TIGHTLY BOUND

SAY THE SYSTEM IS BAD.

MASSACHUSETTS CITIES WANT TO ABOLISH WARD ELECTIONS.

Many of Them Are Seeking to Have Their Charters Revised—The Grounds the Same as Taken by "Progress"—Easter and Its Observance in New England.

BOSTON, April 4.—A bright sun, a cold raw wind, a grand church parade, with thousands of stunning bonnets; dresses that took the breath away, shoulder capes, horrid but necessary; an old, old story told anew, in churches banked with costly flowers, and music almost heavenly.

Such was Boston's Easter.

It was great pneumonia weather, but few thought of that. If Easter came at Christmas time it would make no difference. Milliners rushed to death, dress makers worked to death, florists harrassed to death, lay back and rested,—the hill was crossed.

They passed their customers over to the ministers—and the weather. The doctors will probably get there next.

This is frivolous talk for Easter, but it's true. The love of display in the feminine breast, and in that of a certain species of man, overshadows everything else, and Easter brings it out in all its glory.

But with all this, the day was observed fittingly and well. If the people were decked out, so were the churches; flowers here, flowers there, flowers everywhere, thousands of dollars' worth, more so than last year, more so than ever before, and all appropriate and suggestive of the season.

With such surroundings, with such music, with such inspiring words as the preacher spoke as he told the simple story, all must have realized the great truth if only for a moment, a moment that was, mayhap, the turning point in the lives of many.

The observance of Easter is becoming more general here. Greater preparations are made, more people go to church, nearly all denominations recognize it, and even in the most staid and matter of fact congregations the Easter flowers are brought out and placed around the pulpits.

Good Friday is also observed but in the churches, only. It is not a holiday, celebrated like it is in Canada. Fast day still takes its place, and the principal observance is in the way of ball games, on which managers base their calculations for the season. In the smaller towns and cities outside of Boston, the results of the Fast day games usually determines which will be represented in the New England, or minor leagues; plans are made for the season, or pet schemes knocked on the head.

And in the matter of holidays New England seems to be pulling to the head of New Brunswick. The theatres catch the crowds, and the old attractions in other lines seem to drop out one by one. Parades are not what they used to be. The people seem to have got tired of them. The political parades are almost looked upon as a thing of the past, and on St. Patrick's day, the usual parade was dropped in scores of places.

So it goes all along the line, until this gay and glorious Republic bids fair in some respects to drop into the dry monotonous rut of provincial cities.

PROGRESS is not alone in its idea of electing a board of aldermen by a vote of the whole city. An agitation in the same line has been going on all over Massachusetts this spring, and the legislature has had a large number of revised city charters to consider.

It is generally acknowledged that the present system of electing aldermen by wards is very defective and not in the interest of good government. In nearly every instance the reasons advanced are about the same as those set forth by PROGRESS. The aldermen elected from a certain district cannot give fair and intelligent consideration to matters concerning the whole city. They must pull in all they can for their own particular burrough, always considering the chances of re-election.

The Australian ballot, which is not unlike that used in Dominion elections, has been a great boon to the people here, and makes many new reforms possible, if it does take a long time to count the votes. The old days when an employer or ward boss escorted the voter, and the candidates often had different colored ballots, are no more, and the people are freer and more independent. Every day new ideas are being put forth with this same object in view, and if most of them were practical, and carried out, the politicians would have much harder work in calculating before hand the result of an election than they have at present.

Many of the schemes set forth however, for municipal elections of the city at large, would hardly be practicable in St. John, for here everything is run on party lines and in considering the question, the idea seems to be to give such party the representation it is entitled to. In St. John everybody runs on his own hook as it were. There is no general organization, no city committee of each party, and any rejoicing there ever is, over an aldermanic victory is confined to the particular ward in which the candidate was elected. But the system of ward elections is a bad one whereever it is, and St. John suffers from it as much as any city I know.

R. G. LARSEN.

Couldn't See The Joke.

What constitutes the point of a joke is largely a matter of opinion. A German one day expressed himself as being somewhat offended because an American gentleman had asserted that his Teutonic countrymen could not, as a rule, appreciate American jokes. "Try one on me?" said he, defiantly, and the American accordingly told him the story of the tree "out West" which was so high that it took two men to see to the top. One of them saw as far as he could, and then the second began to look at the spot where the first stopped seeing. The recital did not raise the ghost of a smile upon the German's face, and the other said to him, "Well, you see the joke is lost on you. You can't appreciate American humor." Oh, but," said the German, with the frankness characteristic of his countrymen, "that is not humor—that is one lie!"

