

Board of Works

THE DISPATCH.

VOL. I. NO. 23.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., NOVEMBER 7, 1894.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

AND HE NEVER CAME BACK.

CIRCUS FAKIR WHO LEFT \$100 WITH THE TOWN MARSHALL.

But Did Not Appear for His Trial.—Now the question is who owns the boodle.—The Marshall has \$75, the Town \$25.—Possession Nine-Tenths of the Law.

The regular monthly meeting of the town council was held on Monday evening. His worship presided.

There were present Couns. Leighton, Murphy, Churchill, Fleming, Sutton, Jones, Dickinson.

The report of the town marshal was to the effect that \$104.00 had been collected by him for licenses in the month of September and October.

A question somewhat peculiar in its bearing was considered. It will be remembered that a fakir was arrested by Marshall Gibson during the circus in the summer. He was allowed out on giving \$100 for his reappearance at the police court. The fakir failed to show up and the marshal was saddled with the \$100. He paid \$25 to the town, and has now the \$75 in his own name at the bank. The town marshal was asked to appear at the council and give an explanation of the matter. In accordance therewith he was present Monday evening, and stated the facts in accordance with the statement already given. The money, he explained was held in trust by him, and was yet at the call of the man who deposited it if he appeared on the scene. On the advice of the police magistrate he had paid over to the town \$25, the amount of the fine and costs which the magistrate held that the fakir would have been called on to shell out.

Coun. Fleming took exception to the marshal's course of action. In his opinion no officer of the town had a right to collect money for his own benefit in this way.

Coun. Murphy thought the town marshal had been badly advised in this matter. The police magistrate advised him to take \$20. The only basis on which he could have instructed the marshal to accept \$20, was on the ground that such a fine was all that he had jurisdiction over. But a heavier fine could have been imposed, as that would depend on the information laid against the man arrested. Up to that time no information was laid against the fakir, and when the magistrate instructed the marshal to take \$20, he was condoning an offence. Neither the town nor the marshal had a right to this money, for the man who left the money had been convicted of no offence; but if either had a right, the marshal had more right to the \$100 than the town to the \$25.

After Coun. Fleming again entered his protest against the marshal's course, on the ground that the money was the fakir's and should be handed over to him, the matter dropped.

When the question of streets come up, Coun. Murphy the chairman of the committee said that up to date all the sidewalks authorized had been laid, and other work done and there had been expended \$853.00. It could reasonably be hoped that the balance of the \$1000 appropriation left, would cover all the expenditure on streets for the balance of the year.

Jas. Wolverton was appointed a constable and a member of the police force of the town.

Capt. Duncan had applied that the lease given him of the land for the steamboat wharf, be changed so that he could assign it to the Union Line Steamboat company. A motion to the effect that Capt. Duncan's request be granted was voted down.

A resolution was passed to the effect that the town had nothing to do with the condition of the Wilbur House cess-pool.

After some discussion it was decided to put an electric light on the corner of Connell and Elm street.

Coun. Leighton moved a resolution to the effect that the assessment act be amended, that the representatives of the council board be reduced from ten to six, that the acts dealing with the town be consolidated, and that the councillors be elected from the town at large. He moved that a committee be appointed consisting of the mayor and three councillors to act on the suggestions thrown out in his resolution.

Coun. Murphy informed the board that such a committee had been appointed last year and that Coun. Leighton had been a member of it, but he had done nothing in the matter, and now just on the eve of an election it had the appearance of a political dodge for Mr. Leighton to bring this matter up. He thought the business of the town could be as efficiently carried out with 6 as with 10 councillors, and the change suggested would do away with petty local feelings.

Coun. Leighton was glad that brother

Murphy liked his motion, but thought he needn't have rubbed it into him so roughly. He said that Coun. Murphy barely got elected last year by the skin of his teeth, and was undoubtedly maneuvering just now to get another term at the council. He apologized for not vigorously forwarding the objects of the committee by saying that he was the junior member of the committee, and the efforts of a junior were always looked upon with coldness.

Coun. Fleming thought the present system of ward representation a very bad one, and the vices of it were particularly noticeable in the case of the work of the road committee. Taking one member of the committee from each ward had caused a lack of unanimity among its members, each one pulling for his own ward.

The mayor thought the change in the assessment badly needed and thought the motion was a good one. It was carried unanimously.

His worship appointed to the committee, Couns. Murphy, Leighton and Fleming. The council adjourned to Thursday evening.

MOCK PARLIAMENT.

The Members of the New Government.—Forecast of the Speech From the Throne.

