

# PROGRESS.

EDWARD S. CARTER, EDITOR.

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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, APRIL 3

## JUVENILE FICTION.

The late "OLIVER OPTIC" (WILLIAM TAYLOR ADAMS) deserves a grateful epitaph from at least two generations of juvenile readers. It would be wrong of course, for his warmest friends to claim that his work has placed upon the true literary plane, yet his stories for young people have been a wholesome influence for good—a service which is in more danger of being under-valued than of being over-estimated. The genial personality, the open-air atmosphere, the alert, inspiring spirit of his tales have been felt by many thousands. To a certain extent Mr. ADAMS style and treatment of his themes were an outgrowth of the goody-goody juvenile literature of his early days, but he broke away from the mushy type and gave to the boys series after series of healthy flesh and blood books of adventure full of real boys and girls.

To be sure OLIVER OPTIC has been distanced in the race by many later writers who have profited by his pioneer work. Not all of the new juvenile fiction is an improvement however, and it is doubtful if the snobbishness of "Little Lord Fauntleroy" or the melodramatic luridness of G. A. HENTY is as wholesome and beneficial as "OLIVER OPTIC's" familiar old time stories. But it would seem as though the day is coming when so much strictly juvenile fiction, will not be written—a day when the rising generation will be more quickly and more directly initiated into the really great books which are the supreme heritage of the human race.

There is an atmosphere of unbelief in many quarters that it is to be deeply deplored. The questioning of the JONAH Bible story is fishy enough, but the "AURIE" and "ASTRAL" claims of ANNIE BESANT are more so. The new discoveries at Niffer in Assyria serve to bring in question the age of the world so strongly as to unsettle the six thousand year theory that we have been brought up on. Dr. LYMAN ABBOTT by some utterances has put an interrogation in many ideas of religion that is painful.

London boast of a gasoline fire engine which has pneumatic wheels, and propels itself to fires. It is highly spoken of as a thing of noiseless action both when in motion on the way to press and when engaged in pumping water. Nothing is said about its ability to carry water. In London, however, owing to the character of the buildings, fires can be extinguished with less water than is necessary among inflammable buildings in the larger cities of this continent.

The convicts of Mississippi are a source of revenue to the State, the profit derived from them last year having been \$40,000. The State has bought good acres of good farming land and rented or leased much more and on this land its 900 convicts are worked, humanely, but diligently, so as to secure the best results. This seems an unfair competition with the farmers of the State.

Local politics which have been unusually quiet all along, are beginning to look up a little and the various candidates are making a pretty stiff fight for civic honors. One or two of the mayoralty candidates are pretty active, and a house to house candidate is being made. The feeling against fourth term office holder continues to grow at a rapid rate.

When the Sultan wants to see a play he sends out for a company and attends the representation in his dining room. Before the performance he hands the manager some original jokes of his own, to be

added to the dialogue, so the troupe is sure of one appreciative listener.

Paris expects to make a wonderful display of new inventions at the exhibition of 1900 and the returns are not all in yet by three years. A display of the inventions of a single year in these times of scientific activity would be a big show.

With the assistance of the latest machines a piece of leather can be transferred into a pair of boots in thirty-four minutes, in which time it passes through the hands of sixty three people and fifteen machines.

A new book is out attacking all existing ideas about a law of gravitation. It has always been hard to convince a man who slips on the ice that his fall is governed by a fixed mathematical rule.

JOHN L. SULLIVAN, the modern gladiator, may now be heard as the man that whipped him has been whipped by FITZSIMMONS, so that SULLIVAN, for all talking purposes, is in the ring.

Speculative enterprise in Great Britain is galloping. For eleven months of 1896 the capitalization of the new corporations was \$705,000,000, just \$210,000,000 more than in 1895.

A new electric heater is out which weighs ten pounds and which can be used in offices, shops, factories, carriages and in fact almost anywhere where feet need warming.

Wouldn't it be funny if in those cities which have forbidden the three story theatre hat that women should resolve to wear their hair high.

A good many battleships are being equipped with torpedo dynamo tubes ten feet below the surface of the water. What next?

Roads are so bad in Connecticut that a funeral procession there recently had to take to the street cars.

## HIGH PRICED CERTIFICATE.

A Physician Wanted \$300 for one From an Insurance Man.

HALIFAX, April 1.—The Chronicle the other morning stated that one of the prospective candidates for aldermanic honors went on a "jollification" the night before. The paper, in remarking that he would not make a model city father, said he smashed several panes of glass in a saloon and took charge of the place in general. Then he made several "visits" about town, but whether it was in quest of votes or not was not learned. He said he had \$2,000 in cash with which he was prepared to bet he would be elected.