BEWARE OF THE EXODUS.

Look Before You Leap is the Advice of a New Brunswicker Abroad.

TO THE EDITOR OF PROGRESS:—Whilst talking to a party of immigrants who were detained here en route for the Red Deer district, I was surprised at the expectations they had of the country, and which had been the result of the too zealous land agent, who, the paid aid of a big corporation, represented this country in too flattering colors, enticing people away from comfortable homes in the East to the risks of the new settler in the West.

Now I would say nothing to the determent of this country. This North West will at some future day be the home of a prosperous and contented people. It is the best stock country on the continent of America, and for sheep in particular is unsurpassed; but stock ranching is still in its infancy, and it requires a people who are acquainted with the range system or who will engage men with a practical knowledge of the same. It is a risky business for a moss-back to engage in stock, and as for farming, this country is not worth a cent. It is true that when we have a crop it is very good, but that is only once in six or seven years.

It is, I think, a shame to entice men of limited means away from comfortable homes in the East to the uncertainty of the West. "Some do well," but I can safely say that two-thirds of those of moderate means who come to this country far from improve their position, socially or financially: and for those with families particularly, it is a very risky undertaking; but if they *will* emigrate they should make sure that they know what they are coming to, and not place too great confidence in the orations of interested parties. It is true that they occasionally send a delegate or two, who comes West, visits a few Ranches, drinks a deal of whiskey and talks to some railway or town officials and goes East prepared to do the work of those who have him loaded, and becomes the innocent means of ruining a number of his kind.

Now I say distinctly and from eight years experience in the West, that from Moose Jaw to the Rockies and from the Saskatchawan to the 49th parallel, no farmer can make a living, and as ye New Brunswickers learnt by the Florida exodus, ye will learn if ye come West to try it. This is *no* farming country, but as good a stock country as is on the continent, perfect in all but an occasional bad winter, and as prairie hay is plentiful that has a sure remedy, and men with capital to invest would find that they could make ten per cent more if put on the Range, particularly in sheep, than in any investment in the East, and a sure thing. Yes, this is a stock country, and the day will yet come when Assiniboia will feed its millions if not by Canadian means by the means of our more enterprising cousins over the border, who are surely drawing in on us and who will in a few years (free trade or not,) invade us with their flocks and herds, and place Assiniboia in its true light before the world as a grazing not a farming country.

FRANK S. BLISS,
Maple Creek, Assa., March 17.

TOLD OF EUGENE McDOWELL.

Points About the Deceased Actor as Narrated by H. Price Webber.

The news of the recent death of Eugene A. Macdowell was received with sadness by the thousands of people to whom he was well known in the United States and British Provinces, he being one of the best-known theatrical managers and actors, especially on the Eastern circuit. Mr. Macdowell always carried a first-class company, and his plays were put on the boards excelled by none. He always aimed to elevate the drama, and paid heavy sums in royalties to be able to furnish the public with the latest metropolitan successes, no pains or expense been spared to that end.

For over fifteen years he came regularly to St. John, and was a great favorite. My first recollection of him was when he was a member of Lanergan's company in the old Lyceum, being, I think, the last year that the theatre was run. He was playing walking gentleman then, and afterwards became a manager, playing in Halifax, Montreal, St. John, Fredericton, Woodstock, Houlton, (Maine), Toronto and Hamilton. He then went to British Columbia, and the West Indies, and on his first trip to the latter was phenomenally successful, his business being especially in Kingston, Jamaica, enormous.

The engagement he played in the St. Andrews Rink, St. John, during the Exhibition some three years ago, will long be remembered, and was undoubtedly a triumph both artistically and financially.

Mr. Macdowell was a very versatile actor, playing every character he assumed well, and in a great many roles he was particularly fine, notably "Lieutenant McAllister," in Ours; "Micawber" in Little Emily; "George D'Alroy" in Caste; "Shaun, the Post," in Arrah-na-Pogue; "Pierre," in The Two Orphans; "Myles-na-Coppaleen," in The Colleen Bawn; and "Sir Benjamin Backbite," in The School for Scandal.

