

# PROGRESS.

Board of Works  
May 94

VOL. VI., NO. 285.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1893.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## IT WAS QUEER MISCHIEF.

### CURIOUS FINDING OF THE CORONER'S JURY.

Who Said the Woman Came to Her Death at the Hands of Some "Mischievous" Person—Some Theories Regarding the Prisoner and the Crime.

FREDERICTON, Oct. 11th.—There has been a great deal of mismanagement in the conduct of the authorities in connection with the Keswick murder and it is difficult to decide just who should bear the blame.

The inquest was in the nature of a farce as it was a bundle of mistakes from beginning to end. The recorded evidence taken at it and now in possession of the police magistrate covers one page and a half of foolscap. It contains very little in connection with the details. A casual reader would not know from it who had been killed as the name is written "Mrs. Wheary" and these are perhaps six or more women in the village to whom this would be applicable; no mention is made of an axe, yet the verdict rendered was that the deceased came by her death from wounds made by an axe in the hands of some "mischievous" person. The evidence contains no mention of this person whom the jury designate as "mischievous." It must be that in an endeavour to get some word that would express in part their feelings that this "mischievous" word was proposed by some of the jury, as it was not mentioned by any of the witnesses. What does it mean anyway?

Then again the jury was composed of eight persons. It is reported, and PROGRESS gives it for what it is worth that one jurymen suggested seven as the lawful number of jurors while another thought that in a multitude of counsellors there is wisdom and wanted a panel of twelve. To decide the matter recourse was had to the old countryman's style of completing a tight bargain, they split the difference and appointed eight.

To add to the horrors, Henry B. Rainsford, county clerk, decided that a post mortem was necessary and so Dr. Coulthart was hurried away to perform the necessary work. It is the opinion of the doctor that no outrage had been attempted and it is the prevailing opinion that none was attempted. The doctor found that the murdered woman was within a few days of confinement.

The prisoner's conduct all through appears to be mechanical and as though he was following a well laid scheme. He refuses to correspond by signs or writing and while before the court screams and yells whenever any of the witnesses, the magistrate or the lawyers look at him.

When the bloody axe was exposed in court it made him frantic. He kept shouting and pointing at it; his actions at that time convincing the spectators that it was the instrument with which the murder was committed and that he was the murderer. It will be remembered by readers of the local papers that when Prof. Woodbridge conversed with him in the court, that the Professor was not on oath, but was only endeavoring to test the sanity of the prisoner. But the Professor will when sworn, as he will be, say that during that silent conversation the prisoner admitted to him that he had done the killing.

Several who were present at the Wheary house on the evening of the murder say that the prisoner and his father conversed by writing on a slate for nearly an hour. What was written no one in the house saw but it is supposed that in this conversation the prisoner confessed all about the deed, and that he was told how to act when put on trial for his life. This is common supposition.

Another fact which is exciting considerable comment and about which many questions are asked is that when Howard and the other neighbors reached the Wheary house after the murder they found the blood perfectly dry. It is thought from this that the deed must have been done more than two hours before the neighbors arrived, which would place it at an hour prior to the departure of the prisoner's father and family before half-past one. It may be possible that the woman was murdered before Joseph Wheary and family went away and they not be cognizant of it. The dry blood on the door and on the clothing of diseased is a silent witness that the deed had been committed hours before the neighbors arrived.

There is another fact in favor of the prisoner and that is that all testify that the clothes he wore on the evening of the murder were the same as he had worn all day. There is not the smallest drop of blood on them though a careful search has been made. The door, the table, the walls and the axe or handle are spattered thickly with blood and yet the supposed wielder of the axe has not one tell-tale mark upon his clothing. This must be allowed to be strong evidence.

