of the pulpit, and that somebody in his behalf has posted doggerel rhyme about the village. Still more insulting missives—some of them alleged to be obscene—have been sent anonymously through the mails to individuals opposed to the rector. Mr. Little's adherents have also solicited subscriptions for his support from people of other denominations, and went through the military camp last summer with a begging paper in his behalf. These supporters were not idle as Easter approached. They strained every nerve to rally voters, and it is even alleged that they paid out money with a liberal hand for that purpose.

Naturally enough, a strong fight was expected at the meeting. Bishop Kingdon had been urgently requested to send a committee to examine into matters, but had refused to do so. Why he so refused is not clear, for the affairs of Trinity church have been the gossip and laughing stock of Kings county and a fruitful source of joy to all unbelievers. The bishop left the parishioners to fight it out among themselves.

The meeting began at 8 p. m. this year and started work after a good deal of discussion, during which the rector claimed that he was entitled to two votes, one as chairman and the other as a member of the congregation. The accounts were passed, and then the first resolution was moved and seconded.

This resolution was to the effect that the laws now existing should be amended to enable the bishop to take cognizance of troubles in parishes to a greater extent than at present, and that the corporation should petition the synod to so amend the law. After a stormy discussion the resolution was carried by a vote of twenty to fourteen.

The next resolution was that the rector's salary for the ensuing year be fixed at one dollar, and it was carried by the same vote, after another hot discussion, during which Mr. Little heard some freely expressed opinions about himself and his methods.

The same vote carried a third resolution that in future all envelopes deposited in the offertory should be used by the wardens for the church purposes. The inspiration of this resolution was the fact that envelopes had been printed "for the rector," and that Mr. Little's supporters had been in the habit of giving these to visitors, as well as sending them around the village. Following these resolutions came the election of wardens and vestrymen entirely opposed to Mr. Little. Then the meeting adjourned.

It depends on the resources of Mr. Little and his supporters how long this civil war will be carried on in Trinity church. In the meantime the spiritualities of the parish are likely to be considerably obscured in the fight over the temporalities between pastor and people.

HIS IMAGINATION RAN RIOT.

The Time Dr. Silas Waxed Eloquent Over General Kearney's Exploit.

During the debate on supply, Surveyor General Tweedie scored heavily against the junior member from St. John. "I have observed that for many years the Opposition have been pursuing the same policy he remarked. "Lack of facts and figures has never prevented them from assailing the Government. It makes no difference to them whether they can make a point or not, or whether they have anything to make a point upon. They allow their fertile imaginations to work and rumor supplies the place of truth. The hon. member from St John, (Dr. Alward) has a peculiar faculty in this respect but we can excuse in him what we cannot over-look in others. He is an orator and a poet. He is accustomed to allow his imagination to run riot in the regions of myth and fable. To instance the wonderful power of that gentleman's imagination let me recall an incident that occurred some years ago in the cultured city of Saint John. The honorable gentleman had returned from Washington and prepared a lecture or a series of lectures upon the Battlefields of the Potomac. In a lecture delivered in the Mechanic's Institute he described a battle scene. The Northern army was gradually being driven back by the Confederate forces. The tide of battle was rolling northward. The serried and veteran ranks of the Union regiments were being broken by the fierce assault of the Southern chivalry. Panic seized them and they were about to fly. At the critical moment when all seemed lost, up rode brave General Kearney, the one-armed hero of the war. Waving his glittering sword above his head in his single hand, with the bridle reins clutched tightly in his teeth he dashed up and down the faltering lines and in stirring words addressed them: Soldiers of the union! stand fast. Stand for your honor, your country and your homes. Strike the fetters from the slave!.

"This noble oration was delivered before an audience in the City of Saint John—probably one of the most cultured communities in the Dominion. Deafening applause greeted the orator, and many of the ladies wept in sympathy with the one-armed hero. The papers reported the address and made no comments upon it. But I submit that it would strike the ordinary individual that General Kearney was placed at a great disadvantage—that the conditions were not favorable for him to do himself justice. Imagine a man under such circumstances, going at full gallop, his sword waving in his hand, his bridle reins clutched tightly in his teeth and his mouth full of leather being capable of delivering such an impassioned appeal to his troops! (Great laughter.) The honorable gentleman saw no difficulty about it, and sees none now when he makes speeches against the government with the same ground-work of facts as that upon which he originated the Kearney episode."