In Mr. Macdowell's companies were such standard performers as T. D. Frawley, George Fawcett, John Bunny, Ferd. Hight, M. A. Kennedy, E. E. Grandin, Mary Hampton, Julia Arthur, Percy Haswell, Carrie Jamieson, and Fanny Reeves, (Mrs. Macdowell). The last mentioned lady was a deserved favorite for years on the company's route.

At the Jamaica Exhibition, two years ago, Mr. Macdowell had his last experience as a manager; it was an unfortunate one, and undoubtedly brought on the malady which hastened his death. The melancholy fate of his stage-manager, Ernest Sterner, who was drowned at Barbados, while rescuing Miss Jarvis from a watery grave weighed heavily on Mr. Macdowell's mind, and increased his business cares a great deal.

In the prime of manhood he passed away to the life beyond, but his memory will be cherished and his character respected by all who had the privilege of knowing him. My last conversation with him was at the Dufferin Hotel, three years ago, and he was full of bright hopes and ambitions for the future. He spoke of his wife (Fanny Reeves) in a frank and charming manner, saying that "she was all that was sweet, pure and womanly."

At your request, Mr. Editor, I have written these few lines, animated by a desire to say what I knew about Mr. Macdowell, and to give a willing tribute to his worth, though totally inadequate to do justice to the subject.

H. PRICE WEBBER.

LOOKING FOR MANUFACTURERS.

The Success That Attended Three Months Business of a New Concern.

A chosen committee of shrewd business men of the St. John board of trade, met a few days ago to consider in what way the city could induce more manufacturing; to talk over the possibilities of this town for manufactures, and to make known its advantages.

This is one of the signs that the people of St. John are alive and seeking to increase its business and manufacturing output. Another sign is the success that some of the later manufacturers are meeting with. This is notably the case with the Hawker Medicine Company, which has just completed its first quarter of business. Last fall saw the formation of this company which includes among its stockholders gentlemen who have been foremost in the business world of the province, who have not been afraid to be enterprising and to operate extensively, fearlessly and confidently when they did enter upon an undertaking.

That is the spirit with which these men took hold of the Hawker remedies, and the push and ability shown by the directorate and management since the first of January has been such that at the end of March the showing was such as to surprise even the most sanguine directors. When it is stated that the sales were so large that one quarter of their value paid their entire newspaper advertising, which appeared in *seventy-five* newspapers in the maritime provinces, then some idea can be formed of the popularity of the goods.

Much of this is due to good advertising, to practical travellers and to energetic management; but all this would have been in vain, had not the Remedies themselves possessed the true secret of popularity—they are what they are represented to be.

From the Evening Globe.

The enterprise of the Hawker Medicine Co. of this city bids fair to become one of the most brilliantly successful in its line ever established in this part of the world. A representative of the Globe was invited by Mr Russell, the manager, to examine the company's books, covering the sales of the last three months, and so far as the knowledge of this journal goes the record has not been surpassed under like conditions, if it has ever been equalled, in this country. The company only got fairly settled down to work three months ago, and have in that period been badly handicapped by the failure of their bottle manufacturers to keep them supplied; but their sales have been enormous, although their travellers have only been out three weeks, and though less than one-tenth of the lower province territory has thus been covered. In this city there has been a tremendous run on their remedies, which may in part be accounted for by the fact that Mr. Hawker is well known as a reliable man, and that his remedies have been in use for years and endorsed by so many well-known citizens; but the outside towns and villages and country places have also been heard from, and the rush is steadily growing, now that the demand for spring medicines has fairly set in. The fact proves that the standard remedies of the Hawker Medicine Co. merit the praise they had received before the company began to push the sales outside, and it is also an indication that this enterprising company is on the road to a brilliant success. That such is the case is a subject for general congratulation, for since there is always a large demand for remedies of various kinds, it is gratifying to know that a home company can supply the demand for medicines of acknowledged value, and thus enable the people to assist in building up a local industry at the same time that they are restoring their own health. As may be seen by all who read the advertising columns of the Globe from day to day, the company have a large number of different remedies, and therefore reach a large circle of patrons. At the present time, Mr. Russell states, there is a very large demand for the tonic and pills as a spring medicine, and the tolu as a cure for colds so easily contracted at this season.