One thing that transpired at the court and which is believed to be a scheme on the part of the supposed murderer is that he denied all knowledge of Mrs. Carlisle or Mrs. Riley. He shook his head when

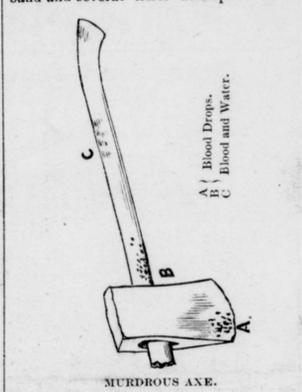
asked, and totally denied ever having seen or heard of them before. Mrs. Riley, in face of this, swore that the prisoner had taken his supper at her table on the day preceding the dastardly deed, and that she had known him for years.

The conduct of Hedley Wheary, the husband of the murdered woman, is being much criticized. It will be remembered that before taking any steps to call the neighbors or to assure himself that his wife was dead he went to the barn yard and told the prisoner who was then cutting wood to put up the horses. His position is critical as if the prisoner is not the guilty person as the stainless clothes strongly testify he must account for the fact that he was the only person present when the murdered woman was found by the villagers.

The affair is involved in mystery and the people of Keswick do not care to converse with anyone on the subject. They appear to have a theory as to how the deed was done and the cause that led to it but will not express themselves.

Then there is the fact that the prisoner does not conduct himself at all like he did when at home. He there passed among the neighbors in and out of their houses, in the free and friendly way incident to country life, perfectly rational and believed to be so by all. No one thought him insane nor yet possessed of a violent temper. Since his arrest he has been more like a wild beast than a human being.

Another peculiar thing is that on the evening of the murder when the diseased was being prepared for burial the prisoner showed the most violent hatred of the husband and several times attempted to as-



saunt him and was only prevented by the interference of the men. Why this is so, is also a question which is being discussed.

Now that the matter is in the hands of police magistrate Marsh all are satisfied it will be conducted properly and that nothing will be allowed to stand in the way of getting at the fuller details.

People in St. John and other places do not look on the matter in the same way as do the people of this city. The reason is this. It will be remembered that about a year since negroes murdered a white man here, shot him down in the street, in cold blood, and the punishment inflicted was two years in the penitentiary. Whether the penalty was commensurate with the crime, from a legal point of view we do not pretend to know but it was a punishment that did not suit the great mass of people throughout the city and country, it was looked on as a travesty and people are afraid that the same will be the case respecting the present tragedy.

No evidence has yet been adduced to show where Hedley was all day. No proof has been given that the axe shown in the court was on the Wheary premises that day nor for days previous. It was found in a barn belonging to Zopher Dunphy and because there were drops of blood on it it was declared to be the weapon used in the murder. It is also said that the axe was washed but there is very little proof for this. No proof has been given that when Joseph Wheary and his family left the premises that the murdered woman was then alive. Living in the same house they would surely be able to swear positively that she was living when they went away. No evidence has been presented to show whether the husband and wife lived happily together or the reverse—or whether the victim and her husband's family were on good terms or not.

Now that the motive of outrage has fizzled out, so to speak, there is no motive except revenge that would prompt the prisoner to perpetrate such a deed and it has been sworn that there was no quarrel between him and the murdered woman.

The affair is clouded in mystery and bids fair to be as difficult to fathom as the famous Borden murder. FRED RICKTON.

Messrs Fowler and Peters Rebuked.

There was a school meeting at Hampton Thursday, the annual school meeting, and the act of trustees Harry Fowler and Thos. A. Peters in turning out teacher Sherwood and placing teacher Harrington in his stead came up for discussion. The other trustee Mr. Smith, who had opposed the dismissal of Sherwood, had served three years as trustee and was to retire but the people ratified his opposition to Peters and Fowler by re-electing him over a candidate of the other party by a vote of three to one. They went further than this and passed a unanimous resolution condemning what the trustees did in the Sherwood-Harrington exchange. PROGRESS usually gets upon the just side of the argument and its readers will remember how it exposed the method of Messrs Peters and Fowler in that case. The people have had their say now and it was a very emphatic say.

## ONE MASTER TOO MANY.

### INSPECTOR MACKASSEY TRYING TO SERVE TWO MASTERS.

The Temperance People and Those Who Placed Him in His Present Position—the Liquor Dealers. He is not making a success of it.

