

# PROGRESS.

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## ON A RIVER EXCURSION.

### THE KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS ENJOY A MOONLIGHT SAIL.

Incidents of the River Trip and the Amount of Ballast Used—Why Barouches Were Used at the Close of the Trip—The Ball Game of Thursday and how it Ended.

The Knights of Pythias owned the town during the latter part of the week and the people generally were glad of it. Their brilliant uniforms and hail-fellow-well-met disposition struck that big soft spot in the heart of every St. Johner and all went merry as that proverbial, "marriage bell". Characteristically American, they brought with them a tiny mint of the tangible and although the home boys have proved themselves princes at entertaining, sparing neither time nor expense, their American brethren nevertheless out of the goodness of their Pythian hearts no doubt, left their good silver certificates in the city quite numerous.

Wherever one would go there they would find a party of Sir Knights. The places of interest were being constantly visited by them and whether it was on the Custom House roof or Suspension bridge there enveloped in a fog bank or two, one would run up against a uniformed eight-seer. They had an excursion and oh!

One hundred and more St. John and American knights were the only passengers aboard but there was considerable freight and just a little "water" ballast. The day was fine and had not the rain come at dusk a beautiful moon would have shone especially for the occasion—perhaps.

They went and came; going out all was pomp and grandeur; returning their fine feathers were in want of re-curling and the beautiful bangs of the gallants sorely needed being banged again. The captain of the steamer was proud of his crew and guests; and especially spoke highly of their ability at shifting "ballast." By the time the Aberdeen returned to the city every particular of it had been shifted, the men consequently being very much fatigued.

Owing to the sudden change of climate and the fatigue of the trip, the knights were quite unable to march home to their hotels with the same steadiness and discipline with which they paraded to the steamer. They got there nevertheless, but several coaches and barouches were necessarily brought into requisition before their destination was reached. Another party besieged an electric, but it was particularly noticeable that none rode a bike.

Even at Thursday's ball game between the Tartars and Alerts the knights turned out in large numbers. Securing a freehold lease of the grand stand they started in to talk the game, umpire, flourish betting wads, and applaud their favorites. Some were for Fredericton, but the majority supported the local side of the contention. Several large bets and many smaller ones were made with a party of Celestial camp followers, the Yankee visitors adding materially to their financial standing, at the close of the contest. The game was lively and hotly contested throughout, St. John winning her laurels after one of the hardest fought games ever witnessed in this city.

Apropos, Thursday's baseball event on the B. and A. grounds shows quite plainly the vulnerability of the Fredericton lads. Of late they have been administering severe defeats to the teams from this city and a victory like that of Thursday is quite refreshing. The Tartars played manfully, but thought it best to leave umpire Phillips at home. He has become famous in St. John, although hardly ever in the city, and the presence of his profile on our foggy streets would only be like waving a red flag before a three quarters crazy bovine.

One of the incidents in connection with the Pythian brethren is that of the ire of manager Belyea of the Balyea Hotel, who promises to sue Major Eastman of the company for breach of contract. It appears the Major engaged rooms for a certain number who did not quite turn up in material form. The inkeeper wants damages but the American says it will be "damages" before he gets it.

Will They Amalgamate.

HALIFAX, July 15.—There is no doubt that the Merchants' bank of Canada, Montreal, would very much like to gobble up that very big morsel the Bank of Nova Scotia, and that other almost as large bite, the bank of British Columbia. If this could be accomplished we would see a bank

rivaling within a million or two in capital the great bank of Montreal with its capital of \$18,000,000. It is almost certain that the stockholders of the bank of Nova Scotia would refuse to yield to the wavings of the Montreal siren, even with the familiar figure of their own Thomas Fybe at the head of affairs. Merchants' Bank people are said to be buying Nova Scotia stock as fast as they can get it, but they will have to work hard to accomplish their ends in that way. Quite probably this amalgamation scheme was a part of the big game when Mr. Fybe was taken from the head of the Bank of Nova Scotia and placed in control of the Merchant's bank of Canada. The fact that leading officials say there is nothing in the rumor of amalgamation means little when it is remembered that George Hague nearly 48 hours after the Halifax papers announced that Mr. Fybe was appointed, kept saying there was nothing in it.

### CALL IT HOWE STREET.

A Suggestion to the Halifax Council in Re-street Naming.