The Globe also has pleasure in correcting an impression that may perhaps have gone abroad. The medicines of the Hawker Co. are not patent medicines in the ordinarily accepted sense, but standard remedies, the formulas of which have been examined and highly approved and commended by many leading physicians, both here and in many of the large cities of the United States, New York included; and they are manufactured, as is well known here, by a thoroughly practical pharmaceutical chemist of more than thirty-five years' experience. No stronger endorsation than this could possibly be secured, and it proves conclusively to everyone that these remedies may be absolutely relied on.

Nobles of the Mystic Shrine.

Ill. William J. Florence was initiated into the Ancient Arabic Order of the Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, and imparted the knowledge of the ceremonies to Dr. Walter M. Fleming of New York, who was empowered to introduce and establisd the Order in America. It was determined to confer it only on Free and Accepted Masons of the higher degrees, and on the 16th of June, 1871, a number of Knights Templar and Thirty-seconds and Thirty-thirds of the Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite were assembled at Masonic Hall, No. 114 East Thirteenth street, New York, when the proposition to engage in the establishment of the new Order was enthusiastically accepted, and the following eleven brethren were duly received: Edward Eddy, Oswald Merle d' Aubigne, James S. Chappell, John A. Moore, Charles T. McClenachan, William S. Paterson, George W. Millar, Albert P. Moriarty, Daniel Sickels, John W. Simons, Sherwood C. Campbell. The Shrine is not a Masonic order, but the qualification for membership in it in the United States is that the applicant must be either a Knight Templar or have attained the 32nd degree in the A. & A. Rite of Freemasonry.

Fortify Against Cholera

Now that we are threatened with cholera in Canada, every person should for the sake of their city or country, as well as themselves, take every precaution against this terrible disease. It is a well-known fact that when the blood is in a healthy state, and the impurities filtered therefrom by the kidneys, the organs nature has provided for the purpose, that there is little fear of this or any other scourge that may come. The spring is the time when all should attend to this important duty, and all are reminded that there is nothing known to medical science that will do the work so effectually as Dodd's Kidney Pills. Every person, sick or well, should take some of these pills in the spring, and thus fortify themselves against disease.

The Camel In Australia.

The Camel is said to be rapidly working his way into the good graces of the people in the interior of Australia, where the great distances, the waterless plains and the scarcity of grass make travel tedious and dangerous. A camel will cary 300 pounds in a day over distance which would occupy an ox team ten days. He will get living where other creatures would starve, and he can go without water for a long while. The country has already five camel lines in operation, employing some 2,000 animals, and this, it is said, is but the beginning.

Many men have wondered what their fellows would say of them after death. Jay Gould had this weakness. He once confessed it. "I don't think I ever had an ambition," he said, except to leave the world and see what it will say about me when I am dead. No man will be cruel enough to say what he really thinks of me when I am dead." He was wrong for once.

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BOARDING, A FEW PERMANENT or Transient Boarders can be accommodated with large and pleasant rooms, in that very centrally located house, 78 Sidney street.—MRS. MCINNIS. May2.

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G. ARTHUR OULTON, - - - - - Champion Cyclist Maritime Provinces.
ROBERT WATSON and WALTER SCOVIL, - - - - - - - St. John.
W. H. SCHWARTZ, - - - Captain Ramblers' Bicycle Club, Halifax, N. S.
A. M. HOARE, - - - - - President " " " " "
R. L. ARCHIBALD, - - - - . Champion of Nova Scotia, Halifax, N. S.
L. D. MURPHY, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Halifax, N. S.
WM. C. ACKER, - - - - - - Captain Cycling Club, Lunenburg, N. S.
HARRY SMITH, - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Windsor, N. S.
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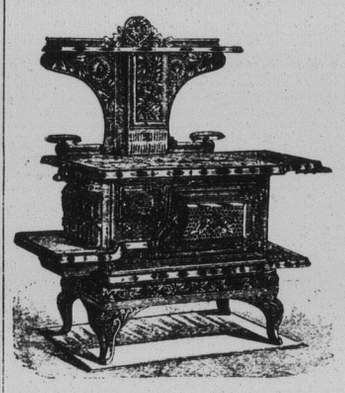

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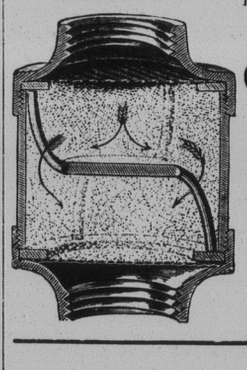

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