WAS A TWO ACT COMEDY.

ALMOST A SLUGGING MATCH IN A LEADING HALIFAX HOTEL.

The Principals Included a Wealthy Citizen, a Lawyer and a Man from St. John—Why They Got Hot—Some Gas and a Good Deal of Very Strong Language.

HALIFAX, March 29.—There was a scene at a leading Hollis street hotel the other day which was remarkable, not so much for what actually took place as on account of the dramatis personæ. The principals were, on one side, a director of the Halifax gas light company, worth more than $100,000, and the hotel clerk, and on the other a city lawyer and a friend from St. John. The legal man is a member of a leading firm.

The comedy was in two acts, on successive days. Only the half dozen in the hotel office at the time saw the affair and the commencement of it was unobserved by any except a couple standing near by. The legal luminary was in an excited and boisterous frame of mind, on the first evening in question, when he wandered into the hotel. As soon as his eyes rested on the gas director they flashed with satisfaction akin to that which obtains with other Halifax lawyers when they get a client they have been on the look out for. It seems the follower of Blackstone had some lurking dislike to the rich man because of former transactions in business or politics which might well have been forgotten and would have been in ordinary circumstances, but this time the circumstances of the old difficulty became vivid with the lawyer. He strode over to the wealthy citizen and opened up a discussion on the subject. The director is a touchy man, who never forgets an injury, quick to resent any discourtesy, and in the vituperative dialogue which ensued both men had reason to cry quits. The gas company man considered himself grossly insulted, so he said, that was the termination of the first day's hostilities.

During the night both men thought the matter over. The director nursed his wrath while the lawyer became ready to forgive and forget and even got so far along the good road as to decide to apologize. Possibly he was aided in making that resolution when he remembered that he was a strong young man under forty, and that his opponent, though rich and hasty and relentless, was more than 70 years of age. Anyway, he made up his mind to give the "amende honorable."

The opportunity came next day. At the same hour and place as the night before the two men met. The lawyer was yet somewhat excited, but he held to his resolve and he professed his apology. The rich old gas director looked up disdainfully, characterizing the lawyer as little short of a nuisance, and asked that he cease his talking. That scattered the good intentions of the lawyer to the winds, and there was a wordy war not second in violence to their first encounter.

The rich man is a guest of the hotel and the lawyer is not. This is where the clerk and the St. John friend came in. The hotel clerk ordered the lawyer to desist in his abuse of the hotel patron and signified to him that he was prepared to enforce obedience with his strong right arm. This was the straw that broke the camel's back, and the lawyer defied the clerk to do his worst, at the same time reaching over the counter to deal a blow at the official's head. Following a vigorous return feint from the clerk the St. John man sprang to his friend's assistance with his fists clenched, and it looked like a compound battle with lawyer, clerk and gas director, though as far as the latter was concerned he did not count in fisticuffs. Bystanders stepped up at this stage in the proceedings and forcibly parted the combatants, greatly to the relief of all concerned.

This ended the two-act comedy, and pity 'tis 'tis true.

To Aid Victoria Hospital.

The operetta "Trial by Jury" is to be presented at Fredericton city hall on Tuesday evening, April 10th. The rehearsels have been thorough and numerous and the production promises to be something better than has yet been attempted by Fredericton amateurs. Mrs. John Black assisted by Dr. Carl Walther have given a large amount of time in preparing the singers and in such competent hands the musical part, at least, gives promise of being a success.

Intensely Loyal Halifax.

HALIFAX, March 29.—The Orpheus concert last night was rendered yet more noteworthy by the action of conductor C. H. Porter, in omitting the national anthem from the programme, under the belief that it is not customary to have it in oratorio concerts. The audience, on the other hand, considered the national anthem should be sung, for they kept their seats during an awkward pause, awaiting Mr. Porter's signal to sing it, and even the club seemed at a loss to understand the omission. The conductor had made up his mind in leaving it out that he was right and he let the people wait. At last a gentleman with a stentorian voice—Colonel North, it is said—called out, "God save the Queen!" and there was a murmur of approval all round. Mr. Porter then bowed to the inevitable, and turning round to the musicians, said: "Well, if they must have it, sing!" That was all that was needed to start club, ladies' auxiliary and orchestra in the most hearty chorus of the evening, in which most of the audience also joined.

ARE YOU TRYING FOR IT?

Specimen Letters in Competition for the Five Dollar Prize.