HALIFAX, October 12.—The liquor war, or more strictly speaking, the assaults upon the business of dealers by chief of police O'Sullivan, continues with unabated vigor. Prosecutions are of almost daily occurrence. The man who should do that work, and who is paid \$1,000 per annum for its performance, is John A. Mackassey, inspector of licenses. But he rests content with drawing his salary and going through the routine which the policemen force upon him.

PROGRESS, Halifax readers who are familiar with Mr. Mackassey, who are accustomed to his appearance, do not expect any more from him than they get. How could they? Imagine a man small of stature, and slender in proportion, and timid nervousness obvious in every movement of his countenance and body. He seems to tremble alike when a liquor dealer speaks to him, or when a temperance man looks at him. It is an open secret that the liquor interests put him where he is and keep him there, and it is well known that both they and the temperance men despise his methods—the disgust of the latter being largely mingled with hatred. Mr. Mackassey has so little backbone that both parties tyrannize over him, and he fears his masters as well as his enemies. Yet the poor man musters up courage enough to do nothing in these troublous times, though his do-nothingism subjects him to the maledictions of the temperance people. Poor Mackassey!

But there is a silver lining to his cloud. About five years ago when he was appointed inspector, Mackassey was a poor man. He has built and lives in a mansion on Tower road, beautifully furnished. And he lives well from day to day. The house cost \$6,000, and the furniture within it probably cost \$2,000 more. Mr. Mackassey's salary of \$1,000 per year has gone a long way. It everybody could do as well many Halifax citizens who are now poor would be well to do men today. How does he manage it? The reason is not far to seek, and Halifax people have already obtained a pretty good idea. Perhaps in the near future Mr. Mackassey's recipe may be given to PROGRESS.

The police experience much trouble in prosecutions which they force him to conduct. He must proceed when they furnish information of suspected law violations. But the issuing of the summons and other procedure is invariably put off to the last possible moment, and it is remarkable how many mistakes creep into them.

The inspector got into an awkward fix the other day in prosecuting Charles Young for selling without a license. Young was acquitted, but as a result of the trial Mr. Mackassey has two other cases in which he should proceed, but in which he is awfully loath to move. In the examination of Young, in Mackassey's presence, the defendant stated that he frequently went for a drink to the shops of Ryan and Verge, on Upper Water street. Young on oath told the inspector, though that official did not want the information, that he consumed those drinks on Ryan's and Verge's premises. It is unlawful to drink on the premises of the dealer who sells. So Mackassey has testimony which should compel him to proceed against those two men. He does not want to proceed, however, and probably will choose the lesser of two evils, and try to forget about it, rather than take action and offend his masters.

It is a sorrowful thing for Mackassey to endure—the sight of the police in an aggressive campaign against liquor license law violations when he remembers that he remembers that he draws \$1,000 a year from the city to have nothing done. Poor and yet rich John A. Mackassey!

## AN ENOCH ARDEN SCRAPE.

### A Nova Scotia Woman Has a Visit From Husband No. 1.

HALIFAX, October 12.—A romantic story rather different from the tale of Enoch Arden, comes from Pictou county and it is interesting in Halifax from the connection some of the principals have to one of the leading families in this city. The scene of the incident is in Thorburn, a mining town of Pictou. A couple of weeks ago that village was excited by the appearance there of a man who had been absent for a quarter of a century, and for 20 years was believed by his wife and neighbors to be dead. So firmly convinced was she of his departure to another world that for twice ten years she has been the wife of another. The woman is the daughter of Patrick Power, who once represented in parliament the county of Antigonish. Power acquired some wealth, a good share of which at his death went to his daughter Annie. The young girl was courted and married by a man named Habaldt, a native of Halifax County, who followed the sea for a livelihood. For two years they

