

PROGRESS.

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EVENTS OF CITY LIFE.

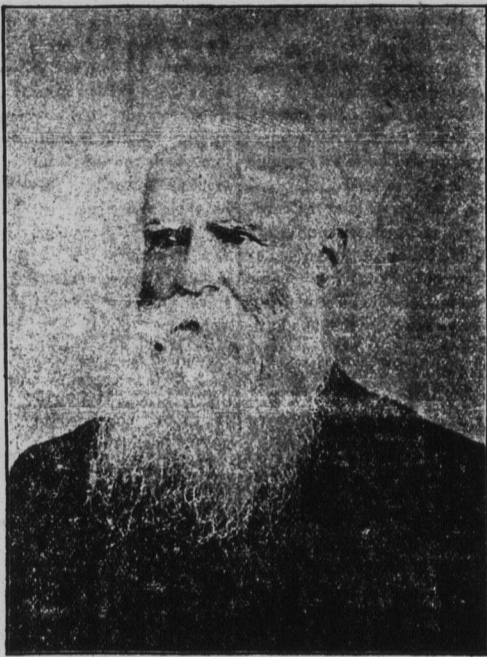
Town Topics of the Week—Many Interesting and Breezy Articles.

The telephone has become such an instrument of common use, that few people now-a-days ever give it much thought as to its utility throughout the land. All kinds of people have adopted it and there is no doubt as to its popularity. There is one class of persons, however, that have not altogether put it into use, this is the medical fraternity. One of the leading physicians in the city said the other day, that under no consideration would he have a telephone in his residence, that it would be more annoying than it was worth. He got along all right before the instrument came in use, and he found he made out just as well now without it. Another doctor interrogated on the subject said "Well he had used the telephone for years it is a great convenience in many ways, but in our profession it has its drawbacks." "You would be surprised," he said "the number of times we are all called up unnecessary. Sometimes it is a very disagreeable and unaccommodating and a whole book could be written on such instances which would be as amusing to the public as they were at the time annoying to me." "I have been called up out of bed many times after a hard days work and when rest was very much desired with such a remark from a mother that she feels sure that baby was better now or to answer a question from a patient as to whether it would be all right to get up the next day "I remember one afternoon calling on a lady in whose house there was sickness and she asked me if I intended going to a party that night. I replied that I could not as I had to make a visit to the country. It was midnight before I got back from that visit, very much tired out. My wife was away at the time. I sent the girl to bed, and lived in hopes that the telephone would rest easy. No sooner had I got soundly asleep than went the bell. It was my lady friend of the afternoon. She wished to know if I had got back and began telling me all I had missed by not being at the party. Of course I had to be polite, but standing for fully ten minutes with not too many clothes on could not but ruffle the best of dispositions, and all about the very last stuff in the world you cared about listening to just then. When I hung up the telephone, the talking was still going on, but I took very good care to hang the instrument in such a way that it wouldn't ring again that night. I went to sleep and dreamed such pleasant dreams of how doctors were so happy before telephones were invented. Another night my wife called me telling me that the phone was ringing that she had answered it, but could not understand, and I didn't blame her for all the nonsensical lot of talking I never listened to before. I persevered for about five minutes when the brilliant thought struck me to ask central. There I was told that no one called me, "but the bell rang" I informed them "If that is the case the wires must have got crossed. This was my reward for patience and I informed central that the next time the wire got twisted not to ring me up. I believe however that central told the truth for I learned the next day that two well-known politicians who had been celebrating that day, had been talking over the telephone the night before and I have no doubt that the conversation was sufficient to cross any wires "you see" said the doctor that a physician's life is not always an easy one and the telephone does not always help us out. Oh yes it is a great invention and a great convenience when you want to use it, but it is monstrous when it doesn't treat you right.

St. Valentine.

Valentine's Day was the occasion of much amusement among the younger class of people, but the day is not kept nearly as much as some years ago. The postmen had their usual share to handle, but they were of the comic variety for the most part. Of course there are some mad people in St. John, but they dare not say so. The paper lace and tinsel, the gaily printed loves and doves and roses of ready-made valentines make pretty playthings, and signify a suitable exchange of childish attentions; but they are quite beneath the dignity of young

folk old enough to take themselves seriously as lovers. Indeed, the courting quality has quite vanished from the day, which used—as readers of Scott's 'Fair-



SENATOR J. V. ELLIS.
The Mover of the Address in the Senate.

