WHAT WILL IT COST ME?

(Continued from First page.)

given sum. The subject is a very important one to thousands who are in the same position as "In Earnest," and the flood of light which PROGRESS proposes to throw on it cannot fail to accomplish much good.

Let PROGRESS hear from you, readers who have suggestions to offer, whatever your estate or condition may be. All classes are interested in the problem, and there is no young man or woman who can fail to profit by the study of it.

WHAT GEOFFREY THINKS OF IT.

Matrimony on a Limited Income from the Moncton Point of View.

The question asked in last week's PROGRESS by some fellow-sufferer, who is evidently shivering on the brink of taking the fatal plunge, touches a very sensitive chord in my heart, a chord which responds in a plaintive minor key to this query of his, which has proved one of those touches of nature which make, if not the whole world, then at least all truly great minds kin.

"In Earnest" is not married, but would like to be. Shake! brother in affliction, shake! Alas that we are separated by so great a distance, else would we fall upon each other's necks and weep in concert over our mutual woes, for I, too, "would like to be," and yet am not, for the very simple reason—but let me not anticipate.

I take it for granted, dear brother in adversity, that you have not yet taken the all-important step of asking your divinity to be yours only for time and for eternity, because if you had asked her, and it was satisfactorily settled, she would be able to give you nearly all the information you want, and, therefore, I have come to the conclusion that you merely want to find out if what you have is worth offering her, and I have taken the noble resolution of dragging my most revered emotions into the garish light of day for your dear sake, hoping you will profit by my downfall.

I don't know of a more solemn moment in a man's life than when he pops *the* momentous question, unless perhaps it may be the moment when he finally leaves the world; and even then he is less conscious of his own emotions, and so is spared much of the excitement that surrounds the former occasion. I ought to know something about it myself, for only last week I laid my heart and fortune at the feet of an earthly angel, and it pains me to be obliged to add that she left them both there, without condescending to pick either the one or the other up.

So, as I have read somewhere, that we can make even our sorrows, serve, if not ourselves, perhaps our friends; and as other great writers besides myself, notably Messrs. Howells and James, have set an example of self dissection—vivisection—in fact, I thought perhaps my sad experience might be of some use to other poor fellows who were contemplating following in my footsteps and offering some dear girl the very indifferent gift of themselves, even if it were but to hold out a warning hand to them and whisper softly, "Don't"

I am afraid man really is small potatoes and few in a hill, but somehow he never realizes the fact as he does when it is brought home to him on an occasion like the foregoing. We are terribly apt to think we are making our Queen of Hearts a very handsome present when we confer ourselves and all our worldly goods upon her, and to exhibit the very wildest and most indignant surprise if she shows such bad taste as to refuse the gift, which after all may look very much smaller in her eyes than it does in our own.

I confess I felt very much as anyone else would under the circumstances, but after the first shock was over common sense came to my aid, and I began to see the wisdom of my one girl in all the world, and even in a faint and unwilling manner to agree with her. She is a marvellous girl, there never was one on the earth quite like her, and I am certain there never will be another. She is not only pretty and bright and altogether charming, but she has enough of that rarest and most uncommon commodity, common sense, in her small head to stock a whole community. Of course I am well aware that a girl never looks so utterly fascinating and desirable to a man as she does just after refusing him; it is a little family characteristic we have all inherited from our dear old mother Eve, that of wanting most intensely the thing which we can't have. But still I thought all this of my divinity before she refused me.

Perhaps it was the practical, almost startling familiarty with every detail of household expenditure that so largely increased my respect for this dear and greatly desired Penelope of mine, but at least I know that she was such a perfect encyclopedia of information on the subject, that she absolutely frightened me into agreeing with her that matrimony was only a more polite word for suicide. So I think I cannot do better than quote her own words, and let "In Earnest" think them over and weigh them carefully.