Speaking of aldermanic contests another little incident is suggested. It is said that a certain physician in this city some days ago tried a big game on an Amherst man. It seems that the Amherstonian held life insurance policies on a citizen who died not long ago in this city. One was for \$500 and the other for \$6,000.

The Amherst man found it necessary in order to obtain the amount of the policy, to obtain a certificate of death from the doctor who had attended the case. The certificate was asked for and the policyholder was not averse to giving the doctor ten dollars or so for his trouble. But ten dollars was nothing to the Amherstian. He got advice from a friend, who told him that the policies were no good without the certificate and he determined to fly high. Instead of \$10 this ambitious physician demanded that he receive the face of the smaller policy as price of giving the death certificate to secure payment of both. This was steep and no wonder the Amherst man demurred in meeting the demand of the Halifax doctor. He went to a lawyer and was informed that the physician had him so to speak, where the hair was short, and advised a visit to the head office of the company to see if an arrangement could not be come to so that the money might be paid without the loss of one of the policies even if it were only for \$500. The result of this visit to the States has not yet been learned, but the doctor may depend on it that the Amherst beneficiary will wait awhile ere he pays \$500 for the privilege of drawing the money which any other physician would make possible, if it lay in his power for a nominal fee. The law seems strange that would give a grasping doctor such power.

## His Ingenious Device.

A Kansas man has been granted a patent on a device for fastening houses together and holding them on their foundations, which is simply a series of rods fastened to opposite sides of the house and to foundation walls and roof and tightened by means of turn-buckles, the idea being to prevent houses from blowing away in cyclones.

Oh Sirs Be-seated, Ours, Splint, Perforated Dual, 27 Waterloo.

## THE STYLES THAT WILL RULE.

The Season for Summer Millinery is Well Under Way.

The great event of the week in millinery circles was Manchester, Robertson and Allison's spring opening on Thursday and Friday of this week. For the greater convenience of their visitors the silk room on the second floor was given over to the ladies and on long tables, draped in shaded old rose and green, were artistically arranged the choicest creations fresh from the hands of the world's leading artists. From the ceiling were suspended white silk draped flower, parasols, the idea being carried out in clover, roses, violets, carnations and poppies. The ceiling itself was softly draped with clouds of tinted chiffon, and the mirrors with creamy lace. Baskets of flowers were disposed around the room and two cosy booths afforded accommodation for the delightful process known as "trying on." The Easter hat of '97, whatever else it may be, is not remarkable for its simplicity; it is coquettish to the last degree and is wonderfully made, resembling nothing so much as a fragment of the hanging gardens of Babylon! Its distinctive feature is that flowers are used exclusively in the garnishing, and ribbons, feathers and laces have to take a second place in up to date headwear.

Red geraniums and violets are the very latest caprice, a model hat from Paris of the tip-tilted order showing a mass of the scarlet flowers and green leaves on the brim, and under the brim varied with bunches of violets, while the high trimming at the left side consists of a single small geranium plant, the whole effect being indescribably chic and novel.

Next to the brilliant red flowers and the soft, dainty violets, the very fashionable blossom of the season is the poetic narcissus, called most frequently the daffodil. It will, on account of the continued popularity of the deep and delicate yellow dyes, retain its vogue all summer—first as a genuine blossom, afterwards as an imitation of in deference to the marvellous skill of the Parisian flower makers as a reproduction. The lack of vitality, like that of many of the artificial roses, cannot be discovered in the beautiful copy until one has touched the flower. It deceives the eye entirely, having all the fresh, fragile appearance and natural delicate glow of the true blossom.

Ostrich feathers in black, white and colors are very much worn and the long curled, aigrettes, no longer stiff, erect, are with us again. The toque is a very popular hat this season but it is larger and more pretentious than ever before, with fluted or draped brims of silky straw and high trimming on one side.

One of the most elegant hats notched in M. R. & A's this morning was a large white leghorn with lace brim, and embroidered satin crown. At the left side were three lovely white plumes, with a fourth drooping over the back, a cluster of colored roses and a lace fan. Lace and roses were arranged at the right side, and a cluster of roses was placed under the brim, towards the back another leghorn was caught up at the left side with roses, which were also on the crown with the dainty leaves falling on the brim. On the brim were also loops of cream chiffon, with cream tulle, ribbon and chiffon bow at the back.

All black hats were very much in evidence; a most magnificent one shown was very large and was of shirred net, with edge of Napolitan at aw and fancy straw crown. Four long black feathers were at the left side, and two curls of ospreys falling in different directions. Black lace was draped on the brim, and jet ornaments were used.

