

BUSINESS NOTICE.

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MIRAMICHI ADVANCE

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ADVANCE

D. G. SMITH, EDITOR & PROPRIETOR. TERMS - \$1.00 a Year, in Advance.



A LIFE SAVED BY TAKING AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Highest Awards at World's Fairs.

that Murray had no liquor for sale in his house. The record (exhibit No. 39) of a case against Catherine McConnell for unlawfully selling liquor was put in by Mr. McCulley's counsel. The evidence was not very satisfactory, but I think there was sufficient for to put the defendant on her defence, and as she did not appear and give evidence, I think the magistrate was justified in convicting her, which he did.

General News and Notes. The leading philanthropist was Howard, who devoted his life to ameliorating the wretchedness of the poor.

French Dramatists. He has been styled "The Shakespeare of the French."

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Through express for Quebec and Montreal, (Monday excepted) 4.00

ALL TRAINS ARE RUN BY EASTERN STANDARD TIME. D. POTTINGER, General Manager

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THOS. W. FLETT, NELSON.

NOTICE TO HOLDERS OF TIMBER LICENSES. Crown Land Office, 24 July, 1896.

HOMAN & PUDDINGTON SHIP BROKERS AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

FOR SALE. An engine lathe 8ft bed and 30 inch swing, elevating rest, screw cutting, etc.

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Miramichi Advance.

The charges Against Police Magistrate McCulley of Chatham.

Report Thereon of Commissioner G. G. Gilbert.

Another record (exhibit No. 22) of a case against one Frank Graham for unlawfully selling intoxicating liquor was put in. A witness named Bernard swore, at a time within the dates he got drunk which was called cider, at defendant's and it made him drunk.

There were three records (exhibits No. 26, 27, and 28) put in evidence by the complainants. The first was against William Coulson for selling intoxicating liquor contrary to the C. T. Act between 20th Nov. 1894 and 23rd January 1895.

The second, against the said William Coulson for selling intoxicating liquor between 10th of November 1894 and 20th November 1894 and tried 1st February 1895.

The third against same William Coulson for selling intoxicating liquor between 20th November 1894 and 23rd January 1895. In these three cases the evidence was practically the same in each case.

The facts were that a number of gentlemen in Chatham formed themselves into a Club called the 'Chatham Social Club', the object being to procure premises, furnish them with billiard tables &c., where they could meet one another in a social manner.

The Managing Committee purchased liquors for the Club, the Club had a steward (William Coulson) who was a servant of the Club at a weekly salary, part of whose duty was to serve the liquors owned by the Club to the members, and to receive from the parties to whom he served the liquors for the use of the Club a fixed price for the liquor furnished, which money when received went into the funds of the Club, the steward receiving no benefit from the serving of these liquors.

The evidence showed in all the cases that Coulson did between the dates in the several informations mentioned, serve to different members of the Club intoxicating liquors, and did receive money according to the schedule price, and pay it into the Club funds. It was admitted that the Club was a bona fide Club. That they had taken the advice of eminent counsel, and believed that they could divide the liquors they had purchased among the members in the manner, and according to the rules and regulations of the Club without violating the provisions of the Canada Temperance Act.

From the records put in, it appeared to me that the cases had been fairly tried by the magistrate, and the whole question came down to a point of law, i. e. "Was the disposing of liquor in this manner a violation of the Canada Temperance Act?" One of the objections to Mr. McCulley's course in the trial and in his judgment, is stated by Mr. Winslow in his evidence (page 54 of evidence) as follows: "Notwithstanding the statement made by Mr. McCulley at the trial as to the bona fide of the Club, he gave a written judgment stating the Club was a 'device'."

The judgment referred to is set out in one of the records as follows: "In this case a disposal of intoxicating liquors by defendant has been shown by the evidence to have taken place, and as it appeared to the court, is an unlawful disposal. The defendant was placed upon his defence. The evidence shows that a large number (somewhere about 240) of persons have associated themselves into 'what they call the 'Chatham Social Club', and have certain 'written bye-laws and constitutions' for the government of the same. 'The Club is not incorporated by law. The Club occupies rooms in 'Chatham, in the County of Northumberland, in which rooms, are provided means of amusement and social intercourse, and intoxicating liquors are also provided. These intoxicating liquors are served by the defendant, who is a paid servant or steward of the Club, to the members of the Club, and a certain price is paid to the steward by such members as call for liquor. The fee to be paid in order to become a member of the Club was originally one dollar, but

