

ALFRED PLAYED POKER.

WHAT WAS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE CARLETON ELOPEMENT.

Young Brittain started to be good, but was led away by the fascination of gambling—some particulars of the affair and its causes.

The Carleton people had just begun to consider that they were in need of a topic to take the place of the discussion on the Connolly wharf, when young Alfred Brittain stepped out and gave them a genuine sensation.

Brittain did not go alone. When he departed last Wednesday night he was accompanied by Harriet A. Hatton, a girl of 18 or so, which was about his own age.

They took the train for the land of Maine, and may never come back any more.

Nor did the young exodion go without funds in a search for fickle fortune. Nobody knows how much he took with him, but as he has been collecting since the 10th of June there is a belief that he has secured several hundred dollars which people supposed they were paying to his employer, Mr. J. E. Hamm.

Some of the amounts which help to make up this aggregate are said to be as follows: W. D. Baskin, \$30; E. S. Frodie, \$20; J. B. Wilmot, \$36; A. C. Smith, & Co., \$50. Then there are believed to be a good many smaller accounts, for the young man seems to have worked diligently in view of his prospective departure.

Brittain was in the employ of Mr. J. E. Hamm, who has been quite ill and unable to attend to business for some time. The boy came well recommended. His father is a well known and respected citizen, and the boy gave promise at one time of following in the same path. Some time ago he was, or thought he was, converted in a religious sense, and joined the baptist church. He spoke in meeting and is said to have made fervid appeals to the fellow sinners whose ways he had renounced. He probably wanted to be good, and would have had a fair measure of success had he not taken to playing poker.

It seems a matter of common notoriety that a number of Carleton youths have a sort of a club room over the store of John K. Taylor, where poker and other games are played. This resort was frequented by Brittain, and he began to lose a good deal more than much larger wages than he received would justify. An anonymous letter informed his father of this fact, but when a boy of that age is bent on enjoying himself it is pretty hard to do much with him. So the youth continued to play poker, while his employer continued ill, unable to give his full attention to business.

Mr. Hamm never gave Brittain a power of attorney to collect for him, but nevertheless the young man went around collecting with what purported to be an instrument of that nature. On showing it to one man on the east side, related to Mr. Hamm, he at once disputed its validity, asserting that it was not Mr. Hamm's writing. Brittain persisted that it was, and explained that his employer was so ill that the character of his handwriting was very different from what it was when he was well. The St. John man refused to recognize it, however, and Brittain got nothing from him. Finding that suspicion had been directed toward him, he seems to have decided to get away as soon as possible. So on Wednesday night, Miss Hatton, having previously smuggled her clothes out of her parents' house, took a walk with him, boarded the western train, and in a few hours were across the border.

The gambling result before mentioned seems to have been the cause of the young man's downfall. His "experience" in religion seems to have been earnest enough, as he was so enthusiastic over it that he talked of becoming a minister. Bad company, even though in that company may be mentioned the names of sons of respected citizens, brought about his downfall. The boy should not be blamed too much, for had he been more lucky in poker, he might have remained in good standing in the community, and in time been so elaborate a swell and highly honored citizen as some esteemed poker players of St. John who may be seen on the streets at any hour of the day.

They May Withdraw The Grant.

Mr. W. W. Frith and Canon Brigstocke of this city paid a visit to Sussex a few days ago for the purpose of examining the Madras department of the school there. It appears that the people of Sussex are enjoying a Madras grant amounting, it is said, to about \$180 and in the light of that circumstance two of the gentlemen of the board went there to examine and report. As the story goes they sent a short notice of their intention, and when they arrived they found a number of children gathered together in an apartment provided for the purpose by Rector Little ready for them to examine. This they proceeded to do and it was not long before they discovered that the children were not as well instructed in many things as they should have been. In fact, when they began to question them

upon the church catechism they found that their acquaintance with that little book was very limited indeed. This, it appears led to a somewhat hasty argument between one of the examiners and the rector of the parish. The latter gentleman, who is well known for his self-possession and assertiveness, gave his visitor what may be termed in vulgar parlance, "as good as he sent." So much so indeed that the lay examiner rebuked him for his language and threatened to report him to the board. As a consequence of the examination and the unsatisfactory report that the examiners will have to make, it is said that the withdrawal of the Madras grant is quite probable.

MASONS OBSERVE THE FESTIVAL.

Services in Commemoration of St. John's Day. Other News of the Craft.