A small black hat had a dainty pleating of black chiffon on the brim with a small osprey and jet buckle at the left side. Another charming thing in black had a lace pleating on the brim, Napolitan straw crown, with two very large loops of ribbon and a jet ornament at the right side, while at the left side was a handsome bunch of black feathers. A rather odd shaped hat was of pink, bordering on cerise; the trimming consisted of black feathers at the left side, and chiffon rosettes. An artistic creation was of brown tulle, trimmed entirely in pink; a crescent shaped bow at the back was made up with eight loops and two ends, heliotrope flowers were placed at the back, and pearl ornaments were used.

A chic, pretty bonnet was in tulle with a straw with black lace trimmings, pretty jet ornaments and a wired green flower in the front. Another much admired creation was in Nile green satin puffed lace points, with pretty designed ornaments, and near the front a lilac of very pale green. A more elaborate one was of puffed ribbon in a shot effect of green and pale pink; pink roses, leaves, lace and iridescent ornaments were arranged near the front. A all black French bonnet was the embodiment of richness and simplicity combined. It was trimmed high in the front with chiffon,

lace and black roses, a stylish bow at the back, and had black ties.

For the little folks there are numerous dainty things in the way of hats in mousseline de silk, lace and chiffon, with shirred crowns and pleated brims, hats come in pale pretty shades. The washable bonnets in Hamburg and embroidered muslins have both close fitting and flaring fronts. The utmost mod hats for young girls are displayed in an almost endless variety of shapes and colors, and there is everything new in the way of ribbons, straws, cream eyes and chiffons to choose from. Fasteners that are slightly sprinkled with gold and silver sequins are a novelty of this year, that have a very striking effect.

Messrs. Manchester, Robertson & Allison have made every effort to give their patrons a very elaborate selection to choose their spring and summer millinery from, and an inspection by the ladies of this city will convince them of the firm's success in this direction.

## NEW BRUNSWICK MUSICIANS.

The Girls From this Province Lead in Music at Edgell N. B.

WINDSOR, Mar. 29.—Is there anything in the air of New Brunswick conducive to the acquirement of instrumental and vocal music? They have had a concert in the new Assembly Hall at Edgell, Windsor, N. S., at which sixteen performers out of a class of eighty pupils were selected for their qualifications—Out of these sixteen, eight hailed from New Brunswick, six from Nova Scotia and one from New York. Inquiry has elicited that out of the present boarders at this Institution, there are 42 young ladies from Nova Scotia, 17 from New Brunswick, 7 from New York, 4 from Quebec, and six from other provinces. It is a curious feature that the musical talent at Edgell should be so largely concentrated in girls from New Brunswick and there seems to be something in tastes or associations of New Brunswick girls which develop musical acquirements. The proportions are so marked that some explanation seems to be within reach. An examination of the following programme will show this peculiar tendency in a very striking manner.

## PROGRAMME.

1. Part Song—"Gipsy Chorus".....Weber
2. Piano Solo—"Spinnelied".....Littell Florence Bowman.
3. Song—"Baby's Dream".....Mabel Fugatey.
4. Piano Duet—"Allergo".....Loechhorn Winifred Barker & Joan Coster.
5. Vocal Duet—"Friendship".....Marziale Constance Chandler & Constance Winslow.
6. Piano Duo—"Minuet".....Mozart M. Dickey & M. Parker.
7. Song—"In the time of the Roses".....Corbett Miss Winslow.
8. Piano Solo—"Nocturne".....Chopin Madeline Barker.
9. Cantata—"The Rose of Life".....Cowan Soloists—Soprano, M. Fugatey and M. Barker, Mezzo-Soprano—H. Bigelow, Contralto—C. Chandler.
10. Chorus—"Sad of Heart".....
11. Solo (Soprano)—"Stay, sisters, stay".....
12. Chorus of Maidens—"Far and wide we will seek roses".....
13. Trio (Soprano, Mezzo-Soprano, and Contralto) or Three-Part Chorus—"We bring roses in our hands".....
14. Solo (Soprano) and Chorus—"My flower is a Rose named Fairly".....
15. Solo (Mezzo-Soprano) and Chorus—"This flower I could at twilight".....
16. Solo (Contralto)—"There is a Book".....
17. Finale. Solo (Soprano)—"See, there is light".....Shumann Blanche Hamilton.
18. Piano Duet—"Scherso".....Jensen I. Dodwell & B. Ross.
19. Song—"Life".....Blumenthal Constance Chandler.
20. Piano Duo—"Gondollers".....Reinecke B. Hamilton & S. Halliburton.
21. Vocal Trio—"Good-night".....Bendall M. Fugatey, G. Looby & H. Bigelow.
22. Song—"God Save The Queen."

