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## SHE SITS IN THE DOCK.

HOW MRS. STEVENS APPEARS ON HER TRIAL.

She Has to Submit to the Practice Always Followed and is Lodged in Jail—Mr. Stevens is Profoundly Indignant—The Trial Begun.

DORCHESTER, June 8.—The June sitting of the County court of Westmorland opened here at two o'clock on Tuesday, the 6th instant, His Honor Judge Landry presiding. This is the sitting to which the trial of Mrs. H. T. Stevens for manslaughter in causing the death of her adopted daughter, Mabel Hallet Stevens, had been adjourned. There was no other criminal business to come up and consequently no grand jury summoned to attend. The indictment found against Mrs. Stevens last court remaining undisposed of, the further intervention of the grand jury in her case is not necessary.

The civil docket was made up in a much shorter time than usual, and by agreement among the attorneys the greater number of the cases were allowed to stand over until the next court.

Mr. Pugsley then, on behalf of the Crown, moved that Mrs. Stevens be brought into Court and rendered in discharge of her recognizance. The accused had come down at noon accompanied by Mr. Stevens and her counsel, and taken rooms in the Weldon House. These rooms they had engaged about a month ago, somewhat unnecessarily as the event proved.

Mrs. Stevens appeared in court accompanied by her husband, and took a seat beside her counsel. She is defended by W. W. Wells, Q. C., and H. A. Powell, M. P. P. Mr. Pugsley appears alone for the prosecution. Mrs. Stevens looks much better than she did on her other appearance in court here. She appeared quite cool and collected, but looked a little nervous when the crown prosecutor asked that, as the case was one of felony, the accused should take her place in the dock. This is the usual practice, and Mr. Wells, after a few words with his associate counsel conducted her to the bench in the dock, Mr. Stevens taking his seat immediately outside of the railing. The work of getting a jury was then commenced. A panel of fifty-five had been summoned from the different parishes of the county. The jurymen were summoned in four to the clerk's desk. But two were chosen on Tuesday afternoon. Every man called was challenged for cause by the defence. The cause generally alleged was that the man did not stand "indifferent,"—that he had formed and expressed such an opinion that he could not give an impartial verdict. For the first man challenged two triers were summoned from amongst the spectators to try whether the jurymen stood indifferent or not. These were sworn and then the jurymen were examined by the counsel before them, and they decided whether the person called could act or did not stand indifferent. When they decided that he could sit on the case the defence might still challenge him peremptorily or the crown stand him aside. When two jurymen had been sworn in they acted as triers for the rest of panel. Some had formed pretty strong opinions against deceased, others were related to either the accused or the Halletts and when the court adjourned Tuesday evening but two jurymen had been sworn in. Mr. Wells asked for the adjournment till the morning to give him time to study up the jury list. This was agreed to. He then asked if the accused would be left on bail from day to day during the trial. Mr. Pugsley said the practice was against taking bail in such cases. He did not think the judge could take bail, and had never known bail to be taken in a case of manslaughter. Judge Landry agreed with the crown counsel that the practice in manslaughter cases should be followed, and the accused was remanded to goal.

This decision was unexpected by many and there was some little stir in the court when the prisoner was removed. Some thought she should be admitted to bail, others were no less firm in the opinion that she deserved no favors and should get no better treatment than that generally accorded other persons in her present position.

The Sheriff accompanied Mrs. Stevens to the goal as did also Mr. Stevens and the lawyers for the defence. Mr. Stevens expressed his opinion that it was a "d—d outrage," but Mrs. Stevens said nothing. She was given one of the debtors cells in the upper flat. These cells are clean and comfortable and an extra cot for Mr. Stevens was provided and some furniture to make the room as comfortable as possible. The Times appears today with an editorial note about this cell being alive with bed bugs, but those who have examined the goal and seen the orderly and cleanly manner in which everything is kept will be inclined to doubt this statement.