Several letters sent in competion for PROGRESS prize of five dollars are given below. In some cases, the writers have had the idea that a specimen epistle to a friend was wanted, but as explained elsewhere, they should be addressed to the Editor of PROGRESS. "Current topics" include any subject on which people are thinking and talking. The competition for this and the prize for short stories will be open during the whole of April.

Wants Reform in Pensions.

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS: Will no reformer arise to remedy the pension evil?

Many a man, retiring from office, resides in a splendid mansion, has servants at command, and all life's luxuries. He can give his children a college education, can spent the summer at pleasant resorts or enjoy the luxury of foreign travel. He doubtless says by enough, yearly, to live upon in the future, he may also have his life insured. What an example of unselfishness such a man would set, if after receiving his pension, according to law and precedent, he should return it.

The merchant or laborer enters into competition with others, and though burdened with taxes, manages to support his family: but ill health or old age comes. The savings, if any, are spent, and when he dies his widow and children are penniless as he could not afford to insure his life.

Think of the widow toiling to support her children, or the unmarried woman with a home which she inherited. Years roll on and her ability to work becomes less, and therefore, the income smaller. The property depreciates in value, and if sold would not realize enough to provide another home. The patient worker toils on, until, one day, she folds her tired hands, and sleeps in death.

Are not these more worthy of pensions than the rich officials? It is a difficult question. I can only suggest that all become government officials,—or that officials live upon their savings upon retiring from office. I pause—for in the distance I see our country's banes—Greed, Fraud, Wrong—like vultures ready to dart upon their prey. While echoing down the ages comes a still small voice—one which will be heard through all time and eternity, "Do justly—love mercy." STUDENT.

St. John, March 24.

Is This All True, Girls?

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS: Allow me to say a few words on a subject I have been thinking of lately—the practice of young ladies receiving presents from their gentlemen friends, and encouraging them to spend more money than they can afford. Most young men have some particular lady friend, and she in many ways is responsible in forming his habits. Don't mistake my meaning. She will not dogmatize, but her influence will tell.

Our young men in St. John do not receive large salaries and cannot afford to take in all the plays and concerts. I know girls, who say of the young men who have the moral courage to keep out of debt, and are trying to save money—that they would not go any longer with Charlie—for he never takes them any place. For shame girls what kind of husbands will the young men make, who spend as they go? A poor prospect for the wife I assure you. Then at Xmas if they don't receive a present from George or Harold they will tell friend Lue, in confidence, the thing never sent me a thing. I hope dear girls, you will look at the matter from a common-sense standpoint and give your gentlemen friends to understand that you don't value them for the places of amusement they take you to, and don't receive presents. Think of the temptation the boys have to fight, that we women know nothing about, and let us by our pure womanly influence, try to make the time pass pleasantly and profitably, while they are in our company. SOPHIA.

St. John, March 21.

Concerning The Gold Cure.

Dearest friend; In reply to your enquiry as to the relative merits of the "Gold Cure" and "will power" I have to say, that, if you have arrived at that stage when either is desirable,—from what I have seen and heard—I would advise the adoption of the latter as there does not seem to be any other requisite necessary unless it be accompanied by the determination to avoid such company into which you seem to have fallen, and when asked to drink say No, not the little insipient scarcely audible no, but a No that sounds to your conscience like a miniature earthquake, or volcanic eruption, you need not shout it out loud enough to break the peace, but just firm enough to be effective and a few repetitions (fewer perhaps than you are aware of) will have a salient effect amongst you fellows, and when you get that far, then apply to some word generally and you will no doubt have a cure good as gold.

I would recommend the "gold cure" if I knew enough about its success. So far as I can ascertain there seems to be little guarantee as to its permanency that is, I do not know that if you are "cured," you will not break out again in the same place if you wish to, and I am afraid that mayhap you might if you are not careful of your associates. While if you are careful to avoid them and their haunts the "will power" is quite sufficient to a successful overcoming of the habit, for habit it is, though some call it a disease. If it is a disease, solitary confinement effects at least a temporary cure, because forced. Try the "will power" and the "power will" come sooner than anticipated. YAWCUB.

Hoping for Better Times.