Maid of Perth' will remember—to be a very important one to maids and bachelors of long ago. Most of the customs attendant on its old observance have perished also. But the opportunity for an anonymous gift remains; and whether it is to be given to lad or lass, little or big, whether it is a token of friendship or an offering of sentiment, the custom is a pretty and graceful one, and a pleasing survival from times gone by.

DEATH'S WORK.

Great Changes in Fredericton Within a few Years

PROGRESS had an interesting conversation with a gentleman this week, who lately came from Fredericton, but who had not visited that city for some ten years past. The changes to his mind that had taken place in the Celestial city during the time of his absence had been great and many, but there was nothing that struck him so much as the change that death had made during the last few years. As persons pass away they are to a great extent forgotten by the public at large. The work of death in Fredericton has been gradual and the aggregate a large one, and a person would be surprised should he stop and think of the many who have died within the period of a short time. The great change brought about in this way does not strike one who lives right along in a place, nearly as much as it does a person returning to the place after an absence of a few years. Let us take a glance at the "stat. First there is the ministry, who among the youngest cannot call to mind Bishop Medley, Father McDevitt and the Rev. Richard Simonds, to say nothing of many others occupying important positions in that calling. Then the legal profession, what a group there is here. Chief Justice Allen, Judge Fraser, Judge Wetmore, William Street, George Botsford, F. A. H. Stratton, William Carman, George J. Bliss, Wesley Vanwart, Fred Fisher, E. H. Wilmot, and many others. The medical profession too has had its share what more familiar characters on the streets of Fredericton than the late Dr. Brown and the late Dr. Coulthard and Dr. Gregory. The merchants include such well known men as John Edgewood, Spefford Barker, Geo. Hatt, S. A. Akerley, John Babbitt, James White, S. F. Shute, S. A. Purdy, John McDonald, Simon Neale, Thos. Loggan, A. A. Miller, Jas. Myshall, James Tibbitts, J. G. McNally, and John MacKay. Add to these the large number of leading citizens of various walks in life and there is a body indeed. In this latter a few only may be

mentioned: Thos. Temple, Geo. E. Fenety, W. O'Dell, Dr. Jack, Archie Inches, Julius Inches, H. G. C. Ketchum, Geo. A. Parley, C. Whitaker, Jas. Moore, Jas. Edwards, John Richards, John Edgar, H. Winters, J. B. Grievess, J. Kenney, John Pickard, Wm. Fisher, Col. Beverley Robinson, Col. John Robinson, Marshall Ritchie and D. F. George.

All the above mentioned were familiar figures on the streets of Fredericton but a few years ago. Nor does that city stand alone in the work death has wrought.

Any of us, even the youngest can put down the names of dozens who have passed away in this city and the list would surprise even the most imaginative of us. The world moves on, others drop in and take place of those departed and the dead lies buried.

The Movers of the Address.

Parliament got down to business this week. The address in reply to the speech was moved by Mr. Hugh Guthrie. A Montreal paper describes him as tall, well built, with a clean shaven face, well marked by regular features and a jaw betokening firmness, is a figure to attract attention. His voice is of fairly good timbre and resonant, with a good delivery and easy manner.

Considering the circumstances, Mr. Guthrie at least justified the expectations of his friends and made a good impression on those who had never heard him before. The subject matter of his speech partook of the bombast, exaggeration and optimism, which usually characterize such speeches, yet withal there was thought and "meat" in it. Young members speeches generally would be the better of blue penciling, but, perhaps, in their exuberance of phrase, there is a special charm.

Mr. Chas. Marcell who seconded the address, is a stalwart, manly and modest man with locks of soft gray hair sweeping across a high broad forehead, a face and figure to strike the eye in any audience. His manner was easy, as one accustomed to public speaking, but his voice for the first few sentences, appeared weak, until he had gauged the acoustic properties of the chamber. Mr. Ellis who moved the address in the senate is too well known to our readers to need any description. He did full justice to his subject and made a most favorable impression in the chamber.

The Queen's Life.

So far to PROGRESS knowledge no less than six lives of Queen Victoria are advertised. This does not mean that the late Sovereign lived six lives, but up to date there are six different writers who think that each knows more than the other about Victoria. The book agents will be kept pretty busy in the future and as it is all in the same line, competition will be equal to that in life insurance. There is no doubt that citizens are just acting for visits from this class of hustlers but they needn't worry, they will receive their full share before many months roll by.

Chairs Re-seated Once, Spin. Perforated, Duvet, 17 Waterloo

SOUTH END RESORTS.

The Police Are Fully Aware of Their Presence—They Have Simply Moved.

The police court business still continues at the same old stand on King street, while the business of the bawdy houses at the eastern end of Britain street is at a standstill.