"I like you very much indeed, Geoff," she said. "In fact to be perfectly honest I like you so much that I don't think I shall ever marry anyone else, and though you may not think so, I am giving you the very strongest possible proof of my regard in refusing to marry you. You know you are just as well off as your neighbors now, you have as much money as you reasonably want to spend, you are always well dressed, able to bear your part in any enterprise that your friends may propose, such as going off on a fishing excursion up the Metapedia, or even taking a trip to Chicago during the World's Fair. You have plenty of money to get along with Geoff; but how much do you have left over at the end of the year? tell me that! What did you put in the bank last year?"

Now, this was a thrust for which I was naturally unprepared; so I stammered out confusedly that I didn't put any in, because it had been rather an expensive year, and one way or another I had spent a good deal.

"Very well, dear," said my mentor cheerfully. "I am glad you enjoyed yourself; you work for your money, and you have the best right in the world to spend it; but you see you had only just enough for yourself, and nothing over. Suppose you had had me to provide for last year; what then? Some one must have suffered, and I would not like to think that you would be the only one, for I should always insist on having my full share of everything—burdens and cares included. Do you suppose that I want to see you denying yourself little luxuries that were every day necessities to you before you were married? How do you think I would feel when I realized that there could be no fishing excursion for you next summer, because you could not afford it, that what paid for the trip last year must pay the rent this year? And imagine my feelings, if you can, when you discovered that you must wear your last summer suit another year, because the winter expenses had been so heavy that they had left us a little debt. I would say to myself, "If Geoff had remained single how much better off he would have been, and it is all my fault, for I knew how it would be and he didn't. I should have been firm and refused to let him burden himself!

"But you forget," I answered indignantly, "that with you to brighten my life and cheer my home, all these little annoyances would be but trifles light as air."

'Tis trifles make the sum of human things
And half our misery from trifles springs.

"I have no doubt at all that I would prove a migitigating circumstance, but still I should be a circumstance that would have to be fed and clothed, and you know, Geoff dear, you could never stand a shabbily clothed circumstance in your house, particularly if she happened to be your wife."

"But you always look lovely, Penelope," I ventured, "and you are always perfectly well dressed, and yet you are far from wealthy, and make your own gowns and bonnets; how is that?"

"You forget that I earn them, too, dear boy, but if I were Mrs. Geoff and had a house to look after, not to speak of the accompanying trifle of a husband, I could no longer teach music, and so you would have to buy the gowns, and I would be fortunate indeed if I could find time to make them."

This was unanswerable, so I did not answer it.

"To begin with, continued Penelope, if you undertake to live in a Moncton house which rents for less than $200 a year, you will regret it ere the first winter has passed; for the difference in rent will be more than made up in the fuel bill, and very probably in a doctor's bill, indeed you will be fortunate if you move out of that 'genteel residence' without having an account with the undertaker. Well! that is two hundred dollars to start with, isn't it? that will include the water tax. Next—don't think me either unfeeling or extravagant—comes the servant girl. I would do anything in in my power for you, my dear boy; but the entire work of a house is not in my power. I have not the physical strength for the baking and brewing, the washing and ironing, sweeping, scrubbing, and cooking which go to make up the daily work even of a small house. You want your wife to be a lady, to receive your guests, to pay visits sometimes, and to be ready to receive them almost every day in the week, and unless a girl is blessed with far more than the average stock of health and strength she cannot do all this. She ends in being one of two things, a neglectful house-keeper or a kitchen drudge. I am strong and well when I take ordinary care of myself, but I am afraid I am like china, I will last forever with care. I cannot stand hard usage, and I should soon be a helpless burden to you, a sick wife, six dollars a month for a girl, Geoff, at the very least! 72 dollars a year, and at least 50 more for fuel. I don't know how much you spend a year for your clothes, but I would undertake to get along with $100 a year for mine, and if you could manage with the same amount that would make another $200, so the account stands thus:

Rent	$200 00
Clothing	200 00
Servant	72 00
Fuel	50 00
Total, so far	$522 00

You know you won't board, you want to housekeep and your income is just $800 a year, so we have just $278 left out of which to buy bread and butter, meat and groceries, cigars and molasses taffy, to pay our doctor's bills, to subscribe to charity and church, and to pay for our amsements. A meagre allowance is'nt it dear? and it would simply break my heart to think that even far down in your inner consciousness, so far that it never came to the surface, that horrid old rhyme might be ringing:

"When I was single my pockets did jingle,
I wish I was single again."

