

PROGRESS.

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THE BOXERS' SURPRISE.

Chief Clark Enjoys a Finish Bout and Then Arrests the Fighters.

Every man loves a combat, be he rich or be he poor; all men love a fighter, a coward they can't endure.

So it was last Monday night, all crowded in to see the fight: in the ring the boxers met. For one it was a sad regret. The show was one of fifteen rounds. The boxers' weight, 140 lbs.

Just eight rounds the contest went, then to his corner one boxer was sent; Littlejohn had won the fray, the Yankee lad stood defenceless at bay.

The laurel wreath of fighting fame to a St. John boy had passed again. But then came the saddest, saddest blow, Chief Clark essayed his power to show, behind the bars the boxers strolled, while free from all eyes the managers counted the gold.

What a crowd was there and what a show it was. Long before the gong rang for the opening bout the spectators had usurped every vantage point, all seeking a good position in their endeavor to witness the scrap.

Men of all classes in life, from the mechanic and the clerk to the alderman and the banker were present and very much in evidence. On one side could be seen one individual with a high silk hat, while, on the other hand could be found the "say, dat's all right, an' if you don't tink dat I knows wat I'm talkin' about why you can just go to blazes and suit yerself about, see" sort of a man.

The school-principal elbowed his way in common with one of his scholars, the employer jostled arms with his employee, the lawyer and his client, all were there in a common cause, that of seeing a scrap.

The place where the event was held was Sutherland's hall, Union street, the principal attraction was a 15 round boxing contest between Dan Littlejohn of this city and Billy Critch of the adjoining republic. There were a few preliminary bouts in one of which little Johnny Cregan of Lower Cove succeeded in laying low a sturdy son of Darkest Africa in less than three rounds.

The big card of the evening kept everybody in a high state of expectation. The boxers were introduced by Referee Keefe. It was at once apparent that Littlejohn had everything his own way; Critch was simply out-classed and in the first round almost received his quietus at the hand of the redoubtable. However, the contest went on; at the eighth round a well-directed blow sent the lad from Uncle Sam's territory to the floor, he staid down ten seconds and the palm of victory, was awarded to Littlejohn.

Just here the strangest part of the whole proceedings occurred. Chief Clark, who had witnessed the whole of the bout, stepped into the ring and ordered the men to be put under arrest. They were marched to the police station, kept there all right, and were brought into court next morning.

On their appearance before the court the next morning they were defended by Mr. D. Mullin. The council for the prisoners urged that Chief Clark should lodge a formal complaint against them. This the Chief did not desire to do, hence the prisoners were discharged.

Just here the humorous side of the whole situation occurred. The Chief after arresting the men "did not desire to press the charge." Hence the boxers were dismissed.

It is estimated that fully 600 or 700 people attended the exhibition, yet the boxers were told that the receipts amounted to but \$234.

"Boss" Quinn was representing Littlejohn in the matter while Critch's interests were guarded by Hazen Campbell. The day after the contest the genial "Boss" was besieged by many callers who had claims on his exhuberance. The claims were so many that he had to finally deny his name, he was told many of the importunists that he was Sir Oliver Mowat, Premier Tweedie, &c. Anyone who knows the "Boss" is aware of the fact, but in this case if he wanted to an alias, but, in this case if he wanted to have any of the collateral left for his man

he had to resort to some such desperate measure. Taken all in all it was a great event for the managers who worked for nothing but the interest of the sport.

Yet the chief of all the police came out of the affair with but little if any glory. He was at the ringside from start to finish and if there was to be any interference it should have been in the first round. His ambition to show his authority at the finish however, overcame his discretion and he gave the absurd order for the arrest of the principals and then refused bail.

PROGRESS is no advocate of such events as the fifteen-round contest, but when such affairs are licensed by the Mayor and supervised by the police there should be some consideration for the men who take their punishment and furnish an exhibition of the manly art for those who care and pay to see it.

The eccentricity of the chief of police will of course bubble forth but no one knows just where the gas will break. He permits his pet officers to collect the tickets at the door; his pet officers are paid by the management to preserve order and yet at the finish—perhaps because the bout didn't last fifteen instead of eight rounds—he orders those whom he has watched with such intense interest to spend the evening behind the bars in his somewhat obnoxious basement on King street East.

Only a few days ago he was short of officers, got a gentlemen from Spruce Lake, report the arrival of two of St. John stalwarts, who were busily engaged in following the example of Sergeant Campbell, by repairing the wharf of the club house the chief is interested in.