it has been increased from time to time until it is now ten dollars, for residents of the County and five dollars for non-residents of the County. The constitution, 'bye laws, rules, &c., of this Club have been placed in evidence by the defence. The disposal of intoxicating liquor by the defendant is admitted by the defence, as is also the receipt of money by the defendant for such liquor, but it is contended by the defence, that defendant is not amenable to the provisions of the Canada Temperance Act, holding that the Club is a bona fide club and the intoxicating liquor being disposed of, only to members, that it does not constitute a sale even if money did pass for such liquor. In support of this contention the defence cites 'an English case, 'Graff vs Evans', which case is also cited in a joint opinion of Messrs. Blair and Pugsley, and which opinion has been placed in evidence by the defence. 'Sec. 98 of the C. T. Act enacts 'That no person within such 'county or city, by himself, his 'clerk, servant or agent, shall 'expose or keep for sale or direct 'ly or indirectly, on any pretence 'or upon any device, sell or barter or in consideration of the 'sale of any other property, give 'to any other person any intoxicating liquor. And also specifies 'the persons who may legally 'sell or dispose of intoxicating 'liquors under the Act. Sec. 112 'of same Act shows that if a trans- 'action in the nature of a sale or 'barter, or other unlawful disposal 'actually took place a conviction 'may follow. In deciding this case 'it will be necessary to consider if 'a sale or a transaction in the na- 'ture of a sale actually took place, 'and while the English case refer- 'red to might appear to be 'against such presumption, it 'must be remembered that in the 'words of Judge Field who gave 'judgment in that case: 'It is to 'be observed' he says 'that a new 'provision has been made to const- 'rue 'is to be found for the first 'time in this Act, provisions in 'respect to the sale of intoxicat- 'ing liquor occur often in similar 'legislation, but by sec. 3 a new 'and distinct offence is created. 'The section must be construed 'by looking at the language used, 'and taking a large view of the 'objects of the legislation.' There 'appears also by the same case that 'some distinction is made as to the 'sale by retail and wholesale, which 'affects the liability of the party 'as it is also stated by Judge 'Field. The enactment is limited 'to sales of intoxicating liquors, 'and only seems aimed at sales 'by retail traders, because the 'wholesale trader is not touched. 'In that case the sale was of two 'bottles one of whisky and one 'of ale which were carried off the 'premises. That under our old 'license law would have been a 'wholesale transaction, but we 'have not the English Act to refer 'to. In taking a large view of 'the objects of the legislation 'which evolved the Canada Tem- 'perance Act, and according to my 'opinion of the true intent and 'meaning of the Act, which is 'imperative in prohibiting the 'traffic in intoxicating liquors, I 'believe that sales of intoxicating 'liquor were made by the defend- 'ant for such intoxicating liquor. One 'section of the constitution of the 'Chatham Social Club' which is 'in evidence reads as follows: 'No 'liquor shall be sold in larger 'quantities than a glass, and shall 'be consumed upon the Club prem- 'ises, which is presumptive evi- 'dence that it was intended to 'keep liquors for sale. It is claim- 'ed by the defence that the Club 'is a bona fide Club. Now by 'referring to the book of constitu- 'tions which is in evidence, it is 'seen that fully one-half of the 'names attached are those of non- 'residents of the county, many 'being transient visitors, commer- 'cial travellers, tourists and sea 'captains, having residences in 'United States, Ontario, Prince 'Edward Island and Great Britain. 'All these persons each have to 'pay a fee in order to participate 'in the privileges of the Club, and 'as all these privileges as far as 'shown, except the single one 'of obtaining intoxicating liquor, 'can be procured at other 'places in Chatham without 'having to pay any fee for the 'privilege, the only conclusion I can 'arrive at is, that the Club is a 'device or means by which the 'provisions of the C. T. Act are 'violated, and that the defendant 'in his capacity as steward of the 'Club did so violate the Act. No 'provision is made in the C. T. 'Act for the disposal of intoxicat- 'ing liquor through the medium of 'any association of persons, who 'may choose to form a club and 'make rules for its guidance, and 'if such a condition of affairs were 'permissible, the C. T. Act would 'become a dead letter upon the 'statute book, as the most persis- 'tent violators could combine in a 'general agreement to establish so 'called Clubs' all over counties in 'which the Act is in force. In the 'English case, to which refer- 'ence is made, it would appear that 'the Club was incorporated, while 'the Chatham Social Club is not. 'It may be that some special privi- 'lege accrued to a Club incorporat- 'ed in England by which intoxicat- 'ing liquors could be dispensed in 'such a manner as not to constitute 'a sale. In my opinion in the 'Chatham Social Club the pay- 'ment of the initiation fee assured 'the party the right to order, pro- 'cure, and pay for intoxicating

liquor in the Club rooms, and when he paid for it, he paid for the shares of the remaining members in the liquor so supplied him, it is only fair to the Club to say however that there was apparently no secrecy in the manner of conducting their business."