So taking it all together, don't you think "We'd better bide a wee'?"

And in the face of so much wisdom, and worst of all such an appalling array of hard facts, I really thought we had.

GEOFFREY CUTHBERT STRANGE.

THE THYCKKE FOGGE PAPERS.

A Plea for a Theatre in St. John—What May be Accomplished if Tried.

NO. VII.

Wednesday evening again found a Few of Us disposing Our valuable bodies in the comfortable chairs that are always so plentiful in Our honorable friend's private den, and as usual, helping Ourselves to the very superior Flor de Cabbagio cigars that he provided. If he were ever spoken to about these particular weeds he simply remarked "that they were good enough for the crowd that smoked them." On this Wednesday evening it seemed hard work to engage the Sage in conversation, or to get him started on any one subject; Several of Us tried him on different subjects, but we could only elicit a mere affirmative or negative reply. At last Third of Us, who seems to possess more cheek to the square inch than any man outside of a commercial traveller, ventured to ask the Sage what troubled him.

"My young friends," answered Mr. Fogge, "I have to beg you to excuse my apparent inattention to your remarks, but I was thinking—my thoughts were roaming here, there and everywhere—but I will come back to earth again, and say that I am not troubled about anything in particular. I will tell you what was the particular object of my thoughts when your question aroused me: the probability of this city having a decent theatre any time before we celebrate our next centennial. I invariably apologize to any friend from abroad that goes with me to the pen that passes muster with us as a place in which to hold entertainments. Do you suppose that in any city in the United States, of half our size, that you would see such a dirty, forbidding, out of the way, uncomfortable barracks as the old Institute? I can fancy that a stranger in the city would require a guide book and a couple of policemen to enable him to find it, and when one gets there what does he see? A hall that is ill fitted for the purposes of lyric or dramatic representations, in every way, badly ventilated, in sad want of paint and whitewash, and altogether an eyesore. The Academy of music was not much of a theatre, but was a palace compared with the hole that a respectable audience is compelled to sit in now.

"What is the matter with the Dockrill Opera House scheme? I do not favor the location much myself, but anything or anywhere is better than what we have. There appears to me to have been too much talk and too little work done with reference to the proposed Union street building, but it seems to me that if a determined effort were made, and some people of standing and position in the community were induced to take stock and allow their names to be used in connection with the affair, that it would not be many months before All of Us would have the pleasure of sitting in a well appointed, thoroughly equipped and properly managed theatre. I know several of the directors, but I have never heard one of them open his head on the subject. I feel deeply on this matter, for I know that our city wants such a building, and wants it badly, too, but from present appearances we will be likely to take it out in wanting. I must confess that there would not be much money in a theatre as an investment, but neither is there in the new Club House, and yet look at the beautiful home that the members of the Union club will move into in a few days. The same energy, the same persistency that have erected the club house would shortly give us a theatre, and our city then would be in a position to welcome and properly house entertainments of a class that we cannot ask to visit us now, on account of the wretched appointments we have to offer them."

All of Us agreed with Our honorable friend and host, and after a little desultory conversation on the benefits of Home and Foreign missions, We left the Sage to himself.

Only Half a Dollar.

The rubber apron as shown by the American Rubber store is the latest novelty out, being of large size and made of pure gum rubber, they give excellent wear, protecting the dress from being soiled, and are easily cleansed by being sponged. The American Rubber store are sole agents for this useful article for ladies, which are having a very large sale. They are sold at the low price of 50 cents each.

For cramps, cholera, diarrhœa, summer complaint, use Kendrick's Mixture. Kendrick's Mixture, a positive cure in nearly every case. Sold by dealers. 25 cents.—*Advt.*

Matrimony.

HIGHLY RESPECTABLE TRADESMAN, with means, good appearance, living somewhat retired and quiet, solicits a wife, a working woman, with some means; age, 25 to 45. No notice taken unless full particulars are given. Triflers not answered. Address *"H.," care P. O. Box 474, St. John, N. B.* Letters addressed to mere initials will not be delivered at the P. O., unless addressed in care of some P. O. Box, or some resident's name.
4—12 4i

DOMESTIC GOOD NIGHT.