The witnesses are pretty nearly all on hand. The court officials have provided rooms and board for most of the witnesses while the Moncton "Times" staff are in attendance on a particular few in whose welfare, while in Dorchester, they seem

deeply interested. The Shea girl who gave good evidence for Mrs. Stevens in the preliminary proceedings was not on hand the first day of court and the prosecution immediately took steps to look her up. She was reported to be in St. John and White, Stevens' man, said he had driven her trunk to the station one day last week. However, she appeared on Thursday morning in company with one of the "Times" employes.

All day Wednesday was given to choosing the jury. The whole panel was gone through and the jury was completed by swearing in one of the men stood aside by the Crown. Here is the jury:—

Cyrus Carter, Westmorland Point; Charles N. Black, Dorchester; Stephen Anderson, Port Elgin; David Sermegeour, Botsford; Gideon Carter, Point de Bute; Robert Anderson, Sackville; W. E. Campbell, Upper Sackville; Elias Power; Rockport; Benjamin King, Rockport; Woodford Purdy, Botsford; James Frier, Shediac; Joseph Hickey, Dorchester.

The jury were put under the charge of Constables E. Ayer and J. A. Bowes and will be kept together until the end of the trial. Mr. Fry, one of the Supreme court reporters, was to have been on hand at the trial, and court adjourned Wednesday evening under the expectation that he would be on hand.

June 8.—When court opened this morning the stenographer was not on hand, and it was decided to go on without him. The court room was crowded with spectators, people having come from Sackville and Moncton and outlying places, for the purpose of witnessing the proceedings. The bench had been removed from the dock and the accused sat on a comfortable chair. Mr. Stevens sitting near at the entrance to the dock. On former trials spectators have crowded near the dock even leaning on the rail. Mrs. Stevens asked the sheriff to keep too curious on-lookers at a respectable distance, and a chalk line was drawn around the dock and the constables ordered to keep the people outside the line. During the morning several were cautioned and kept out. Finally the clerk of the peace was discovered not only on the forbidden territory, but leaning on the railing of the dock. The constable apprised Mr. Knapp of the sheriff's orders and suggested that he move off. Mr. Knapp didn't see it in that light and suggested that the constable and the sheriff mind their own business. The sheriff and the custos rotarum met afterwards and argued this point and several others which may possibly be decided in the course of the summer.

Mr. Pugsley opened the case for the Crown this morning in an address of about forty-five minutes to the jury. He reviewed the evidence of the preliminary examinations and stated briefly what the Crown case was. Mabel Glennie Hallet-Stevens was the adopted daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stevens. On the morning of the 4th of last January Dr. Ross had been called in by Mrs. Stevens and on going to the young girl's room had found her lying on her bed dead. Mrs. Stevens told him that Mabel had been ill all night and that she, Mrs. Stevens had given her castor oil and injections for constipation, and with her hired girl had sit up all night attending to Mabel. Mr. Hallet the father of Mabel was informed the same morning, by Dr. Ross, of the child's death, but the doctor gave him to understand that he had been with her before she died. There was some discrepancy in the different testimony given by Dr. Ross which has not yet been clearly explained. Mr. Hallet went to Mr. Stevens house and there saw Mabel's body which had in the meantime been laid out by Mrs. Stevens. He noticed a mark on one of Mabel's eyes which Mr. Stevens accounted for by saying that Mabel had scratched herself while in pain. To Miss Hallett, sister of the deceased, she stated at one time that Mabel had hurt her eye by falling on the bed-post, and at another time that Mabel had scratched her eye. She told Miss Hallett that Mabel took sick the evening of the fourth, that she nursed her, that the doctor came at four o'clock, and that Mabel died at seven o'clock in the morning. The body of the child was interred on the fifth, Mrs. Stevens giving a reason for the hasty interment that Mr. Hallett wished this to be done so soon. This statement Mr. Hallett denies. The Crown had the testimony of the doctors who made the post mortem examination on the disinterment of the body. The coroner's jury on that occasion would also be brought forward, the caretaker of the cemetery and others. These would testify that the body was scarred and abraded, that on the thighs and legs were marks running angularly as though made by a whip. The doctors all agreed that some, at least, of those marks were caused before death. Mrs. Stevens had said before witnesses, she would be brought forward, that she sometimes whipped Mabel, and when she did she made the young girl strip. It was known that Mrs. Stevens was angry against Mabel on the evening of the fourth. She blamed Mabel with taking some silver spoons which belonged to Mabel and had been laid away. She had said before White, her hired man, that she

