

THE DISPATCH.

Barb Home

VOL. 4. NO. 36.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., FEB. 2, 1898.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

**99 CENTS
AND \$1.49.**

We have finished Stock-Taking and find among other things that we have too many Hats in stock.

We have commenced a Sweeping Sale for one week from February 1st, of all Hats in our store, at two prices, **99 cents** and **\$1.49**.

We have placed in our window samples with prices, the balance you can see inside. \$1.25, \$1.50, and some \$1.75 and \$2.00 Hats will go at 99 cents, the balance at \$1.49.

These are all Latest Style Hats and cheap at regular prices, but you can buy any of these for one week from February 1st, at 99 cents and \$1.49.

Oak Hall, One Price, Woodstock.

WHAT CASH WILL DO.

We have finished taking stock, and will clear all our WINTER GOODS out at **KNOCK DOWN PRICES**.

You will profit by looking at our prices on SHIRTS, CAPS, UNDERWEAR and SUITS.

If you want to be in the swim, you should have one of the NEW HATS white with black band, or black with white and black band.

A. J. GREY, No. 2 Main Street.

MAKE A RUSH,--EVERYBODY!

For the Main Street KLONDIKE,
And get rich by buying your

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry, Silverware & Spectacles,
AT THE BLUE FRONT JEWELRY STORE.

Headquarters for (N. B. Telephone Co.
(C. P. R. Telegraph Co.

H. V. DALLING,
Woodstock, N. B.

IN WISHING OUR PATRONS A MERRY XMAS

We thank you for the very liberal patronage you have extended to us in the first sixteen months of our business career. We wish to state here that we are in a better position than ever for first-class work. We have secured at advanced wages the very best help that is obtainable. And we can safely guarantee you for the coming year work that cannot be excelled this side of Boston. We are now offering the balance of our Fall and Winter Stock, consisting of Black and Fancy Worsteds, Scotch, English and Canadian Tweeds, Fine Worsteds and West of England Trouserings, Overcoatings, and Fancy Vestings, made up in the Very Latest New York Styles.

PORTER & GIBSON,
Merchant Tailors.

POVERTY AND CRIME.

Uncivilized Spots in our Boasted Progressive County.

Arrested on the Charge of Murdering Her Sister--Prisoner Arrives in Woodstock--Preliminary Examination Before the P. M. This Afternoon.

Shortly before five o'clock on Monday afternoon, a double sleigh drove from the station to the police magistrate's office, and from it alighted Deputy-Sheriff Foster, and a slight, thinly clad woman. They hurriedly entered the office, and in half a minute the little room that stands for the police court of the town of Woodstock, was filled to its utmost capacity.

The woman was Annie Louisa Canovan, and she was in the care of the sheriff, charged with murdering her sister, Minnie Tucker, by administering to her, strychnine.

It was on Saturday that news reached town that a murder had occurred in or near Johnville, and on Sunday THE DISPATCH heard brief details of the sad affair, by telephone from Florenceville. Further investigation led to a more detailed version, which is now given to its readers.

On the road between Bath and Glassville, known as the south Johnville road, is a place called the Gore. It is about nine miles from Bath and seven miles from Glassville. It is a poor section of the country. Here in a low, poor log house, more properly defined as a hovel, lived an old couple, James and Mary Tucker, their daughter, Annie Louisa, and her husband, Patrick Canovan, and an unmarried sister, Minnie Tucker.

Minnie Tucker, somewhere about twenty years of age, died on Thursday. The circumstances connected with her death, as related by a neighbour, Edward Carroll, led Dr. Comins, of Johnville, who is a coroner, to think that there was foul play. He notified Deputy Sheriff Foster, and on Friday morning they visited the house. The interior of the house, if it can be dignified by that name, consisted of one room. There was no bed. The family slept on the floor. A broken stove gave some heat, but even then a good barn would have been warmer. There was a broken chair, a couple of boards rigged up for a table. Near the stove lay the body of the girl, Minnie Tucker, covered by a night dress. No care had been taken of the remains. The family were around the room. Dr. Cummings immediately saw that an inquest was necessary, and he gave instructions to Deputy Foster to summon a jury.

The following jury was empanelled: John Boyd, foreman; John Murphy, Randolph Lapoint, John Giberson, Martin Vicar, Edward Carroll and Peter Shea. The inquest was commenced and the jury finished their work at the house where the death occurred. Evidence was given by all concerned, and it will be repeated today before Police Magistrate Dibblee, who will hold the preliminary examination at the town hall this afternoon at two o'clock.

Dr. Somerville of Bristol, deposed that the prisoner came to him and showing him some powder asked if it would kill foxes. He said he was not sure, and after further inquiry sold the prisoner a bottle of strychnine.