HALIFAX, July 15.—There is confusion worse confounded in regard to the re-naming of that great thoroughfare that runs clear through this city from Point Pleasant north to Bedford Basin and indeed on to Bedford itself. Under the varying names of Pleasant Street, Barrington Street, Lockman Street, and Campbell Road, Alderman Mosher saw the impropriety of this multiplicity of names for what is really one straight street and he proposed that these names be abolished and that the thoroughfare be named Victoria Street from end to end. The council, in a burst of Jubilee loyalty unanimously agreed to this. Opposition at once appeared on the part of Barrington street merchants, who did not wish to lose the name that has now become that of the chief retail business street of the city. Nevertheless, acting on the decision of the council, City Engineer Dane set men to work renumbering the houses. Then the agitation broke out afresh in opposition to change, and Mayor Stephen felt called upon to order a cessation of operations. Thus the matter stands, confusion being predominant.

A little suggestion might not be out of place just here. It is objected that the name Victoria Street is bad because we already have a Victoria road and a Victoria lane in Halifax. Why not, then, unify this great thoroughfare under the name of Nova Scotia's greatest son, and call it "Howe" street. This certainly would be an appropriate name for the longest street, the most populous and the principal street of the city. A committee for years has been trying to raise money to erect a monument in honor of Joseph Howe, and their efforts, so far, have succeeded only in raising a paltry \$800 while \$10,000 is required. A memorial of the father of responsible government in Nova Scotia if not in Canada, of a man who was loved by the people of his province far more than any other politician who has asked their votes, a man who in fact was idolized by his fellow countrymen, should be found in our midst. What better memorial could be provided than the naming of the principal street of this city in honor? Let it, then, be Howe Street!

### TROUBLE IN THE SCHOOL.

The Awful Accusations Against the Fairville Principal.

There is trouble in Fairville school affairs and possibly a change of principal may be the outcome of it. Miss Stewart one of the teachers has been greatly dissatisfied of late, it is said, with the manner in which Principal Nelson has been conducting the affairs of the school. She claims he has allowed her scholars to chew candy while at their studies, as well as being altogether, in her estimation, too lenient by far. Miss Stewart's latest grievance is that Mr. Nelson did not shake hands with another of the lady teachers when she was departing on her vacation.

Such an array of startling accusations could not but have made the well known and popular young principal greatly feel the burden of wrong doing sin upon his shoulders and make him tremble for his position. An investigation was held, so great had grown the zeal of the accusers, and trustees Dr. Gray, Jas. Keady, Robt. Fair and other well known Fairville gentlemen were present. The medical board member seemed to support Miss Stewart's contention but another trustee in a business like way refused to listen to the evidence of the lady

teacher, claiming it to be mere child's play and not worthy of consideration in such a serious matter. It was a trial of Mr. Nelson's honor and only conclusive evidence could be accepted.

The outcome of the whole matter is that the school principal will retain his position at the request of the school trustees who found no irregularity in his alleged actions at all. However, it is understood the principal does not intend to let the matter drop quite so suddenly but is spending his vacation time with the hope of thoroughly settling the unpleasant matter to the bottom.

### A SCENE IN THE OPERA HOUSE.

A Young Lad Disturbs the Audience and Performers.

Much has been said of late concerning the rowdism that exists in and about the opera houses though the management of this place have done much to stop this grievance.

One or two free fights have occurred in the upper gallery of the house, during the past week which have greatly annoyed the patrons of the theatre, as well as those taking part in the performances. Not a little bit of this trouble is brought about by the incompetent policemen doing duty there, who seem to take a delight in showing their authority.

During the performance of Thursday evening, a row occurred which greatly annoyed the audience, while the performers were also greatly inconvenienced by it. One of the opera house police officials was called to the gallery to arrest a lad who was making a disturbance. He tussled with the young man for some time, and finally came to the conclusion that he was not equal to the occasion. A second officer loaned his assistance but still the lad held his own. A third officer was summoned to the scene of confusion and with the assistance of a "billy" the two officers succeeded in landing the disturber on the street. While the lad was being ejected his friends encouraged him by loud cheers. This kind of thing has been going on for some time and the sooner the management of the house secure competent police help the better.

### IS HE CONVERTED?

A City Yachtsman's Predicament at Beulah Encampment.