## HIGH TAXES IN HALIFAX

CIVIC EXPENDITURES HEAVY AND LITTLE TO SHOW FOR IT.

Thousands Spent on Esplanade that is a Public Nuisance—Champagne at Picnics—A Scheme to Add Still More to the Already Big Debt.

HALIFAX, June 6.—The taxation of this city is increasing each year—advancing with frightful rapidity. It now reaches about \$500,000 annually. This burden is heavy and some of the facts in connection make it none the lighter, sad to say. There are peculiarities in connection with Halifax Civic finances which "no fellow" can understand. Here are a few of the phenomena which face tax-payers in this city:

The laws of this province strictly confine the expenditure of Halifax to the amount annually estimated. The fact is, that notwithstanding the immense estimates, the expenditure last year was \$15,000 or \$20,000 over the amount. It is only a few of those on the inside circle who are able to see through the labyrinth of civic accounts and who are aware of this state of affairs. But then, if it is a fact, as has been alleged over and over again, that one alderman has secured the expenditure during the past three years of \$66,000 to improve the value of his own property in the suburbs, and if all the other seventeen councillors are working with much the same end in view, what are people to expect. One regrettable feature of those expenditures is that the men who are responsible for them, when their work is done leave the council and are not now amenable to public opinion. All the tax-payer can do is to "grin and bear" it.

Some years ago the Board of Works, without any idea what it would cost, and with very little data of any kind, began the construction of what is called the "Freshwater Esplanade." It was to lead into the harbor beyond low water mark, the sewerage emptying at the south end of the city, and also to reclaim from the harbor a square of land to make a miniature park. When one-third of the work was done about \$6,000 had been spent. The remaining two-thirds was put up to tender and done for some \$5,000. That makes \$11,000. What is now the actual result? The residents of the Freshwater region are in a worse plight than ever. The sewerage is not washed out to sea but the solid part of it piles up about the stone wall front of the esplanade and on the beach to the north, several feet thick. Yesterday the stench from this accumulation of filth was very repulsive indeed. Eleven thousand dollars of Halifax money gone and into such a mud-bank, while \$500 judiciously spent would have secured the best hygienic results.

Take another instance of our "peculiar" Halifax city government. A couple of years ago Moir's bakery was destroyed by fire. The fire wardens experimented on blowing down the standing walls with dynamite. There was great destruction of glass and other property in the neighbourhood. Fifteen hundred dollars in plaster was brought down in adjoining houses. Since then claims for damages have been presented and paid. One property, which the assessors estimated to have been damaged \$33, was liquidated by the board at double that amount—nothing less than an act of favoritism on the part of somebody in authority.

It looks as though a scandal were looming up from the fact that it is being whispered around the city how that discoveries have been made which show that amounts expended by one of the boards of the city government for "labor" in combatting some fires and testing steam engines has really been spent for liquid refreshment. The new way to spell "labor" in some departments of the civic service here is shorter than the old—R-U-M.

The Board of Works picnics in old times were notorious for wasteful extravagance in the "refreshment" line. An alderman remembered last night that he understood a considerable proportion of the \$100 consumed by the Board of Works "picnic" last year was for champagne to members. And so, very likely, it was.