Mrs. —— Lets the New Girl Wash the Blankets and What Followed.

"What in thunder ——"

"James!"

"There now, that's all right. I'm going to curb my wrath. I'm not going to swear, though I should, but, in the name of the Queen, my dear wife, what is the matter with these blankets? Here, I haven't been in bed five minutes, and I want a new skin. I've scratched this one till it's of no use to me. Tell me what you have done to these blankets—they make me itch all over?"

"Why, I'm sure I don't know. They are nice and clean. The new girl washed them Monday."

"The new girl! I'll bet she's at the bottom of this. Who washed these blankets before?"

"Why, I always had them done at Ungar's, but the new girl looked so big and strong, I thought I would let her do them."

"Well, if this is the result, send them right back to Ungar's—have them done decently, and give the new girl a rest. You might give Ungar the contract for a year, and then you won't be apt to get this new notion every time you get a new girl. There, don't look so cross. You won't be it a fit humor to say your prayers, but if I had had to sleep in that itcher I would have died before midnight."

Moral: Get your blankets washed at Ungar's. A——.

A Splendid Investment.

The grand results from a recent investment made through the Boston banking and brokerage house of Messrs. C. S. Williams & Co., will be found told in another column. Undoubtedly the speculative fields of stocks, grain, etc., offer magnificent opportunities to the small capitalist. And where the house is so strongly endorsed and old-established as is this firm, the security and satisfaction are doubly enhanced. *

Many diseases of the skin are not only annoying but are difficult to cure. You will not be disappointed if you try Baird's French Ointment. It also cures insect stings, piles, chapped hands, etc. Sold by all dealers.—*Advt.*

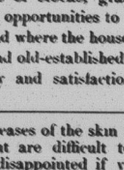
Poetry Which Can't be Borne.

"Poets are born, not made."

"Well, I wish the poetry wasn't made, either. I'd be willing to wait a long time for some poetry to be born."—*Harper's Bazar.*

NEWS.

The word news is commonly supposed to be derived from the adjective new. It is asserted however, that its origin is traceable to a custom in former times of placing on the newspapers of the day the initial letters of the cardinal points of the compass, thus:



These letters were intended to indicate that the paper contained intelligence from the four quarters of the globe, but they finally came to assume the form of word news from which the term newspaper is derived.

The intelligence received from all parts of the world today by electricity, by which our globe is belted, is read by the prince, the noble, the professional man, the merchant, the mechanic, and the laborer. The news conveyed to all classes through the medium of newspapers, forms a part of our daily food. There are thousands who read the newspapers with pleasure, others with mutterings of sorrow and rage. There is however, one class in the world, comprising all ranks and conditions of men, women and children who are sufferers from various diseases, such as impoverished blood, Dyspepsia and Indigestion, as well as all the ills brought on by nervous disease, from which result Insomnia, Irritability, Unrest, wearied and tired bodies from overwork, and loss of appetite; who although suffering have hailed with joy and delight the gladsome news regarding the wonderful curative properties and life-giving results of "Paine's Celery Compound."

The newspapers, as well as men and women interested in the welfare of the sick and suffering have carried the tidings all over our land; and today, were the discoverer of "Paine's Celery Compound" alive; his soul would rejoice with joy unspeakable, at the many brands which have been plucked from the burnings of a sick life. Go on with the good work, spread the news, until every sufferer has heard of "Paine's Celery Compound."—*Advt.*

Garden Seeds

PRICES LOW.

Our Spring Stock of Garden and Field Seeds

JUST RECEIVED.

ALL ORDERS BY MAIL, for Garden Seeds in Packages, sent POSTAGE FREE.

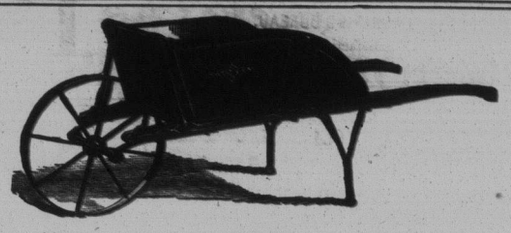
OF FIELD TURNIP SEEDS

we have purchased a large stock, and will sell at a small advance on cost.