When the doctors examined the corpse there was evidence to satisfy them that the prisoner had either taken this poison or that it had been administered to her. Other evidence given at the inquest was as follows:

Mrs. Edward Carroll swore she knew the victim and sister, Mrs. Canovan, and that Mrs. Canovan said in her (Mrs. Carroll's) house that if her sister, Minnie Tucker, did not stop trying to take her man away from her that she (Mrs. Canovan) would poison her.

Mrs. Brewer swore that the dead girl had left her (Mrs. Brewer's) house the day before in her usual good health, and that before leaving she (Minnie Tucker) told her that she heard that her sister had threatened to poison her, and that if she died any time she might know what had befallen her. Mrs. Brewer knew of no reason Mrs. Canovan had for being jealous of the dead girl.

James Tucker, father of the unfortunate girls, when asked if Minnie Tucker and Mrs. Annie Louisa Canovan were his daughters, replied, "the old woman," meaning his wife, "says so." He said to the coroner that on Thursday morning they had a row in the house, but no blows were struck. He went out to the yard to work, and about ten o'clock his wife called him into the house. There he found his daughter, Minnie Tucker, lying on the floor writhing in convulsions. The only words she spoke after he went in were, "Oh, Dad." When witness was preparing to sign the evidence he cursed the old woman because she could not find his spectacles. Mrs. James Tucker, said she was glad the

girl was dead, for she had always been a trouble to her, but that she (the mother) had not poisoned her. The mother said that the victim said, "Is there no one person that I can tell my story to, they will blame you for poisoning, and you are innocent: I have done it with my own hands." Then, she said, she called her husband, and sent Mrs. Canovan for the latter's husband, Patrick Canovan. The last words the girl spoke were "Curse the day." Then she became unconscious.

Mrs. Annie L. Canovan, nee Tucker, gave evidence to the effect that she did not poison her sister, but that the victim steeped poison in a cup and drank it. When questioned by the sheriff as to what she did with the cup, she said she threw the cup into the stove about twenty minutes after her sister took the poison. Minnie said "I am getting blind." She then sat down on a chair and soon fell upon the floor. I then started for my husband on snow shoes. When we got back Minnie could not speak. When questioned by the jury if she bought anything at Dr. Somerville's drug store at Bristol on January 22nd., Mrs. Canovan answered "No." When asked what she went to Bristol for, she said, "Oh, I found some stuff in my sister's trunk and wanted to find out what it was." Dr. Somerville told me he was not sure, but that I had better burn it up. When I got home I did so. Witness denied having bought poison from Dr. Somerville that day. When asked if she was jealous of her sister and husband, she replied, "I did not think they used me right. I did not tell anybody I was going to Bristol. My husband did not know. I had some taxes to pay Mr. Jones while at Bristol." When asked she said the dead girl had not told her that she was pregnant, but she (witness) had her thoughts about it. When asked if she and her sister quarrelled, she replied, "Yes, we did, but when we met again we were good friends."

Patrick Canovan swore that on the morning of the 27th he left the house of his father-in-law about seven o'clock to go to work for a neighbor, Mr. Carroll. He left the victim, Minnie Tucker, at his wife Annie L., lying on the floor. When he was leaving they wanted him to wait breakfast, but he would not. His wife said "You are going off mad." He said, "Don't speak to me in a joking way." He went to Mr. Carroll's for breakfast. He heard that his wife had threatened to poison both himself and her sister, Minnie, but they did not believe it. At twelve o'clock his wife came for him to go home and told him Minnie was dying.

In the course of Dr. Somerville's evidence, the prisoner when asked if she wished to ask Dr. Somerville any questions, said to him, "What do you want to do, swear my life away and send my soul to hell?"

Dr. Ross swore that the victim came to her death by poisoning, that her heart was all right. He had made a thorough examination and found the victim pregnant about one month past. The jury retired in charge of Sheriff Foster and in less than one hour brought in the following verdict:

"The victim, Minnie Tucker, came to her death on the 27th day of January, by poison taken into her stomach; and that we firmly believe that the poison was furnished by her sister, Mrs. Annie Louisa Canovan."

THE DISPATCH met the mixed train on which the deputy-sheriff and the prisoner came down, at Upper Woodstock. It was behind time, not arriving there till about half past four. The prisoner was clad in a black dress, with a dark shawl over her shoulders, and a blue shawl wrapped around her head. She was utterly disinclined to talk, probably because the sheriff had declined to allow her to talk to him and had advised her to say nothing. She only said that she had lived all her life about where the tragedy occurred.

Very little passed between the police magistrate and the prisoner.

"Canovan, that is your name?" said the magistrate.

"Yes, sir," was the reply.

The magistrate—I am obliged to make a warrant out charging you with what amounts to murder. The further proceedings will be adjourned till 2 o'clock on Wednesday, at which time the necessary witnesses will be present. If you desire to have counsel let me or the sheriff know and your wish will be acceded to.