The scheme to bring in a new pipe line from the sources of the city water supply is estimated to cost \$200,000. The fact is the present supply is ample for all purposes if people would but cease to misuse the water. Instead of taking measures to stop the waste, as they should and could do, the Board of Works are proposing to pay out \$200,000 with the chance of still greater loss. The pressure of water on the old and bad pipes in houses will be increased, and the needless flow be greater, possibly the supply be no better, the source imperilled on account of the greater drain upon it, and only one thing be done—that is \$200,000 will be added to the debt of Halifax. In connection with this new water supply scheme is the building of a section of road one and a quarter miles long. What is the cost of it to be? Four thousand five hundred dollars. The

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section traverses a piece of comparatively barren and useless country. The specifications for the road, furnished by Engineer Doane, are of as elaborate a character as though the road were a London or New York street, made to bear a good share of the world's traffic. Thus the ball is kept rolling.

The last specimen of these fearful and wonderful civic methods is the recent appointment of a book-keeper in the Board of Works office. The appointee has been unable to find employment, for special reasons, in any mercantile establishment, but he had prime qualifications for this office, however. He was brother-in-law to one of the members of the Board of Works who happened to be in a position to dictate who should assume the task of attempting to unravel the tangle caused by the absence of any system whatever in the keeping of the accounts of the office.

Meanwhile people groan under the load placed upon their shoulders by incompetent and too often untrustworthy aldermen, but the men who should assume control, and who could be elected to the city council, sit supremely still and rest satisfied with a torrent of lamentation over what has come upon them.

## THEIR DATES CANCELLED.

The Josie Mills Company Do Not Fill Their July Engagement in St. John.

Mr. Chas. H. Haystead, of Josie Mills and other fame, was in town last Saturday, and he lost no time, after completing his toilet, in hunting up a copy of PROGRESS. The very first article in the paper had a keen interest for him, being a truthful and graphic account of the joys and woes of him and his company since they struck Halifax. When Mr. Haystead had finished reading it he was at fever heat, ready to smite the man who had given the truth about him and his company to the public. But he cooled off in the bright, breezy morning, and forgot to hunt up the publication office. Instead, he walked about town and made threats: then he began to write letters to the daily papers and endeavored to show that his case was not so bad as PROGRESS painted it; that he had paid all his debts; that the gold watch he had pawned had been redeemed, and that he was still the one bright and particular star in his family cluster.

It is a long time between Saturdays sometimes and PROGRESS in its usual announcement space in the Globe took occasion to say that it was prepared to furnish proof for all it had stated about Mr. Haystead and more if necessary.

If everything that was published was as easy of proof as those statements, the newspapers would have a tranquil time of it. Hardly had Haystead's letters reached Halifax before the friends of this paper in that city began to offer evidence that would be very valuable had there been any controversy over the matter.

Mr. Haystead remarks in the course of his letter, that because he did not advertise in PROGRESS, he did not get fair play. No one knows better than himself how untrue that is. This office was one of the first places that he visited when he returned to the provinces for his maritime tour, and he was exceedingly anxious that the Josie Mills Company should receive a "good send off" in PROGRESS, from their first appearance in New Brunswick cities, because he said that no matter where he went in the Maritime Provinces he found that the people depended upon PROGRESS for reliable information regarding the shows that were touring the provinces. He inquired for advertising rates and they were given him, and at the same time he was informed that no matter whether he advertised or not, if his show was not up to the mark, PROGRESS would not hesitate to say so; but on the other hand, it would be glad to commend a good performance. He did have a better company than usual and PROGRESS said so, but Haystead himself, in Fredericton, spoiled the effect of a pleasing opening performance by his address to the audience. He began to work the variety gift act in St. John and did not forget to pursue his own peculiar methods of amusing himself which during a former visit became so notorious that a number of gentlemen indignant at his conduct sought to teach him a well deserved lesson by preparing a legal document charging him with a serious offence. Haystead never got such a scare in his life but its effect appears to have vanished.

But another effect remains. The decent public will shun a company controlled by such a manager and one of the first indications of it is the cancellation of the Josie Mills dates for July in the opera house in this city.