lived happily, but then Habaldt began to be dissolute in his habits and cruel to his wife. He squandered her money and reduced himself and her to poverty and finally disappeared from Thorburn, till now, for a quarter of a century, he has not been heard from. Mrs. Habaldt left Thorburn and came to Halifax to earn a living and support her child. Five years after Habaldt's desertion there was a tremendous storm on the New England coast and the vessel on which Habaldt was known to have sailed was lost, and all on board were believed to have found a watery grave. It was not much of a loss to the forsaken woman; indeed she might well congratulate herself, that was what she probably did. She made the acquaintance of T. Butler, a brother of Hon. James Butler, member of the legislative council of Nova Scotia, and one of the wealthiest merchants of Halifax. But Butler, unlike his brother was not rich. He made a living by the sweat of his brow. They married and after some years went back to Thorburn, where the couple now live.

Habaldt tells what in many particulars is probably only a sailor's yarn. To make a long story short he says that after he left his wife he took ship in various vessels, till finally he found himself on board a craft nearing Boston. A storm arose, the ship was cast ashore, and except himself and another sailor, all on board were drowned. He managed to reach the shore by clinging to a broken spar. Then he went to California, bought a claim on which he made \$20,000. With the exception of \$5,000 he invested his money in a wild cat scheme in California in which he lost it all. Not long after the \$5,000 went the same way. Then he took to the sea once more and shipped on a vessel bound for New Zealand. She was cast away on an island off the South Seas and again he was the only man saved. After four days in a boat he was picked up by a passing vessel and brought back to Europe. From there he crossed to the United States, and again found himself in the west—working in the silver mines. There he remained for some years. The closing up of the mines not long ago sent him east once more, and he came home to Nova Scotia. He seems to have forgotten all about his wife till now. He says that in Halifax he was told his wife was still in Thorburn, and he was thunder-struck to learn that she was again married. He could not believe it. But to render himself certain he started for Thorburn. He found it only too true—that his wife had taken another husband, and what was worse, she would not recognize him.

## HOW STEEDS ARE CONQUERED.

### The Great Work of Gleason in St. Andrew's Rink.

Perhaps the greatest expression of confidence the people of this city have ever given to Rufus Somerby and his amusement attractions has been this week, when they turned out literally en masse to see the performances of Gleason, the horse tamer, who opened a week ago yesterday in St. Andrew's rink, under Mr. Somerby's management.

The audiences have varied from 1,500 to 2,000, and it is a safe assertion that no recent show of any kind has drawn such representative audiences, and sent them away so thoroughly pleased. The same people have attended again and again, and several gentlemen told PROGRESS that they had not missed a single performance. Men and women, boys and girls, have gone and will go again. Society ladies and gentlemen, and everyone that everybody knows, to say nothing of the enthusiastic "unreserved," have shown their appreciation by their attendance.

Prof. Gleason has yet to meet a horse he cannot master, he has yet to meet a horse that he cannot prevail to do as he wishes him, to be useful, obedient and docile. The most vicious kicker, the most frightened shyer, the nervous, untamed, unbroken animals have been sent to him. They fought their fight in the centre of the ring and suffered defeat. His methods are simple yet effective, his advice on all the points of horsemanship is excellent, he does not injure his subjects, in fact he protects them against possible harm and in this manner he gains the respect and confidence of his audience as well as the horses.

One of the remarkable things about Gleason that cannot fail to strike an attentive looker-on is his wonderful patience. He never permits himself to show the slightest annoyance with the horse. When necessary he uses the whip and he always has command of his lungs, but nothing is done in a hurry. Thoroughbreds which have always been used to saddle and never would permit harness and wagon to go in connection with them worked for Gleason like a charm after two trials. Peter Clinch's Bowstring and Planet were driven about the city in harness for the first time and another thoroughbred was made a willing subject in the same way.

Perhaps the toughest subject the professor has to handle was a grey horse that was never known to drive in single harness and leave any remnants of the wagon. There is a legend about her that in her younger days she was once hitched to a plow by the countryman who bred her and that when the evening of that day arrived the mare was all that remained of the debris. She is a most finished kicker, active as a tiger and obstinate as sin. It took Gleason one hour and twelve minutes to tire her out the first night and persuade her that he was the boss. The second night was not so bad. Each evening he gave her a lesson in single harness.