The members of Carleton Union Lodge attended service at St. George's church, Carleton, on Thursday evening, as their observance of the feast of St. John Baptist, which occurs to-day. The sermon was preached by the Rev. W. H. Sampson. After the service the masons returned to their hall where refreshments were served. Under a dispensation granted to The Union Lodge of Portland, the members of the various city lodges are invited to attend service at the Church of The Good Shepherd, Fairville, to-morrow afternoon. There will be an escort of the members of the Encampment of St. John, in full Templar uniform. The members of the craft are requested to meet at the Masonic Temple at 2 o'clock, sharp, when a procession will be formed, and accompanied by a band, the march will be made to Fairville, by way of Carleton. At Fairville the service will be conducted by Rev. J. C. Titcombe, chaplain of The Union Lodge of Portland, and the sermon will be preached by Rev. Bro. V. E. Harris, of Amherst, N. S. It is hoped and expected that there will be a large gathering of the craft on this occasion.

On Wednesday evening next the Red Cross degree will be conferred by members of the Encampment of St. John, K. T., on a number of candidates. The American work will be used for the first time on this occasion, and the usual collation will be provided. New costumes have been procured, and every preparation has been made to have the work faithfully exemplified. Intelligence has been received of the death of James Frederick Walker, 33°, of Montreal, General Traffic Auditor of the Grand Trunk railway. Mr. Walker was a Past Grand Master of the Province of Quebec, and at the time of his death was Grand Master of Ceremonies of the Supreme Council of the A. & A. Rite in Canada.

Moncton Council, R. & S. M., has been reorganized, with John L. Harris as T. I. M.

Working on the Shares.

A St. John gentleman, whose brother died in the State of Maine, found that the first premium of the policy that he had recently taken upon his life had been paid by the agent who solicited him, and that the company, one of the very best in America, had forwarded the check to that particular agent to hand over to the beneficiary named in the policy. The agent, however, bearing in mind the fact that in order to get new business and to make his showing as large as possible, he had himself paid the first premium for deceased, felt inclined to see what he could make out of the transaction himself, and he approached the beneficiary with an offer of half the amount the policy called for. This was refused and after considerable dickering a settlement was effected by which the agent received \$150 of the \$1,000.

Frightened a Lot of Lawyers.

The lawyers who occupy one of the well-known buildings in St. John were surprised, the other day, at the receipt of a notification that unless the rates due the city by the owners of the building were paid, the effects of the tenants would be taken in execution in due process of law. While counsels were being taken to devise the plan of a defensive campaign the taxes were paid by the landlord and thus the matter ended.

Hung It on the Wrong Door.

Some of the advertising devices of theatrical companies are apt to produce a wrong impression on people. Last Sunday morning, for instance, church goers were scandalized to observe a card hung to the door knob of an esteemed city clergyman, bearing the words, "Closed—gone to see 'Master and Man.'" Nobody who knew the clergyman, however, had any idea that he put it there.

Should Monday Be Observed?

Several retailers have suggested to PROGRESS that since July 1st falls on Saturday, Monday July 3rd should be observed instead, especially by the grocery and provision trade.

Immortality in the Theatre.

According to the Religious Intelligencer, "within the memory of theatre-goers the nude was almost unknown, and anythingavoring of immortality was tabooed." What about the "immortal" Shakespeare?

SHE DID NOT KILL HER.

JANE STEVENS IS NOT GUILTY OF THE DEATH OF MABEL.

That is the Verdict of the Jury, and the Prisoner is Free—What the Doctors Say—An Infallible Test that the Examiners Did Not Make.

Mrs. Jane Stevens is free, the jury by their verdict of not guilty having affirmed that she did not unlawfully kill and slay Mabel Glennie Hallett. That is as far as the verdict can go, for the issue to be determined was simply the death of the child and not its treatment by Mrs. Stevens apart from the direct causes of death. The verdict merely frees the accused but does not justify her methods in dealing with the orphan girl.

The doctors were on the stand during the past week, and the first to testify was Dr. Mitchell, who was present at the examination of the body made on January 24th, with Drs. Church and Purdy. He testified to seeing a good many marks on the body, which, in his opinion, were caused by violence before death. He was particularly certain as to the mark below the eye and those on the wrists being ante mortem. When he was shown the whip such as was sold by Mr. Steeves, at the order of Mrs. Stevens, he thought that the marks he saw on its body could easily have been caused by such an instrument. He also described the character of the stripes or marks he noticed on body. He could not tell how many but there were a large number, particularly upon the back and legs.

The witness did not think that its marks as described could be the result of natural decomposition without any injury before or after death. The reason witness did not think that marks on the body were the re-



JUDGE LANDRY.

sult of decomposition was that there was no odor arising from the body, this indicating that the body was tolerably well preserved.

Quite opposed to this was the evidence of Dr. C. T. Purdy, who passed his evidence on notes he had taken at the post mortem examination. He believed that the marks on the body were wholly due to decomposition, but he was also of the opinion that death was caused by shock.