## The Orator's Concerts.

The arrangements for excursions to the Oratorios concerts in this city next week are more perfect this year than they have ever been. The seats are selling rapidly and those who wish to enjoy the rarest musical treat of the season should not delay their selection.

## IS A MOTHERLESS CHILD.

A SHOCKING CASE THAT OUGHT TO BE FULLY VENTILATED.

Allegations that a Little Girl Is Ill Used by Her Stepmother—Living in a Closet, and Likely to Die if Left There—Mr. Wetmore Should Act at Once.

If all the stories are true, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty, has a case which demands the most thorough investigation and prompt action. The victim of the cruelty in this instance, is a girl, seven years old, and while due allowance may be made for the exaggerations of neighbors, no doubt seems to exist that the little creature is suffering from continued neglect, if not deliberate brutal treatment.

According to the story that has reached PROGRESS the girl lives with her stepmother. The father is in comfortable circumstances but apparently takes no interest in the little one. About a year ago, reports of cruelty and neglect reached the ears of Mr. Wetmore, who went to the place in company with a policeman, but while he found a sickly looking child, there was no actual evidence that its condition was due to ill treatment by the stepmother. There the matter ended for the time.

Quite recently further and more positive stories reached Mr. Wetmore, but as before there were only the suspicions of the neighbors as evidence, though it was believed that some of the stories could be proven but for the reluctance of the neighbors to be dragged into the case. These stories were to the effect that the child was kept shut up in a closet, that it was only half clad, and slept on the hard floor. Rumor further said that the unnatural stepmother compelled the girl to eat all sorts of kitchen refuse, and used her in other ways in a most inhuman manner. Mr. Wetmore visited the house, and found the child poorly clad and miserable looking in all other respects. He could get no positive evidence of ill treatment save that afforded by his eyes. Little satisfaction could be got by questioning the wretched living skeleton, as the poor little thing seemed too dazed or too terrified of consequences to say much. She was not found locked in the closet, as had been reported, but that closet seemed to be her quarters during the day at least, and she shrank timidly as if expecting ill usage. She was miserably clad, and there seems little doubt that she will die unless prompt and vigorous action is taken to rescue her.

It may seem unaccountable to some that, the matter having been brought to Mr. Wetmore's attention so long ago, there should be the condition of things there is now. Mr. Wetmore apparently supposed that his first visit would lead to a better treatment of the girl. Apparently it did not, and it now seems imperative that immediate action be taken in order to rescue the little one. If the matter is again allowed to drop there will be no need of an investigation, for death will end the sufferings of the child.

Up to the present time there seems to be a great deal of unnecessary mystery about the affair. Mr. Wetmore was surprised to find that PROGRESS had heard anything about it, and while admitting some of the facts declined to give the names or the street on which the people live. The neighbors, it would seem, are anxious to have some action taken, but as usual, do not want to be mixed up in the affair. So far as PROGRESS can learn there is already enough positively known to justify the interference of the S. P. C. A., and there is no question that if those conversant with the facts, are summoned to give evidence, they will do so. There is no reason why the matter should be kept a secret, and the child allowed to perish, for fear of hurting somebody's feelings. There should be prompt and decided action taken, before it is too late.

## ABOUT THE BAND STAND.

What the Mayor Wants and What He is Willing to Do.

The daily papers appear to have got the question of the band stand thoroughly mixed up, so that it is pretty hard for the public to tell just what propositions have been made so far.

Mayor Peters, however, is wide awake in the matter, and he informs PROGRESS that he stands pledged to give \$250 whenever it may be required, the gift to be conditional only on the erection of a suitable stand.

The plans and estimates for a stand were prepared in August, 1891, by G. Ernest Fairweather, but the board of works declined to take any action. The plans are still available, but it rests with the citizens to take action.

The proposed stand is an octagonal platform, 30 feet in diameter, raised five feet above the ground, with a sound board and canopy overhead. It will be of tasteful design and be lighted by 33 incandescent lamps. The total cost will be in the vicinity of \$600.