The session of the Woodstock Mock Parliament opens on Friday evening, in the W. C. T. U. Hall, when the new government, under the leadership of W. P. Jones, will commence operations. The cabinet is as follows:—W. P. Jones, premier and minister of the interior; Wm. Dibblee, minister of finance; Chas. Appleby, minister of justice; Jas. Watts, minister of marine and fisheries; J. K. Fleming, minister of agriculture; Donald Munro, secretary of state; W. T. Drysdale, postmaster general; U. R. Hanson, minister of trade and commerce; W. W. Hay, minister of public works; John P. Malaney, controller of inland revenue; Hugh Harrison, controller of customs. It will be seen that the new cabinet is strong.

The speech from the throne will be considered on Friday. It is rumored that it will be a very brief production; that it will contain reference to the prosperity which Canada has enjoyed, while other countries have been suffering from severe depression. Among the measures which it foreshadows as likely to be introduced are one tending to a reduction in taxation; for the amendment of the franchise act; dealing with the railway service; concerning the sale of liquor; relating to the postal service.

Mr. Saml. Watts, leader of the opposition has been laid up at his house for some days, but it is hoped he will be able to attend the opening on Friday. A caucus of the opposition members will be held tomorrow evening in Hartley and Carvell's office. Major Vince the speaker has been away, but will no doubt be home to attend to his sessional duties.

Christian Unity.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 5.—Cardinal Gibbons preached at the cathedral yesterday on Christian Unity. He said: "Thank God there is a yearning desire for the reunion of Christianity among many noble and earnest souls. This is particularly manifested in the English-speaking world. I, myself, have received several letters from influential Protestant ministers expressing the hope of a reunion and inquiring as to the probable basis of reconciliation. I have longed and prayed for it during all the years of my ministry. I have prayed that as we were bound to our brethren by social and family and by natural and commercial ties so may we be united in the bonds of a common faith. The conditions of reunion are easier than are generally imagined. Of course there can be no compromise on faith or morals. The doctrine and moral code that Christ has left us must remain unchanged, but the Christian church can modify her discipline to suit the circumstances of the case."

Lumber Prospect.

It is hard to find out how lumber operations are to be this year. The heavy operators are reticent—they are all naturally of shy dispositions, and don't care to give too much to the press. However, they generally agree in saying that lumber operations will not be much heavier this season than last season. But it is pretty plain, although the great operators don't care to admit too much, that the price of lumber is on the improving scale. If this be so, and the fact that lumber dealers are holding a good deal of timber bears this out, there will be an improvement also in all lines of business. It is pleasant to look forward to a winter when "hard times" will only be the cry of chronic pessimists.

The United States courts have begun the prosecution of the Atchison Railway managers for violating the Interstate Commerce Law in the granting of rebates to favoured shippers. It will be a great triumph for law and order if these cases are not allowed to drop.—The Outlook.

THE MUSINGS OF THE IMP.

HIS DIABOLICAL LITTLE WAYS OF TREATING MATTERS.

Commends the Pope for Condemning Zola—Refuses to Have a Price Put on His Head. Has a Strong Admiration for the Immortal Sherlock Holmes.

He was madly fond of her, she hated him; but woman like sought to catch him; the busy little flea.

In a very valuable little report recently issued by the order of parliament of Canada, it is stated that there are 28,960 geese in the Province of New Brunswick. This reminds me of Carlyle's statement that there were in England some 30 million people mostly fools. If Mr. Johnson, the parliamentary statistician, meant this for an unkind reflection on the province for sending a Conservative majority to Ottawa, I certainly must consider it a very foul remark. Still, as he credits his own province, Nova Scotia, with having 39,360 geese, perhaps one could not accuse him of unfairness in his estimate. In future reports I wish he would say whether these geese are mostly men or women.

All moral people owe the Pope a note of thanks for refusing to have an interview with Emile Zola. Zola can't be too severely squelched. Realism may be all very well in its way, but as intellectual provender I must say that I am very intolerant of the unwholesome commodity that Zola turns out and dignifies by that name. Mr. Zola says he merely holds the mirror up to nature, that he pictures life as it really is. No doubt he does depict it as it is in some cases, but it is difficult for an uninspired individual to understand why he should select for his stories the most disgusting incidents in the lines of the most degraded of our fellow men. If the human characteristics, so gross in their animalism, portrayed by Zola, are true to life, so are those traits of character that are almost godlike in their grandeur, also true to nature, and as it is true that the mind becomes that which it dwells upon, it is better that we should employ our time contemplating nobility than depravity.