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS: Oh, gaily goes the ship when the wind blows fair. While standing at Reed's Point, awaiting the arrival of the American boat, and gazing at the ships lying at anchor in the stream, or moored to the different wharves, what thoughts will come into the head of an idle person like me, thinking of old times and as the saying is good old times that are gone. But we live in the present, and just at present times are at low water mark, so to speak, but we will hope that the sunshine of prosperity will shine some day, and may that day be soon for old St. John; and that her ships may come sailing up the bay, loaded with freights from every land, and the hum of labor be heard from Lower Cove to the long wharf, and Carleton heights re-echo the sweet sound, and the whir of the grain elevator be heard in our land. Oh, pilot Fortune, waft us from some favored clime the blessings we seek and long for in this our own New Brunswick home, and that few and far between will be found the idlers or drones in the streets or market place of this, our city by the sea. And that her citizens may flourish and thrive in spite of all misfortune or drawbacks, financial or commercial, and that we may grow in progress, industry and wealth, and every other blessing that heaven can send us is the sincere wish of

St. John, March 27. ROSEMARY.

HAVE POOR PROSPECTS.

OPPONENTS OF CIVIC REFORM IN SEARCH OF A TICKET.

Some Candidates Who Are Already Out and are Likely to Stay Out—The Search for Others—It Seems a Cold Day in the Camp of the Opposition.

The opponents of the scheme for a reduction of civic taxes are taking their pleasures sadly, and have not as yet been able to form a ticket. Most of the old members of the council are willing to combine, but the difficulty is to get anybody else to run the risk of defeat by going on a ticket with them. The public understand very clearly the kind of a city government there would be if it were in the hands of the aldermen who have been left out in an honest effort to create a ticket in the interest of the ratepayers.

Mayor Peters heads the list of the candidates in opposition to the Tax Reduction candidates. He says he is the "people's candidate," and as he is putting himself forward it must be inferred that he considers himself "the people." That very many who have voted for him in the last three years will not vote for him this year is a fact which may not be apparent to his self-consciousness, but it is nevertheless the truth. The public are beginning to look upon his worship as a man who wants to pursue mayoralty as a business, it being easier than law practice and in his case a good deal more certain means of support. His worship's stock is going down, and there is a general impression that he is trying to crowd the mourners once too often.

There is disorder in the opposition camp in regard to some of the wards. Ald. Shaw, probably, will have no opposition in Wellington. It was thought Ald. Wilkins would be a candidate against him, but the latter sensibly concluded that he was not in it in such a race, and he has accordingly accepted a position as a temporary postal clerk on the New Brunswick mail route. If there were any other government situations immediately available, others of the council might do worse than follow his example.

Mr. Hedley V. Cooper, who is wholly new to civic politics, is mentioned as a candidate for King's ward. If he comes, he says, it will be on his own account, and not as a member of an opposition ticket.

There has been an effort to induce a member of a well-known dry goods firm to come out as an opposition man in Queens, but he has not yet consented to do so, and it is not likely he will.

The opposition candidate for Prince is Ald. Nickerson. When that is said, enough is said.

There was a plan to put Ald. Blizard in very uncongenial company by running him for Dukes, but he has done better by taking a nomination from the Tax Reduction Association. As he is conceded to be a man who will win, it is improbable the opposition will waste their energies by putting anybody against him.

There is a hustle to get an opposition man in Sidney, but with poor prospects of success. Ald Lewis will not come, neither will James McKinney, jr., nor Major Andrew J. Armstrong, all of whom have been talked of as available men.

On the west side, ex-alderman Stackhouse is the opposition man for Brooks, despite the fact that if the city of St. John is forced to pay $5,000 for the lots adjoining the Sand Point improvements, he is the man who will be responsible for it. He is pleading for sympathy because, as he asserts, he was not used well by the T. R. A., in being left off the ticket after he and his friends had arranged that he should be on it. He has already been rejected by the electors of Brooks ward, and he will probably be rejected again, with the votes of the whole city thrown in for good measure.

In Guys, Ald. Colwell is to the front. Whatever way be his prospects in the ward, the city at large is likely to vote for Ald. Lockhart.

In the North End, no opposition has yet been found for Lorne. Ald. Christie is out for Lansdowne, while Ald. McGoldrick stands for Stanley in response to a requisition. Stanley is a big ward, geographically, but the city is a great deal bigger, as the genial John is likely to learn when the votes are counted.

Ald. Kelly is, of course, to the front in Dufferin, but his eminently successful plan of campaign in that borough in the past will hardly avail him in this contest. He would have to pay the taxes of half the city this year in order to make himself solid with the electors, and even then he might find himself out in the cold.