The recent upheaval and disclosures relative to these haunts of vice, and the association of the police therewith has caused no small amount of discussion throughout the city.

It is certainly time that this illicit and unlawful business is not now carried on, in this vicinity at least, to such a great extent as was hitherto the case.

In the meantime the social evil is said to be spreading itself over parts of the city and it is even said that the police do not have to go out of Lower Cove to suppress such places. The migration of these people has been from one end of Britain street to the other. Instead of finding them on the eastern end of that street, they can now be located at the extreme western end, not many rods distant from Reed's Point.

Chief Clark says that he intends to wipe these places out. Now is the time to do it when they are spreading themselves over the city. He can get valuable facts from his patrol sergeants and policemen concerning their existence.

PROGRESS, some time ago, referred to the matter of remission of police court fines. What was said then is verified by recent facts. In the late police activity some arrests were made. The inmates were fined a cool hundred. It is generally said that the man who figured in the affair secured his liberty on the payment of half that amount. It has been further asserted that the youngest and the oldest of the quartette of women arrested secured their liberty this week at a decreased rate.

This may be justice from one point of view, but it seems passing strange that such a heavy fine should be imposed and the next minute rescinded. The Common Council has taken steps to regulate the matter of fines, etc. The city fathers must have evidently awakened to the fact of the absurdity of the system now.

A CHANGE NEEDED.

Our City Fathers and Police are Slow, They Should Get to Work.

The Police of Saint John have wakened up lately. Since the Ring investigation there seems to be a little more life in the force and if that investigation did no other good, it certainly opened the eyes of those in authority to the fact that the citizens expected more life, and energy shown in the future by the guardians of the town. During the winter a number of people have been reported for not shovelling the snow off of their sidewalks. This is not taken as an example of any great police vigilance, for it is an old story, in fact it may be taken as showing just the opposite, for many think that the time taken in making these reports might be used to better advantage in other directions. Just what benefit is received from making these reports is a mystery. It has yet to be shown that the exchequer has in any way increased its funds in this connection. It is well enough to levy fines, but there is no sense in such procedure if such fines are of no account and the majority of legal talent believe this and the non-collecting of these fines would give the idea that there are others of a similar way of thinking, at least they do not care about testing the question Police activity then in this direction is of disadvantage as it only brings ridicule. There are generally however one or two things that always happens in St. John when the police show a little more liveliness. This is always manifested in the report of some isolated case, not of any material benefit, but as evidence that the "cop" was present when something was going on. This week the report was handed in to headquarters that an inhabitant was seen driving on the sidewalk. This is against the law and so must be considered wrong. At the same time it has its comical side. It only goes to show how very little the police can get its eye open, and is a fair sample of what is done

in this direction is also done in others. There is not a day that there are not dozens driving on the sidewalks and why one poor individual is picked out is not quite clear. But such is police protection and what the people are called upon to pay to support. As to driving on the sidewalk it is doubtful that it is such a misdemeanor. Is it not the safer place after a fall for team and pedestrians alike, considering the way the streets of St. John are looked after. On many thoroughfares more persons are to be found walking in the middle of the street than on the sidewalk, the miserable and icy condition of the latter compels this action. A man might run some risks in taking the middle course, but he certainly runs more in trying to maneuver along the icy sidewalks should a driver be blamed than if he attempts to keep out of the pedestrian's way by keeping off of the middle streets. Most people will say no. The responsibility is the city's and the latter should see that all places are made decent to travel on. If it were such a difficult job to remedy the defect some slight excuse might be made but none exist. By a very little expense the sidewalks of the city could be made for what they were intended, but the fact of the matter is they are not looked after properly at all. The aldermen will spend time in talking over the expenditure of some scheme, while the citizens of St. John would think much more of them if they devoted a little time towards looking after the comforts of life. There is no reason in the world why our streets shouldn't be sprinkled regularly with sand, the expense is trifling and save many a doctor's bill. The physicians, charge for attending a broken limb would sprinkle a good many sidewalks. The ideas of many City Fathers are two high with their expensive schemes, they want to come down to the level of the street.

New Drill Hall.

St. John demands a new drill hall. The demand is a great and reasonable one. No city in Canada in proportion to its population is stronger in its militia and it is time that our militia should be looked after. The drill shed now in use is not properly suited to its purpose. It is neither large enough or centrally enough located. Our young men take a deep interest in military affairs and in this they should be encouraged, but to walk a mile and over to Lower Cove as the majority have to, to drill is not very enticing to the most ardent patriot. PROGRESS hopes before long to see a fine building erected in a central locality.

PROGRESS

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