It is understood that the New Brunswick government has decided to give one thousand dollars to the Tourist association of St. John. Probably no government grant is given from which more beneficial results come than from a grant to help along the bringing of tourists to the province. New Brunswick is becoming better known every year to our American cousins, and each year the number of visitors who come to the Maritime Provinces is increasing. This all means money to the people for the Americans do not only travel but they spend to a lavish extent. To the tourist associations this increase of travel, is justly due and any money given in aid of such associations is money well given. It is to be regretted that the amount is not larger but still it is something and properly handled can be turned to good account.

The Halifax suicide still remains as great a mystery as ever. It is strange—t would seem but natural that by this time the identity would have been made. The world is not so small after all. That the mystery will be cleared up some day is possible. It may be that there are some who know the woman but refuse to commit themselves. Her picture has been sent to all the places with which her name has been connected but no enlightenment comes. The mystery grows greater every day.

Another Bridge Goes Down. This time it was on the Elgin branch railway. The accident was not as serious as it might have been, but that can only be attributed to good luck. As it was Post Office Inspector Colter received a severe shaking up and his injuries may be greater than at the present thought. The province is making quite a history for itself in the way of rotten bridges. It is not so very long ago that the Central had its bad accident the I. C. R. also has had its share and now come this of the Elgin. Evidently it is quite clear that something is wrong. If there was an inspector of bridges these accidents would not happen, and there should be no longer any delay in having such an officer appointed. There is no telling how many more weak bridges there are in the province, and these acci-

dents are altogether too numerous. It is fully time that the government was giving the matter their consideration and the sooner some action is taken the better.

An Eminent Man. Judge King, who passed away at Ottawa this week was one of Canada's most distinguished sons. Here in this city and Province where he made his reputation and gave so much of his splendid ability, his death cannot but be greatly mourned. From an early age the eminent jurist showed himself as one possessed of exceptional ability, and his whole career marked him as a man of many great qualities. He became premier of the Province at an age when most men but begin their political career and so prominent did he make himself in affairs of state that he became a judge when he was little past forty. Had Judge King remained in politics instead of going on the bench, there was no position to which he might not have aspired. He was a great New Brunswicker, and a great Canadian has passed away.

A Successful Concert. The Oratorio Society is to be congratulated on its excellent rendering of Rossini's Stabat Mater at the Opera house on Thursday evening. Mr. Collinson sustained his reputation as an excellent conductor and the evening's entertainment was of the highest order. The soloists Miss Travers, Miss Manning, Mr. Kelly and Mr. Seely were in fine voice and their singing elicited much favorable comment. Miss Matthews and Miss Wilson who were the accompanists lent no little assistance to the entertainment's success.

About Finished. The census enumerators expect to finish their work in St. John by next week. Of course the enumerators keep very secret their knowledge. It is not expected however, that the city will show any material gain. Some wards like Kings will show a decrease. Carleton will probably show an increase while other sections of the city will not show much one way or the other.

Those Petitions. The election petitions still engage the attention of the courts, what the final result is going to be is difficult of explanation but it will surprise very few to find that all the cases dropped at any time. No good can come from passing the petitions, as it would appear to be about six of one and half a dozen of the other.

The Stock Market. Thursday was an exciting day among stock dealers in the largest cities of the world. St. John saw a little of the excitement. Many stories are told about the way some men lost and some made money, and some of these stories have grown to equal some old time fish episodes. It is quite certain through that very few St. John people have been ruined.

PROGRESS CONTENTS TODAY.

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- PAGES 5, 6, 7, and 8.—Social happenings from all over the provinces.
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Chairs Re-coated, Cane, Spinal, Forfeited, etc., Duesol, 17 Waterloo.

RICH AND RARE EVENTS.

A North Shore Opinion of a Benevolent Citizen—George Robertson's Return.

Judge Forbes on Thursday afternoon last gave judgment in two cases which were argued before him last year—Potter vs. Craghan (of Newcastle) and Potter vs. Morrissey (of Newcastle). Mr. Potter sued to recover the amount of notes given by defendants to raise money to help John E. Baldwin, collector of customs at Bathurst who was in financial trouble with the Dominion government. The judge decided all the points in the case in favor of the plaintiff, but said the plaintiff not being the holder of the notes should not have brought the suit.

The testimony, it will be remembered, showed that Potter never saw the notes until after the suits were begun and had no personal knowledge of any intention on anybody's part to enter proceedings for them.

The judge, therefore, allowed a non-suit. He said, however, that if Mr. J. J. McGaffigan had himself brought the suit he would have given him a verdict.

This is a suit which has been watched with considerable interest on the North Shore because of the course taken by Mr. J. J. McGaffigan of St. John, who, it appears, while acting in the role of a philanthropist, induced a number of his friends to become liable on notes for the purpose of enabling him to assist Mr. Baldwin to tide over his difficulties in connection with the Bathurst custom house. Afterwards, instead of assisting to have the paper retired and to protect them against loss he caused actions at law to be entered in the St. John County court in the name of Mr. Potter, who had no personal interest in or connection with the matter, what ever his purpose being to recoup himself for money which he is supposed to have spent in Mr. Baldwin's interest without first making sure that it would really be the means of getting that gentleman out of his difficulties at the time.—Chatam Advance.