The occasion was a solemn one but the ridiculous predicament in which a North End yachtsman was placed at Beulah Camp on Sunday last caused considerable merriment at the time. It was when Rev. Mr. Bonnel was baptizing several candidates at the shore, and fully a thousand persons were onlooking, including a number of yachtsmen who viewed the proceedings from their respective crafts. Everybody was looking as solemn as could be, while the clergyman immersed one by one the converts.

The hero of this story had chosen for himself a very conspicuous position on the bowsprit of the boat in which he was sailing, very near where the solemn ordinance was being observed. He with the rest seemed not a little affected, but just as one of the candidates was being baptized, lost his balance and fell overboard. He and the convert, within a few feet of one another, reappeared at the same time, the yachtsman's friends pulling him out, the officiating clergyman attending to the other. An outburst of laughter followed the peculiar incident and now the yachtsmen claim they have a Jonah in their midst.

### WHO IS THE THIEF?

That is What is Agitating Mr. Wiswell and Many Other People.

HALIFAX, July 15.—He is a thoroughly depraved thief who would steal from County Clerk Wiswell of Halifax, but it seems there is a man in this city bad enough to fill the bill. The theft occurred in November last, yet it is only a day or two since the fact became known, one of the evening papers coming out with remarkable "enterprises" and double headlines over the affair. The article in question stated the loss at \$100 but it was only \$60 that was taken. The money disappeared from his office while it was occupied by Mr. Wiswell and half a dozen apparently responsible people, none of whom would ever be suspected of theft of so daring a character. Mr. Wiswell is a man who pre eminently thinks every man honest till he is proved a rogue. It will be a pity if this pleasant trait in his character is revolutionized. If such should happen this thief will be guilty of a double crime—robbery being perhaps the lesser of the two.

## A DYING CHILD'S TRIP.

### CARRIED FOR MILES BY ITS NEGLECTFUL MOTHER.

While in a Dying Condition, it Expired Just as They Reached Home Again—The Coroner's Jury Says it Was Neglect—The Surroundings of the Child's Parent.

The arrest of Matilda Irvine, a colored woman of the West side, on Saturday night last, on the serious charge of causing the death of her three year old child, created considerable excitement about the city. The jury empanelled to ascertain the cause of the child's death, rendered on Monday night the following verdict, which has evidently had the effect of appessing the minds of the people:—

"We, a jury empanelled to enquire into the death of Archibald B. Irvine, find that the said Archibald B. Irvine came to his death from congestion of the lungs, caused by want of proper care on the part of his mother."

The circumstances surrounding and leading up to the unfortunate child death show how utterly careless and cruel some mother's can be towards their offspring, although from what can be learned, the mother, while not altogether blameless, is far from being responsible for the child's untimely death.

The Irvine woman is a daughter of a Mrs. Wright of Carleton, and both are known to the police, the former from petty offences, such as abusive language and drunkenness, the latter from her love of justice, or more likely her weakness for satisfaction. Matilda Irvine is known to be of unsound mind, and even though she had deliberately killed her baby, it is doubtful if very severe punishment could have been meted out to her for her crime.

Mrs. Wright notwithstanding that one of the morning papers called her a good woman is far from being perfect. She is known to the police as a hard hearted woman, with a quarrelsome disposition and strong will. Some of Mrs. Wright's neighbors in speaking of the death of the infant, place more blame on her than they do on her daughter, the child's mother. Matilda Irvine was twice married and both her husbands are now dead. Since Tom Irvine's death two years ago, Mattie has been keeping company with different colored people, her last friend being Nathan Boyd of Nova Scotia. Boyd was employed at South Bay and the Irvine woman often visited him there.

Wednesday of last week Mrs. Wright with whom Matilda lived, ordered the latter out of her house. Mrs. Irvine agreed to go, but asked that the child be left behind. This Mrs. Wright refused to do, saying that she could not be bothered with the baby who was sickly, and in need of care.

Upon Mrs. Wright's refusal to keep the child she started for South Bay with it. At Fairville an acquaintance met the woman, and after looking at the little one said "Why Mrs. Irvine you should not take that baby out today; it is dying." However, the demented woman and her dying child proceeded to the bar, and stayed there until Saturday, when then returned to the city. Stopping at a store in Fairville on the way home another person, whose attention was drawn to the labored breathing of the child remarked, that "it had not long to live." When the woman reached home or very shortly afterward the unfortunate child had breathed its last.