The young performers classified as to their homes stand thus:

- NEW BRUNSWICK
1. Miss Winslow, Chatham
  2. Miss Constance Chandler, Dorchester
  3. Miss Madeline Barker, St. John
  4. Miss Blanche Hamilton, Dorchester
  5. Miss Looby, Campbellton
  6. Miss Joan Coster, St. John
  7. Miss Winifred Barker, St. John
  8. Miss Margaret Parker, St. Andrews
- NOVA SCOTIA
1. Miss Florence Bowman, Windsor
  2. Miss Mabel Fugatey, Amherst
  3. Miss M. Dickey, Amherst
  4. Miss Dodwell, Halifax
  5. Miss Halliburton, Liverpool
  6. Miss Bigelow, Truro
- NEW YORK
1. Miss Ross

Whatever may be the cause of the preponderance of musical taste and talent in girls from New Brunswick, it is well to know that such tastes can be developed and improved by skillful culture. The head of the Music Department at Edgell is Miss Manners, assisted by Miss Lillian Manners and Miss Irvine, with Herr Tiebets as violinist. It is said that another accomplished sister of Miss Manners comes to Edgell in September. The new Music Rooms and the Art Room which have been added to the building at Edgell, enable these departments to be largely developed and the new assembly hall give splendid opportunities for the proper display of



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acquirement. It is also understood that notable changes and improvements are contemplated in the English and Language department.

## PROFESSING FOR A FIGHT.

Two Halifax Men Getting Ready for a Fistic Encounter.

HALIFAX, April 1.—A swell boarding house on Morris street is much troubled these days. The disquiet grows out of a discussion that began over the Fitzsimmons-Corbett mill. Two of the guests took opposing views of the merits of the pug and the argument became so hot that finally it was almost another test of physical prowess on a smaller scale. The other guests became wearied beyond endurance by the manifestation of constant difference of opinion between the two and to revenge themselves they determined if possible to get the mouth fighters at work with their fists. They succeeded in the preliminary part of this only too well. A course of training was begun, each in his own room, lasting through the evenings and on towards the midnight hour, so that sleep for most of the others in the boarding-house was out of the question. Each had succumbed to the flattery of a certain coterie in the house, that he imagined he was an easy superior over his rival, and that all that was necessary was a course in boxing to fit for an assertion of that superiority. So boxing masters were secured and night after night the hours were made hideous by the training that was pursued. The "leg-pullers" have gone even further. They got an unused portion of the basement and have strewn the floor over with sawdust, made a ring and fitted up the place with all the accessories of a first-class pugilistic arena. Meanwhile the practice continues with unabated vigor. There is just one little screw loose in the perfection of the arrangements and this is that the police have been given a tip regarding the affair and a third party from that quarter may take a hand in when the hour of combat arrives. The guests at the house, and the genial proprietor too, wish with fervency that the blue-coated officers would make their appearance prior to the culmination and stop those separate "rehearsals."

## THEIR SMOKING CONCERT.

But the Newspapers Reported It in a Different Manner.

HALIFAX, April 1.—This is April Fool's day, and it just occurs to the writer that some one on the staff of a leading evening newspaper must have thought that last Saturday was the joking day. St. John is probably favored with "smoking concerts" Halifax, at any rate, has many of them, and they take well. At the same time it is not contended that a smoking concert is just the best place for boys, even pretty big boys. Clan McLean, one of the flourishing organizations of Scots-men in this city, had a "smoker" last Friday evening. The members thought it passed off very well indeed, and they indulged in mutual congratulations. They were hardly prepared however, for the style of the notice that appeared next evening in the newspapers. The notice was complimentary, but the heading went a little too far, for it read "Clan McLean Sunday School. If the little function on that Friday evening was a Sunday school, what in the name of all that's reasonable, would a genuine Clan McLean smoking concert be like? Pandemonium! But possibly it was only a smoking concert after all, and not Sunday school, and the newspaper thought that Saturday was April fool's day and he was springing a joke.

On Monday morning another newspaper in this city seemed to fall into a similar error when it spoke of the "Grits" setting the Balkans on fire, evidently by mistake for the Greeks.

## If Your Pants

look shabby send them to us. We sponge and tailor press them like new for 25c.; full suits 50c. Ungar's Laundry and Dye works, Waterloo Street.