The mayor will give \$250, and if the amounts received from all other sources

amount to only \$350 there will be just enough to build the structure. If, however, the public subscribe \$500 or \$600 or more the mayor's \$250 will still be added and there will be a music fund. The \$250 is sure, provided that at least \$350 is raised otherwise.

The location designated by the Mayor is the north side of Queen square, inside the middle entrance. This will give the whole of the street and the square for spectators, and there will be no interruption to ordinary traffic as there would be if the King square were chosen.

The plans have the approval of the leaders of the city bands, and it is understood that should the stand be built the bands will give free concerts for this season at least.

It is now for the citizens to say whether they want the music or not. Who speaks first?

## POLICEMEN IN THE COUNTRY.

The Chief Appears to Think They Should Do Parish Duty.

Some of the citizens are enquiring how far the Chief of Police has jurisdiction over the continent. The other day a despatch came to the Chief saying that a man supposed to be a lunatic, was annoying a family at the junction of the Dipper Harbor and Point Lepreau roads, a point in the country at least twenty miles beyond the city limits. The Chief thereupon sent two of his "officers," Capt. Jenkins and Sergt. Hastings to the scene. They secured the man, who proved to have been a fugitive from the Asylum, and they brought him back to his former quarters.

The Chief has no more business to send his men scamping over St. John county to do the work of the parish constables in this instance than he would have to send them to Midgie or Madawaska. Policemen, it is true, have the power of constables within the county in certain cases, as where there has been an information laid and it is necessary to follow and arrest a man, but if the police force of St. John is to be at the beck and call of everybody from Quaco to Dipper Harbor, it is likely to be kept busy.

In this particular instance the obvious course for the alarmed residents of the Dipper Harbor district would have been to take the disturber of the peace into custody, either with or without the aid of parish constables. There should be enough able-bodied men between Dunn's Crossing and Point Lepreau to accomplish this task. Then, as for the further disposal of the offender, there are magistrates enough to commit him to safe keeping. In this case, while Dr. Steeves denied, to the St. John newspaper men that there had been an escape, he would undoubtedly have sent for the prisoner when notified.

In any case, the Chief of Police had not only no jurisdiction in the matter, but he had no right to send two of his men out of the city on such an errand, nor to have any of the expense charged to the department.

## Topics of the Turf.

Mr. Turnbull is driving his new purchase Earle or Stanley, on Moosepath, permission having been granted him to do so until the association can be heard from concerning the matter. Unless Stanley's fines are paid he will not be eligible for association track races this year. Turnbull says that when he bought him, McCoy agreed to pay his times if he would pay the \$50 fee for change of name. He did not enter in the Halifax race until Morse, secretary of the National association, wired him "Earle was reinstated May 9." On the strength of that telegram and a subsequent one from Morse to the Halifax Park people, the race there on the 24th was much advertised. When some doubt appeared as to Earle being eligible, Messrs. Jones & Dufus agreed, so Mr. Turnbull says, to risk the fine and allow the horse to trot. Then Turnbull instructed his driver to go to Halifax, and it was not until just before the race that he learned that Earle could not race. He now claims his expenses from the Halifax Park people and they dispute it.

## Mr. Forbes Has Retired.

Mr. James Gordon Forbes, barrister at law, has retired from the editorial staff of the Telegraph. His position was merely a temporary one, and the only work he did was the writing of a very short editorial apologizing for the remarks of the paper in regard to his client, Rev. Mr. Thompson of Bathurst. The Telegraph published this, but it does not want any more articles of the same nature. Mr. Thompson has withdrawn his suit.

## High Honors to a Journalist.

Editor Scott, of the Sun, was the object of the admiring gaze of the citizens as he was driven around in the governor's carriage, with an attendant bedecked and bedizened with Sir Leonard's livery. Mr. Scott was on his way to the station to meet Miss Shaw of the London Times, and was accompanied by Senator Boyd and Mayor Peters.

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(Continued on fourth page.)