A column might be written about his methods, they are interesting enough to be readable to anyone, but space does not permit it. The show remains next week up Friday night and by that time every person who can manage it should attend.

## SCORES TURNED AWAY.

### CROWDS FLOCKED TO HEAR THE MINSTRELS' PINAFORE.

A Great Success From Beginning to End—Miss Olive Makes a Hit and the Company do Better Than Average Amateurs—Matinee Today.

Admirably staged and handsomely dressed, the ever green "Pinafore" was sung and played by the Amateur Minstrels, with their own orchestra, on three evenings of this week in a manner that would have done credit to a city of ten times the size of St. John. Mr. J. Esson's cleverness in the stage management and scenic taste displayed, proved that the minstrel shows were mere child's play to him and he fully deserved a special call before the curtain. St. John audiences however are too fond of leaving before the play is over to afford such a chance as this to any who might be disposed to give such encouragement. On the first night for instance some one in the gallery, with loud boots, got up about five minutes before the opera was finished and immediately some man reached for his coat in the balcony; then two small boys left the front seats on the floor, after that a general upheaval commenced. As the hour was only ten minutes past ten o'clock there was no reasonable excuse for this and it is a custom that should be stopped both in courtesy to the players and those of the audience who are not in such a desperate hurry.

When comic opera companies visit us, there is one particular "star" generally very much begrimed by advance press notices who generally turns out to be lacking in all stellar attractions. The Amateurs never announced that they had a star of particularly bright proportions but when Josephine appeared and sang her opening ballad "Sorry her lot who loves too well" the audience quickly awoke to the fact that the performer was a star. Miss Olive was not only charmingly dressed and looked sweetly pretty but she sang her music with all the taste and expression of a finished artiste. Her voice has improved immensely in richness and power and her method of singing is also greatly advanced—her articulation being excellent.

With the necessary training in acting stage business under a competent teacher, this talented young lady, with her unaffected manner, would bid fair to take a leading position in light opera.

Miss Clara Quinton acted and sang the part of Buttercup excellently, but spoilt the very decided hit she would have made by dressing the part in a totally impossible manner, as bumboat women are not usually dressed like "happy villagers." Miss Lamb as Hebe was a splendid foil to Josephine and sustained her part in a very effective manner.

Of the male principals Mr. A. M. Smith took the palm as the boatswain. He acted and sang easily, getting a most decided encore for his effective rendering of "He is an Englishman." It is a pleasure to see this all-round effective musician come to the front at last after having kept himself in the background for such a long time, through his great modesty. Mr. Lindsay's Ralph Rackstraw was the best piece of work he has done in comic opera though the music in places was a little too much for him, he being obliged to resort to falsetto in parts which somewhat marred the general effect of his singing. Mr. Purdy was a presentable Captain, though apparently a nervous one, and Mr. Esson's idea of Sir Joseph Porter was rather a novel one, his get up suggesting the idea of an old sailor, which was certainly the last idea that the authors had when they wrote this amusing satire.

In this connection the "Telegraph" fell into the same error and complimented him for this very thing which spoils the whole play and Sir Joseph's great song.

The Dick Deadeye of Mr. Olive was a most creditable performance though his singing of the duet with the Captain was not the success that might have been expected. The chorus was full and effective especially on the male side. The orchestra carefully selected as it was by Mr. W. C. Ewing, was one of the best that has ever played in the Opera House and was ably presided over by Mr. Collinson the musical director of the Minstrels.

Taking into consideration that all the performers were purely amateur and that in many of the principal parts it was a case of a first appearance, the stiffness in all the acting (with the exceptions of Josephine, Buttercup and the Boatswain) was excusable. That play goes will be glad to welcome the next efforts of the St. John Minstrels, whether in burnt cork or comic opera was clearly demonstrated by the good houses that attended these performances.

This afternoon the minstrels will give a performance of "Pinafore." It was not the intention to give a matinee but there has been such an unanimous request from the citizens for the performance that the club has consented. So that the ladies and children will have an opportunity of seeing this most popular opera.