Mrs. Wright the mother of the Irvine woman was the one to call the police, the one to make the bold charge to the persons that Mattie had killed the baby, and the one to give all the damaging evidence she could against her daughter at the coroner's inquest.

### THE INSPECTOR'S FIND.

Some Surprises to the Occupants of a House of Questionable Fame.

HALIFAX, July 15.—If the discovery that Liquor Inspector Banks is said to have made on Saturday evening is true, the morals of this city need some attention. Banks, accompanied by two police officers, is reported to have raided a house that most people considered respectable, and found therein, late at night, a crowd of young men and women who long before should have been at home in bed in their parents' houses. One of the young women is a member of a church choir in the North end of the city, and every one of these present would have been more severely shocked than they were had Inspector Banks been accompanied by their fathers or mothers instead of by two blue-costed

officers of the law. There certainly seems to be some room for the pessimistic utterances of a section of the people when speaking of the morals of a considerable portion of the people.

### BAD SANITARY ARRANGEMENTS.

Some Institutions in Halifax That Need Well Looking After.

HALIFAX, July 15.—Dr. Carleton Jones chairman of the city medical board, is a man sometimes gitted with great plainness of speech. This was illustrated the other day at a meeting of the board when the subject of sanitary arrangements and ventilation at some of the city schools was under consideration. After City Engineer Doane had described the construction of the outhouses at one of our charitable institutions—the Protestant Orphan home—where some time ago there was a violent epidemic of scarlet fever, Dr. Jones summoned the state of affairs by saying that the school room at the protestant orphan home is over a vault. The city engineer could not take exception to this, and did not attempt it. The health board and board of school commissioners will look into this matter and the chances are that a positive menace to hundreds of children at the orphan home and at Alexandra school will soon be removed. The particular trouble at Alexandra is a complicated system of ventilation which the school janitor does not understand and which he will not try to comprehend or work.

### FILLS HIS POSITION WELL.

Mayor Stephen Makes a Graceful Entertainer and is Much Praised.

HALIFAX, July 15.—Mayor Alexander Stephen of Halifax, in common with the other mayors of the Empire, failed to receive a knighthood at the queen's diamond jubilee. But there is one thing that the mayor did secure—the reputation of being a good entertainer and of being the right man in the right place during the trying two weeks of the woman's council, Jubilee celebration and Cabot ceremonies. His Worship came through the ordeal with flying colors. This statement of fact might have been made earlier, but it sometimes takes time to arrive at a correct conclusion, and now, after the echoes have died away, it can safely be said of Mayor Stephen in this respect and indeed in others, "He has done well."

### They Kept the Dog.

Several residents of the City road have been the victims of a diphtheria scare during the past week. It appears that a dog which had been raised with a family who had been attacked with diphtheria was purchased by a resident of the City road. Upon learning that the dog had come from a house visited by the dread disease several neighbors raised a hue and cry, and visited the owner of the dog requesting him to have the canine put out of the way. As the animal was a valuable one its owner refused to comply with his neighbor's request. The dog fanciers land lord was next visited with the result that the owner is said to have been ordered to quit the premises or destroy the dog. He quit the premises and he and his family now occupy a comfortable cottage on Dorchester Street where he hopes to raise his pup without further trouble.

### He had a Good Time.

A local society this week entertained a visiting fraternal organization from the States to a sail up the beautiful St. John river and as the weather was delightfully fine all the afternoon it is to be presumed that everybody enjoyed themselves immensely. The following day one of the visitors was asked how he liked the river scenery and if he had a good time. "A good time," he replied in a hesitating bewildered way, "A good-time; y-e-s, I guess so. I don't remember much after we left Indiantown; yas I think we must have had a good time" and those who saw the excursion's return quite agreed with him.

### Coming Along All Right.

All lovers of a good horse will be glad to learn that the operation upon Special Blend is succeeding, so far, admirably. Dr. Harger is not a gentleman who talks much about his patient but it is quite evident that he is perfectly satisfied with the progress of the speedy horse. The writer was present when the stitches and silver tubes were removed and the patience and docility of the horse were remarkable. He was not hampered in any way and yet made no resistance to the operations of the doctor.