Conan Doyle is a novelist, or more correctly speaking a story writer, whose works are now receiving marked attention. His character master piece is Sherlock Holmes, the unprofessional detective, who is introduced to the public in "A Study in Scarlet," and whom the writer has recently killed, for, as he says, "If I had not killed Sherlock Holmes, he would have killed me." Sherlock Holmes is undoubtedly the strongest and most interesting character which any fiction writer of the present day has produced. His marvellous ability to detect crime, to make leading clues out of, to the ordinary observer, insignificant incidents, is most graphically portrayed, and yet the character is not overdrawn.

Sherlock Holmes is simply the detective, working for the love of his strange calling, and developed to the highest standard. In "The Sign of the Four," the net which he weaves from circumstance to circumstance around a mysterious murderer, is so complete that it almost seems simple when the how and wherefore is set forth. Sherlock Holmes does not appear an impossible character but he is very "scarce". Jack The Ripper would never have escaped him. It is hardly fashionable in Woodstock to read much, but if there should arise a tendency to sin against fashion in this respect, Conan Doyle and his immortal Sherlock Holmes will be found worthy of, at least, a brief study.

One Sunday morning some years ago I attended church service in a city in the United States. The Sunday school was convened in the basement of the church immediately after service, and a young lady near whom I sat invited me to go down with her. At that period of my existence I was not what one could call a gourmand for Sunday schools but "I went with her." When the lesson was over the superintendent mounted the platform and informed the school that a prize of a ten dollar bible had been offered to the young lady who would in three months introduce the greatest number of new scholars into the school. My feelings were slightly mixed up not to say conglomerated when I learned that a price had been set on my spiritual scalp. He did not say who had the lead in the competition at that time, and I am as yet in ignorance as to whether my fair captor got the prize or not. This may possibly be a good method of building up a Sunday school, I could scarcely rank as an authority on the question, but I very much doubt that it is. The incident raised in my mind the question

as to whether the schools are operated for the benefit of the young people or the young people are gathered together for the benefit of a particular church organization. I made up my mind that the next time any one in a strange city invited me to attend church or Sunday school I would find out whether or no she was to get a premium on me, and if so, I would insist on a division of the profits.

The New York Constitution.

The people of New York have by this time voted on an amended constitution submitted for their consideration by the convention held last summer. Below are given the chief provisions of the new constitution.

Municipal elections in large cities to be held in odd years, state and national elections in even years, and the governor's term reduced from three to two years.

City officers given a veto power over special legislation affecting their cities—but a veto which can be overruled by the legislature's passing the bill by a majority vote only.

The prohibition of riders on appropriation bills and of the issue of passes to public officers.

No bill to pass until in its final form it has lain upon the desks of members of both houses for three legislative days. The prohibition of public gambling in any form. The requirement of ninety days citizenship instead of ten as a prerequisite of voting. The prohibition of the appropriation of public money for sectarian schools.

Public visitation of and authority over, all charitable organizations which depend in whole or in part upon public funds.

The simplification of the judiciary system. An amendment allowing the issue of bonds for the improvement of canals, provided a majority of the voters of the state sanction the issue.

An amendment, providing that neither New York nor Brooklyn shall ever have more than one third of the legislature, and that the two combined shall never have more than one half. The prohibition of the employment of prison labour except on work for the state. It is not possible as yet, to say what the result of the vote on the new constitution has been.

The McAdam Sensation.

According to the Fredericton Herald, the trouble at McAdam between G.A. Haggarty, mechanical superintendent of this division of the C. P. R., and Wm. Simpson, store keeper, has resulted in the dismissal of both men from office. There was a hearing in the case before the police magistrate at Fredericton. Harper Sproule, who had worked in the mechanical department up to April last, under the direction of Haggarty, was arrested on the charge of having assaulted Simmons on Oct. 19th. Simmons on his examination swore that he was assaulted by Sproule, and Jas. Foster, engineer, swore that on the 19th he stopped at McAdam and received instructions from Haggarty to stop at Sugar, Brook on his way north and take Sproule aboard. He swore that Haggarty had particularly requested him to take Sproule on and say nothing about it, informing him at the same time that Sproule had given Simmons a pounding. Sproule was committed for trial at the next York circuit court. Mr. Haggarty is now in Vancaboro. The charge in the police court was that Sproule had assaulted Simmons at the instigation of another party, and by the other party it is plain that Mr. Haggarty is meant.

Who Subpoened Him?

The poet says that "birds in their little nests agree." This being a general aphorism would necessarily apply to hawks, as well as to other members of the feathered family. But lawyers, the hawks in pantaloons, do not always in their little nests agree, excepting when they combine in fleecing their clients.