It appears to me after having read the evidence, that in this judgment, the magistrate has fairly stated the facts, and has clearly and strongly set out his reasons for arriving at the conclusion he did. Perhaps in using the word "Device" he was unwise, and unwise, because unnecessary, for all that was necessary to say was that the dispensing of the liquor in the manner as it was done in the Club was a sale contrary to the provisions of the Canada Temperance Act. If, as stated by Mr. Winslow in his evidence, the magistrate intimated during the course of the trial that the Club was a bona fide Club, then to my mind the using of the word "Device" was at least unfortunate and calculated to prejudice. The words bona fide, in the sense they appeared to have been used, would mean that the members of the Club thought that by the formation of a Club in the manner they did, they could dispense liquor among themselves without violating the letter or spirit of the Canada Temperance Act. But Device would mean that the members of the Club thought they could inaugurate a scheme by which they could violate the Act without rendering themselves liable to the penalties. But this to my mind is a small matter, for if the Club really thought that they were not violating the Act, yet if they did so (even if unintentionally) the conviction was right.

Another fault found with the magistrate was, when the defendant in one of these Coulson cases applied for a copy of the proceedings, he was furnished with a paper which was not an accurate copy. The complainants produced and put in evidence the copy of the evidence (exhibit No. 27) which the magistrate had returned to the court, which they had procured from the files of the court, but a few days afterwards I was called to return this copy to the clerk as one of the judges wanted it; this was before I had a chance to compare it with the record put in evidence. Therefore, the only evidence I have on this point is the evidence given during the investigation by Mr. Winslow (pages 59 and 60 of evidence).

Another objection was that the magistrate would not consent to the statement of a special case to go before the court, and have it determine the law points, and let the case stand in the meantime. It appeared by the evidence that the magistrate was willing to do so, but the prosecuting counsel would not consent to such a statement of case. The magistrate had no power to order a special case, and there- fore no blame can attach to him.

After the close of the case for complainants, the counsel for Mr. McCulley put in evidence 12 records of cases tried before Mr. McCulley, and I had to examine these.

One was a case against one Michael Hickey (exhibit No. 32) for violating the Canada Temperance Act. In this case the magistrate convicted the defendant, and I think very properly, as there was ample evidence of the sale of whisky, and no defence offered.

Another case (exhibit No. 33) was one against Catherine Fitzpatrick for violating the Canada Temperance Act. There was no direct testimony of a sale, but the circumstantial evidence was very strong, and as the defendant did not go on the stand to deny the sale, I think the magistrate had good reason for convicting.

Exhibit No. 34 was the record of a case against the same Catherine Fitzpatrick, for violating the Canada Temperance Act. In this case there was direct testimony that the defendant sold intoxicating liquor between the dates. Her counsel contended that as she was a married woman, and was living with her husband and under his control, that she was selling for him, but as he offered no evidence, and she did not go on the stand, I cannot see any reason why the magistrate should not have convicted her. Exhibit No. 35 was the record of a case against one Rebecca Kane for keeping intoxicating liquor for sale in violation of the C. T. Act. The evidence was that Mr. Menzies the Inspector went with a constable to Mrs. Kane's house with a search warrant, to search for liquor, about seven of the clock in the morning. Mrs. Kane in bed, and that as they entered a young man was coming down stairs, on seeing them he turned back, and immediately after the constable saw something fall past the window into the yard, that on examination it was found to be a broken jug, that part of bottom of jug was not broken and it contained Rye whisky, they found no liquor in the house. Menzies said he saw stalls as he called them, in one was empty bottles in another some empty bottles, and that Mrs. Kane told him the house was hers. On this evidence the defendant was convicted, the woman did not come on the stand and swear she did not keep liquor for sale.

Another record (exhibit No. 36) was put in by Mr. McCulley's counsel. It was a case against one Henry R. Murray for keeping liquor for sale. The magistrate dismissed the case, and rightly for the evidence was most conclusive