After considering, the prisoner said she would like to have counsel.

The magistrate told her to decide upon whom she would have, and let it be known. The prisoner was then taken to the goal at Upper Woodstock. She was given the best and most roomy cell upstairs, which compared to her quarters, at what was her home, will probably seem most luxurious.

The next circuit court will be on the 4th Tuesday in April, which will fall on the 26th of that month.

Many people in Woodstock know of the Tucker family. The old woman, Mary Tucker, at one time kept house for Night Watchman, Thos. McCarron. A sister named Alice, lived at service in town, and has lately been employed at the Treacart House, Upper Woodstock.

The Tuckers' house is right along the Chikethawk stream. Carroll, the neighbor, referred to above, also lives in a log house.

The Gore is in the parish of Aberdeen, not in Kent, as reported.

Sheriff Balloch and Deputy Foster started out yesterday morning to secure the witnesses. They will probably be somewhat delayed on account of the terrific storm.

When Mrs. Canovan was arrested she was so poorly clad that the deputy had to give her his overcoat to keep her from freezing.

Wendell P. Jones has been engaged by the prisoner to conduct the case on her behalf.

Later reports from the goal are that the prisoner is making herself quite comfortable. She ate heartily of the meals provided for her.

TO ASSIST THE FARMERS.

Mr. Labillois Says This is The Government Policy.

Meeting in The Town Hall at Which The Commissioner of Agriculture and others Speak.—A Good and Representative Audience.

Farmers from all the adjoining parishes came to town on Monday afternoon to listen to the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Labillois, and his associates who are giving addresses in farming, good roads, etc.

Jas. Good presided at the meeting held in the town hall. Col. McCrea, of Guelph, Mr. Hopkins, of Northampton, N. S. Mr. Armstrong of the Good Roads Association, and the local members, were on the platform.

Mr. Labillois, who for the first time visited the town, made a favourable impression. He said that the present government had adopted a strong agricultural policy. This was distinctly set forth in Mr. Emmerson's St. John speech, when he spoke of encouraging the raising of wheat.

That a discussion of such subjects was beneficial he adduced from the effect of a discussion of the cheese industry, which had led to an increase in the output of the province, from 60 tons ten years ago, to between 550 and 600 tons this year. So a discussion of pork raising would lead to an increase in the output, and the same of wheat raising and butter making. The government wished to cause a general advance of the agricultural branches, and on his advice \$600 had been granted toward holding meetings such as this. With the decline of the lumbering industry, it became necessary that everything possible should be done to encourage farming. He advised an improved system of butter making. At the butter factory Sussex, 40,000 pounds had been turned out, and the patrons were paid 16½ cents a pound, and their skim milk was returned to them. All the trouble of the old-fashioned butter-making was dispensed with. If this county started a factory it would be given a bonus, or if the cheese factories were changed in winter to butter factories, they would be bonused. The speaker then dwelt on the apathy of farmers at their agricultural meetings. Often it was impossible to get a quorum even at an annual meeting, and it was necessary to drum up merchants and others in order to do the business.

Col. McCrea who dealt with "Tuberculosis" and "Farm Life" proved himself a most entertaining and instructive speaker. His remarks were enlivened by a number of amusing anecdotes and stories which highly amused the audience. Among other things he said:—Tuberculosis and consumption are almost identical, the one in the lower animals, the other in the human family, only the former differs from the latter in that only about 40% is found in the lungs. Tuberculosis is never found in wild animals, in the wild, but in wild animals confined it is fatal. The disease is decreasing, though found in every state in the American union and in every county in Ontario. About one third of the people who take this disease do not know they have it, and are cured. There is little danger in getting it from meat, more danger from milk. To boil the milk, kills the germ and removes the danger. The Anglo-Saxon is about the only nation which uses the raw milk. It would be better to get in the way of using it boiled.

John Harper—Are there any outward signs by which you can tell of the presence of tuberculosis in cattle?

Col. McCrea—None that I know of, unless by means of tuberculin.

To another question, the speaker said that you might freeze the germs for two years, and when they thawed out, they would be as lively as kittens.

The speaker then took up his subject Farm Life. Farmers worked too much with their hands and too little with their heads. Eight or ten hours a day of good active work was sufficient, and better results would follow. The boys on a farm should be given a chance. They should have some leisure, and be given an interest in the farm. The same with the girls. Use the young people on the farms well and they would more than return the good treatment. He advised beef-raising in this county, and concluded by asking the farmers if they got all the good out of farm life. We were only going through this life once. He advised more culture in the home life, and on resuming his seat, was loudly applauded.

Mr. Armstrong followed in an address on good roads. He had a magic lantern, with

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