A little incident occurred at the recent session of the circuit court, which is worthy of immortality.

The counsel for the defence was cross examining a witness, and in the course of his examination he remarked that a Woodstock Q. C. had been subpoenaed by the plaintiffs, but had not been called to give testimony.

"He was not called by me," shouted in Gregorian tones the learned counsel for the plaintiff.

"Oh! but he was" retorted the counsel on the defensive.

"Yes!" interposed the junior counsel for the defence, who was *locum tenens* the clerk of the court, "I heard you tell Glidden to drive down town and get him."

"Now by all the gods, thou prevaricator. I did nothing of the kind. You are telling a deliberate untruth," retorted the counsel for the plaintiff.

The judge was about to exercise his authority, when the Q. C. came to the front and remarked, "It is true Mr. C. that Mr. G. did not send for me. It was Mr. B. who sent for me, and here I be."

AN ATTEMPT TO SUICIDE.

GLASSVILLE ROBBERY CHARGE LEADS TO COMMITMENT.

An Old Lady at the Lower Corner Uses a Razor, but Without Success.—Isacher Boyer will Stand His Trial at the County Court.—A Suspicious Old Gentleman.

Mrs. James Hayes, an old lady who lives at the lower end of the town went out to the shed in the rear of her house Monday morning at about half past ten o'clock and attempted to cut her throat with a razor. Her daughter ran after her, caught her, and throwing herself upon her tried to get the weapon out of her hand. At this time A. McFarlan and Philip Keefe who were driving past saw the struggle, and in response to the daughter's cries for help, ran to her assistance and they wrested the razor from the woman's grasp. Another of Mrs. Hayes' daughters ran from across the street and took possession of the razor. As she was going toward the house she fainted, and had to be carried into the house.

The old lady, fortunately, was reached and overcome before she had an opportunity of injuring herself. She is subject to attacks of mental depression, and it was on the occasion of one of these attacks that she tried to take her life.

Committed for Trial.

In the issue of THE DISPATCH of the 24th was a report of a trial before the police magistrate of Isacher Boyer, charged by Henry Corcoran of stealing \$700.00 from him the day of the Glassville fair. Both men had been drinking pretty freely, and when Corcoran found he was minus his money, he immediately fled to the kind shelter of the law, and took steps to recover it from the man whom he believed had it in his possession.

The hearing was adjourned until Wednesday, when after duly considering the testimony of witnesses and the contention of the counsels, Mr. A. B. Connell, Q. C., and Mr. F. B. Carvell, Mr. Dibblee decided to commit Boyer for trial at the county court which opens in December. In doing so the police magistrate said he was of the opinion that there was little evidence against Mr. Boyer, but he had made a statement in his evidence which was directly opposed to the statement made by a previous witness, about being in a certain alley, and under such circumstances he did not think he would be doing justice if he dismissed the case. However, as the case for the plaintiff was not very strong he would take bail. This the statute permitted him to do, but it would not allow him to do so if the case was very plainly made out. He would take Isacher Boyer's own security for \$400, and two other securities for \$200 each. John N. Jones and Boyer's brother, Herbert L. Boyer were accepted as security.

During the trial one of the witnesses called for the defence was Austin Kinney. He said that he saw two youngsters, on the day of the fair, fooling with some bills which aroused his suspicion. However when Mr. Connell asked him of what he was suspicious he seemed at loss to tell.

"Do you know the meaning of the word suspicious?"

"No, I dont."

"Well!" said Mr. Carvell, "did you notice anything that these boys did which aroused your curiosity?"

"Yes," said the witness.

It was not quite plain however that he knew what curiosity was. The learned counsel were about to enter on a clerical discussion as to the derivation and correct meaning of the respective words "suspicious," and "curious," when they both concluded that the evidence was not very material anyway.

Title Hereditary.

Count Mercier bequeaths practically nothing by his will, as the insurance on his life was already made out in favor of Madame Mercier and her three children. It is said to reach \$24,000. That, together with some lots in the township of Labelle, which are already in the name of his wife and children, and the furniture in the house, is all that he leaves to his family. The title of Count of the Holy Roman Empire is inherited by his eldest son, Mr. Henri Mercier, who is entitled to the honor during his lifetime. Unless revived, however, it will lapse with him.

The Way the Wind Blows.

Municipal elections were held throughout England and Wales last week. The returns from 146 boroughs, in 39 of which there were no contests, show that the Conservatives secured 39 seats, the Unionists 8, the Ministerialists 28, Labor 15, Independents 6, and Socialists 3.