F. E. CRAIBE & CO.,

Druggists and Apothecaries,

35 KING STREET.



The "Cycle" Wheelbarrow.

SUCH A WHEELBARROW as this is just the handiest thing one can have about a place. Where there is a garden it is indispensable. Unlike common Wheelbarrows, it is not a load in itself, but is so light that to wheel it is child's play, yet, though weighing only 35 pounds, it will carry 500 pounds.

It is furnished with the Watkins' patent wheel in which the tire, spokes and axle are steel, and the hub malleable iron. The flat steel spokes are dovetailed into the malleable iron hub and mortised into the steel tire in such a way that it is impossible for them to work loose, forming, for its size and weight, the strongest and most durable wheel made.

The axle bearings automatically adjust themselves in line with the axle, hence it runs true. Our TEMPERED STEEL SPRINGS form the connection between axle and body of the barrow, hence the weight of the load is carried on springs, allowing it to ride easily over obstructions.

The legs also are of steel and, like all the rest, amply strong yet very light.

The barrow is taken apart for shipment, but five minutes work will put it together. It is made throughout of the best material by skilled workmen, tastily painted and varnished, and never fails to give satisfaction to every purchaser.

PRICE, $6.00 CASH WITH ORDER.

FREIGHT PREPAID to any Railway Station in the Maritime Provinces.

W. F. BURDITT & CO., - - St. John, N. B.

ALL KINDS OF FARM MACHINERY.

The sages call economy
The surest road to wealth.
With Wire Gauze Doors economy
Seems too the path of health.
For as with them the juices
Remain within the meat,
More food and much the better
Is left for us to eat.

IF YOU WANT THE BEST,

BUY THE CHARTER OAK,

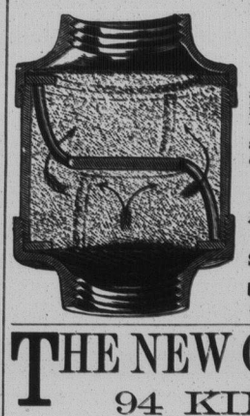
WITH THE WIRE GAUZE OVEN DOORS.

FOR SALE BY

EMERSON & FISHER,

75 to 79 Prince William Street.

At this Season of the Year,



When the ground receives its deposit of filth and animal matter accumulated during the winter,

A "PEARL" WATER FILTER,

attached to the Faucet or vessel from which your drinking water is drawn, WILL ENSURE ABSOLUTELY PURE WATER, AND PREVENT CHOLERA, TYPHOID, DYSENTRY and other diseases incident to the drinking of tainted or impure water.

Sent by Mail on receipt of $1.00.

Adjustable Threads for Threadless Faucets, 35 cts.

The Filter may be suited to any larger vessel. Send for circular.

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94 KING STREET.

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Prices as Low as ever. C. MASTERS.

Ornament is not a luxury, but is one of the minds necessities, which is gratified by means of the eye. Where the architects ends the decorative painter commences, bestowing here some brilliant colors and there some soft predommating tint.

House Painters, Wall and Ceiling Decorators and Paper Hangers.

ESTIMATES GIVEN.

WHOLESALE and RETAIL.

JUST RECEIVED:

A LARGE LOT OF READY-MADE CLOTHING,

CONSISTING OF

MEN'S, YOUTHS' AND BOYS' SUITS AND SPRING OVERCOATS; also, 500 PAIRS OF PANTS AND 300 ODD COATS.

The above named goods, in addition to our already large stock, makes it a desirable one for intending purchasers to select from.

OUR PRICES ARE LOWER THAN THE LOWEST.

ALSO: A fine assortment of SCOTCH, ENGLISH and CANADIAN TWEEDS, DIAGONALS, CORKSCREWS, CHEVIOTS, SERGES, YACHT CLOTHS, and a variety of other goods for Custom work.

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