## INTERESTING LOCAL RACES.

### Dutchman and Eagle Won Their Respective Classes.

The local races at Moosepath a few days ago excited an interest that was unusual, when it is considered how little effort was made to advertise them. More than three hundred people found their way out there in spite of the fact that there was no train, and enjoyed the pleasant afternoon thoroughly.

There were two classes, and a good number of horses in each of them. Split heats in both races made them more interesting than they would have been otherwise.

The first race called had in it Dutchman, Bell Cigar, Big Dan, Jim Dandy and Valet. It was a good contest led off by the grey mare, Bell Cigar, who trotted more steadily than usual. But Dutchman was right on her wheel all the time, making sure that any mistake would bring him to the front, and when she made it first place was his. He did not act as well as usual only winning in the slow time of 3:18.

When the second heat was called he was in no better form, in fact acted worse than any of the horses, and Bell Cigar had no difficulty in getting in the next heat. Jim Dandy was third both times making a game race, taking the slashes of a long whip without a murmur. His owner Mr. Moore deserves credit for putting in the old horse and making the race more interesting. Dutchman took the next two heats and the race. Dolan Bros. Dan and Valet were not in it except the last heat when Dan took third place. The big horse is a great roader and can make any three minute horse go for all that is in him to beat him on the straight hard stretch but on the turns and a soft track he cannot do his best work.

The faster class was more interesting, not a little speculation being felt as to which horse would win. Eagle had that honor, contrary to the opinions of many before he started, but he showed what he could do and did credit to his owner, John Fitzpatrick, and his driver, Mr. Henderson. The other starters were Harry A., driven by W. McEvoy, Molly K., by George Carvill, Allright, owned by King Bros., O'Dick and Frank E.

Harry A. was lucky in drawing the poll and Molly K. and Frank E. had second and third positions with King Allright, O'Dick, and Eagle in the order named. A partial collision on the first turn between the inside horses gave King Allright the lead and pole where he was followed by Eagle and O'Dick. Frank E. acted badly in fourth position and finished there. King Allright won the heat being pushed by Eagle to do the most that was in him. O'Dick had third place.

The next heat was more interesting, Eagle taking the lead after the first quarter and holding it to the finish. King Allright made a bad break at the start, and lost ground, but he swung into the home stretch in second position with Frank E. on his wheel, and the race to the wire was a pretty one. Frank E. won second position by a neck.

Eagle took the next two heats, with King Allright second and Frank E. third. Eagle had nothing to spare, though his time was 2:53 on a very unsatisfactory track and an ordinary sulky. Under favorable conditions he should go at least ten seconds faster. Harry A. did not do himself justice, becoming excited the first heat in the collision, and acting badly all through the race. Molly K. was not in any condition, and while she showed considerable speed at times she was unable to keep up the pace. For the work that he had, O'Dick did wonderful well. He has trotted in 2:42 though the owner knew nothing of that day of the race. Harry A. the day before the race speeded quarters and halves in 41 seconds, and 1:24 which would indicate that he could do better. Frank E.'s driver was criticized a good deal for trotting all over the track and the criticism was just enough. He might have done better with a competent driver.

But it was a pleasant afternoon's sport. No last time was made but the heats were well contested and the race was in doubt up to the last heat.

Since then a match has been made between Mr. Riley's chestnut mare and Dutchman for a purse of \$40. This will be a contest between the dam and her colt. Dutchman can trot close to three minutes and Mr. Riley claims the mare can do a little better. It will be a good race and there will be lots of fun.

On the same day, next Wednesday, there will probably be another race for a purse of \$100 between Eagle, King Allright, Harry A. and Frank E. All the horses are in fair condition and there should be no trouble in getting them together. If they do meet it will be anybody's victory.

## One Fare to Chicago.

The Canadian Pacific Railway are selling Worlds Fair tickets at one fare for the round trip any day up to Oct 27th good for return within 13 days of date sold. Particulars at Chubb's Corner.