Mr. Robertson's Return. While St. John is not worrying very much about the Steel syndicate and the purchase of the Sydney mines by the American combination, yet it watches with something of interest the reports that are being sent out from that enterprising company as to the benefits resulting from the great industry that may be placed under the control of the big syndicate.

Mr. George Robertson who has recently returned from the old country and who is open to give any information either to individuals or to the masses through the newspapers is very enthusiastic regarding St. John and its prospects. He acknowledges without reserve that he met with two rebuffs from the imperial government and it seems that the hope he has mainly founded upon the efforts of the Dominion government to provide this port with a dry dock.

Mr. Robertson returns with the same energy, apparently with the same belief that he always had in the future of St. John. Perhaps the anxieties of the year that has past have made them look greyer and altered, but he still retains the pleasant personality that made him an entertaining man to listen to.

While across the seas he says he did not lose any time but investigated the many industries and commercial interests that will no doubt be beneficial to the merchants of Canada if they could possess the information he obtained. He is quite willing to impart it and invites the newspapers to interview him upon any of the subjects that might be of some benefit to the people of the provinces or the dominion.

How Can This Be Explained. A curious story comes to PROGRESS, but which is undoubtedly true, that a young man who recently had his leg amputated in the hospital after three or four weeks sojourn went home, not thoroughly cured but sufficiently so to be without the care of a physician. The only complaint he had to make was an intense pain in the toes of the foot that was amputated. This might appear strange to many people and yet there are many authenticated instances of the same experience. The pain grew so intense that the healing was effected and he

returned to the hospital. His sufferings continued there, and then his father and brother, who had buried the amputated part in the cemetery went out to the spot, exhumed the box and found that the it was pressing hard against the toes. While they were doing this the young man in the hospital remarked to his nurse that they must be doing something to his toes as the pain had ceased. The remarkable feature of the case is this that he had no knowledge that his father and brother were going to do anything in regard to exhuming that part of his leg that he had lost. Now what medical man can account for this?

An Important Company. The prospectus of the 'Canadian Dressed Poultry Association' appears in today's issue of PROGRESS. It is truly, as described, a greater and a grander investment than has been offered to the farmers in modern times. The document tells its own tale and should be carefully studied in every farm house in the country. The objects of the company are briefly, but clearly, set forth. It is to promote the trade with Britain in dressed poultry and other farm produce. The scheme opens up an illimitable quantities, if they energetically and industriously apply themselves to the task.

They have already had a very good proof afforded them as to what can be done by present small beginnings. But the threshold of the trade has not been passed. The farmer has been schooled, of late, thanks to the government in the art of preparing poultry for the British market, and the prospectus points the way he must go in the way of further improvement. As to eggs, and dairy produce, so much has been said of late that further reference need not, at the moment, be made. "There's millions in it." The advertisement will, it is hoped, be carefully studied by every farmer in the country.

Baseball Outlook. Lives of sport are glad to find that baseball is getting into some practical shape. If a Maine-New Brunswick league is formed it will be a good thing and if the management is in proper hands there is no reason why it should not be successful. There is no little sport indulged in in this Province. At one time there were cricket, lacrosse, baseball and several other kinds of clubs, but they have all passed out of existence except baseball. Sport is a good thing to young and old alike and if first class baseball is produced the public will do its share. Then let there be harmony and good fellowship among the clubs. If bitterness of feeling, little petty jealousies are allowed to creep in, as they have been known to do in times past, the league had better not start at all. It is entirely in the hands of the baseballists themselves whether their league will be successful. Let them do their part and the people will do theirs.

The New Truck. The new hook and ladder truck still continues to be discussed by the public. That there are all kinds of opinions, as to the success of the wagon, is quite evident. Some are so opposed that they are calling on the S. P. C. A. to interfere, alleging that it is cruelty in making two horses haul such a load. Chief Kerr thinks that the cart is all right and when the men get used to it, there will be little difficulty. The Chief should certainly be in a position to judge and his opinion should be accepted before all others. The chief fault finding now seems to be with the number of horses that are used. This is not a serious obstacle to overcome. If three horses are necessary then they should be supplied. People hope that all may yet be right. The truck cost considerable money, and paying for expensive and useless articles has become a tiresome job to the taxpayers of St. John.

What's the Trouble? Pretty nearly a week has gone by and the daily papers have failed to tell us anything further about Lt. McLean. What is the trouble? In an enterprising town like St. John its papers should not allow themselves to go to sleep.