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12 PAGES
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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

MORNING EDITION

DAILY FOUNDED 1854
WEEKLY FOUNDED 1857

CHARLOTTETOWN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, CANADA, SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1905.

SINGLE COPY 5 CENTS
25 CENTS PER MONTH

The chief magistrate of a city whose wealth exceeds that of whole nations of the third class, with a population in its walls equal to that of half a dozen German kingdoms, is evidently an individual of no little power and importance in this world's affairs. When plain Mr. John Pount, of Highbury, became lord mayor of London he immediately began to draw upon a salary that exceeds by \$5,000 annually the yearly stipend so generously bestowed by the American people upon the president of the great republic. Moreover, while it may be true that no American president has ever been able to live on his salary alone, it is a self-confessed fact that it will cost Mr. John Pount close on to half a million dollars a year for the privilege of being lord mayor of London, privy councillor to King Edward of England, and by right the leading personage in the greatest city on the globe.

The Lord Mayor lives in a mansion house which for hundreds of years past has been occupied by Mr. John Pount's predecessors in London's mayoralty chair.

The annual "procession of presentation" was carried on for a long time, partly by land and partly by river. The latter portion of the Lord Mayor's Show fell into disuse over half a century ago, but its picturesque details are still perpetuated. From the reign of James I. downwards, allegorical cars have always formed an important part in the civic progress. The Royal Solomon had an innate love of display of every sort and kind, and his weakness in this respect was certainly gratified by the costly pageant organized at the cost of Alderman John Leman, a member of the Fishmongers' Company, in the archives of which the drawings of the various symbolic groups which figured in it are still preserved.

There were no shows between 1639 and 1659, when Oliver Cromwell ruled London with an iron hand. In the latter year Sir John Dehick revived the "riding", and the Restoration, five years later, was a signal for a complete return to the old lines. Hogarth's famous plate immortalizes one of the great shows of George II.'s reign, possibly that of 1761, portrayed in the second illustration of the same period. No Lord Mayor has ridden to Westminster since 1711. Cipriani made the present coach in 1757, at a cost of over five thousand dollars. The novelty and excellence of the show which followed the accession of Queen Victoria consisted of two colossal figures of Gog and Magog. Each figure walked along by means of a man on either side, who ever and anon turned their faces, and as they were 14 feet high, their features were on level with the second-floor windows. They were extremely well contrived, and appeared to call forth more admiration than fell to the share of the human personages in the procession.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST SHOW.

From the moment that he steps into "Four-wheeler A 1," as the irreverent have styled the gorgeous state coach weighing almost four tons, that was designed and painted by Cipriani in 1757, the Lord Mayor finds the day dedicated to him, his show and his banquet. From early morn until foggy eve Lord Mayor's day sees the chief magistrate of the metropolis, figuratively speaking, leading forth money for the amusement of the multitude and the entertainment of 1,000 honored guests who are summoned to Guildhall to listen to speeches and to assimilate tepid turtle soup.

Lord Mayor's Day represents an outlay on the part of the chief civic digni-

The New Lord Mayor of London and His Show



THE NEW LORD MAYOR OF LONDON
MR. JOHN POUNT



MR. JAMES THOMSON RITCHIE K.C.
THE EX-LORD MAYOR OF LONDON



THE COACHMAKER
MR. CIPRIANI



THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW AS HOGARTH DEPICTED IT

THE LORD MAYOR ON HIS WAY TO THE MAYOR HOUSE

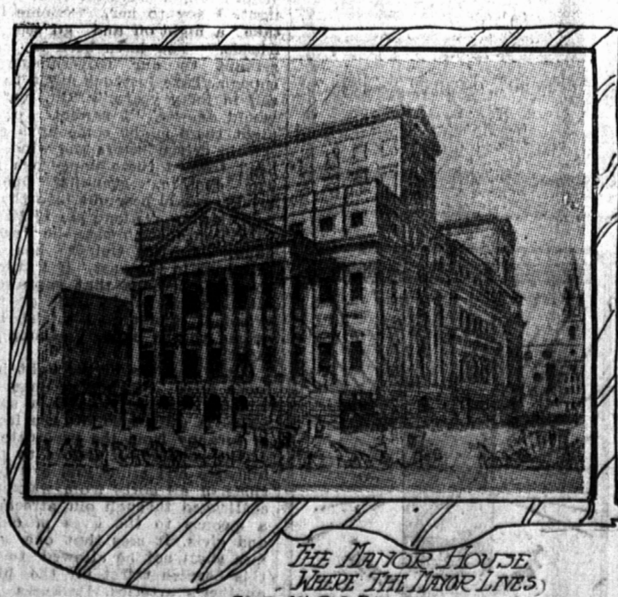
which originally cost \$6,000, entails an annual outlay of from 75 pounds to 100 pounds to keep it in a state befitting his dignity, and the noble liveries donned by the coach and footman cannot in initial cost be much less than the garments donned by similar domestics in the King's employ, whose state uniforms are set down at about \$800 apiece, a hat alone costing \$8; the main ex-

penditure is in respect to the banquet. Out of the total sum expended that would form a slush of gold as high as the average Lord Mayor, that would have a width of one and a half inches and a depth of one inch, the banquet accounts for about \$8,000.

WHO THE LORD MAYOR IS.

The Right Hon. John Pount, London's new lord mayor, was born in Leadenhall street in 1829, over his father's shop, and lived there for 40 years, at the end of which time he removed his private residence to the house in Highbury which has ever since been his home. Very interesting is the Lord Mayor's account of the Leadenhall street of his early years and of the then existing old houses, which have since given place to more modern buildings. Wonderful, indeed, have been the changes and developments in the city since he first opened his eyes upon it in the days when George IV. was king; and to listen to his lively and humorous comparisons of the past with the present is to receive a singularly vivid impression of the march of progress in the greatest stronghold of conservatism.

The Lord Mayor belongs to the city by education, as well as by birth. On leaving school he "began life" in his father's business, in Leadenhall street, of which in due course he became the head. In 1869 he entered the Common Council, and in 1892 alderman of Aldgate ward. During the 36 years of his association with the public life of the city the new Lord Mayor has held many important offices and has been at all times to the fore in useful public work both within and without the civic boundary. Hard work, London's Mayor will laughingly assure you, has been



THE MAYOR HOUSE WHERE THE LORD LIVES FROM AN OLD TIME CUT

the best recreation throughout his long and busy career, and it certainly has kept him wonderfully young for his years and enables him to preserve an activity of body and mind which may well be envied by men 20 years his juniors. In earlier life he was noted as a powerful swimmer, and he still maintains his interest in the art, the practice of which he encourages by offering prizes to successful candidates in swimming-club competitions. There is no man more widely or deservedly popular in the city than its new Chief Magistrate, whose year of office opens under entirely favorable auspices and amid general good wishes for his happiness and prosperity.

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