Even if Ald. Kelly should be elected, history will not repeat itself by Ald. Law apologizing to him for voting against him. Ald. Law is out for Victoria, and from all indications is likely to stay out. He has a big contract when he undertakes to defeat Ald. Seaton, a man whose record at the board must have the approval of every good citizen.

Ald. Israel Smith is said to be one of the opposition candidates for alderman at large, and Ald. Knox, who has recently come to the front as one of our portwardens who are trying to vote themselves a salary, is the other.

Altogether, the prospects for the opposition are not right, and they must know it by this time. Whether the T. R. A. has acted wisely at all times or not, the fact remains that it has put a ticket in the field which can be conscientiously endorsed by every friend of reform and every opponent of ward heeling and ring rule. It has come to stay, and every day sees an increase of those who have made up their minds to vote the whole ticket, without the scratching of a single name.

Some important changes have been made in the T. R. A., ticket during the coming week. Ald. O'Brien, who was to be a candidate for alderman at large has retired for a variety of reasons, some of which he has stated. He does not object to the T. R. A. platform so much as to the way people might misunderstand it. Ald. McCarthy has been put on in his place, and it goes without saying that he will be elected by a rousing majority. He deserves to be, for he is one of the best men the board has had for years.

Taking the complete T. R. A. ticket as it stands and comparing it, name by name, with the list of men who are in opposition to it, the man who wants good government and lower taxes cannot hesitate a moment in making his choice. It would be a bad day for St. John if the opposition prevailed.

BACK NUMBER PROXIES.

They Come in Handy for Controlling the Directorate of a Company.

HALIFAX, March 29.—It will be remembered by PROGRESS readers that at the annual meeting of the Eastern Canada Savings and Loan Company of this city, J. C. Mackintosh our leading stock broker, who had been a director and president, was left off the board, and R. L. Borden elected in his place. This was done through the instrumentality of Alfred Whitman, who was a director and solicitor and till recently had been secretary. Mr. Whitman was removed from the secretaryship, it was said, through the influence of J. C. Mackintosh. At the annual meeting Mr. Whitman quietly piled in proxies for Mr. Borden as director and president, and Mr. Mackintosh was left out in the cold. But Mr. Whitman's triumph has been short-lived, for Mr. Borden, learning the circumstances of his election, refused to serve on the directorate or act as president. On his retirement Mackintosh, as next highest, stepped back into the directorate. Mr. Whitman returned to the city from an unsuccessful political campaign in Guysborough county, to find his little place in the Eastern Canada Company had also gone wrong.

More than that, it is stated the directors will not allow Mr. Whitman to use those proxies again, alleging that they are out of date and given him for an entirely different purpose than for controlling the directorate and the company's officers. The proxies have been in Whitman's possession since the organization of the company, locked up in his desk except when taken out for some special purpose like the anti-Mackintosh election.

Now that J. C. M. is once more on the board, and in a position to make himself felt, interesting developements are anticipated in some quarters. Mr. Whitman's position as solicitor of the company is a good thing, and whether or not he can keep it much longer is a problem that gives a good deal more anxiety to the solicitor himself than to onlookers, though the latter await the progress of events, not without some excusable curiosity.

Judges and Judgeship.

The judgeship appointment is still serving as a fertile topic for talk among the politicians. Nothing has been done and the chances seem to be fairly even between Messrs Skinner and Vanwart. The only thing of note this week is the statement in one of the daily papers, the Telelegraph, commenting upon what it considers Mr. Vanwart's unfitness for the office. It is hardly necessary to say that there will not be very general agreement with this assertion. Ex-judge Palmer, is keeping quiet and, it is said preparing for his trip abroad. There is some speculation as to whether he will retire altogether from law or engage in its practice. He has an exceedingly comfortable pension but he is by no means incapable of giving just as sound an opinion as ever upon legal questions. One of the first lawyers remarked to PROGRESS that if the ex-judge was to issue his card as consulting counsel he would have more business than he could attend to. "I would willingly pay $100" said this gentleman "to go into a suit backed by the favorable opinion of judge Palmer.

Departments Transposed.

The publication of the most complete synopsis of the report in the Bathurst school matter which has yet appeared in any paper has made unusual demands on the columns of PROGRESS this week. The usual musical and theatrical notes have therefore been transposed to the twelfth page, while two stories submitted in the prize competition will be found on the fifteenth page.