The cross-examination of Mr. Powell consisted in getting the witness to assent to certain quoted authorities which held that in many cases it is almost impossible to determine whether marks on a dead body were ante mortem or post mortem. Witness stated that if the marks on the wrist were ante mortem, the remaining ones must also have been.

Mr. Best, analyst of St. John, testified that he had received the contents of the stomach in a sealed jar, had submitted them to test, and had failed to discover any poison.

Dr. Lucius C. Allison, St. John, testified that he received from Dr. Dunlap, of Moncton, the heart, the kidneys, the liver and a part of the brain of Mabel Hallett, and that under careful examination he failed to find any trace of disease, but all those organs were perfectly normal.

Dr. Geo. H. Dunlap was then called and stated that he conducted the post mortem examination on the body of Mabel Hallett Stevens. He noticed a number of marks or spots upon the body. As far as he could tell the post mortem did not reveal any cause of death. On opening the body, he found all the internal organs in a normal condition except the heart which was covered with a fatty tissue and a little weaker than normal. The body was not well nourished and death might easily result from a shock. A shock might be produced by fear of punishment or by fear and punishment combined.

At the close of this testimony Mr. Pugsley announced that this would close the case for the crown. He referred to his not calling Dr. Church to testify for the crown as his name was on the indictment and said he was at the call of the defence to give evidence if they choose to call him. Counsel for the defence contended that the crown must call Dr. Church. After considerable discussion the judge ruled in favor of the contention advanced by the crown. Although it was in the discretion of the judge to call Dr. Church he would not exercise that discretion.

When the trial was resumed on Monday afternoon Mr. Powell moved for the discharge of the prisoner, as the crown had not succeeded in making out a case, and there was no evidence to go to the jury that

could possibly prove that Mrs. Stevens was guilty of manslaughter. The judge said he would not exercise his prerogative of withdrawing such an important case from the deliberations of the jury, but that the trial must proceed to its termination, and then the jury under his direction would decide the issue at trial.

The evidence for the defence was interesting in some instances less for what it proved than for what it suggested. It was shown, for instance, in the evidence of Drs. Thomas Walker and Church that the one and only infallible test as to whether a



W. W. WELLS.

bruise on a body is made before or after death, is by making an incision and examining beneath the skin. The difference between a mark on the skin caused by a blow and one resulting from post mortem changes would at once be apparent, but there was no other way of determining certainly. This was stated by Dr. Walker as the dictum of Casper, the great authority on the subject. He held that a doctor who had not made this test ought to refuse to give an opinion on the subject.

No such examination was made by the doctors who held the examination on the body of Mabel Hallett. The one infallible test was omitted.

Dr. Walker is not the only man who has read Casper, apparently. After the result of the examination was published, months ago, another leading physician in St. John stated in a conversation that unless the incision was made there could be no certainty whether the marks were made before or after death.

It was also developed in the examination of Dr. Church that he knew of this test, and thought of it when present at the post-mortem, but he did not suggest it to Dr. Dunlap. Dr. Church was present on behalf of Mrs. Stevens, and he doubtless considered that it was not his place to search for evidence against her.

Thus the one certain test that should have been made was not made.

Mr. Wells made a strong appeal on behalf of Mrs. Stevens. He spoke for five hours, and after dealing exhaustively with the evidence made a plea for sympathy with his client. Among other things he said:

"If you guess you must guess innocence; if you conjecture you must conjecture innocence; if you presume anything outside the evidence beyond that in the evidence, here is the mandate—that the presumptions are in favor of innocence. The evidence must establish the full proof of the trial no probability nor a possibility of such certainty without it satisfies the reason and the judgment of those who are called and act conscientiously upon it. Not one of you dare stand up in the presence of your oath if it could assume natural shape, and say that you believed the prisoner guilty beyond reasonable doubt. If your oath could come down from heaven, come down in its spotless garments not one of you could stand in its unsullied presence and say that you believe that woman guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. Let the prisoner have her liberty and that which is most dear to her as life under the law.

"Would you say upon the testimony thus beyond a reasonable doubt the prisoner is guilty of killing Mabel Hallett. If you can upon the evidence, say so, it is your duty to do so. Perchance, tranquil and peaceable conscientious you return to your homes, while by your judgment the unhappy subject of it is hurried and confined to the dungeon cell, and while your families will receive you with outstretched arms that in the happy circles you will have wrought and wrecked the household over which my client has with uniform kindness presided as a wife and mother until she has endeared herself to all within the family circle; but will that melancholy reflection pass? I do not stand here to desire you to commit perjury from compassion but at the same time my earnestness may be forgiven since it proceeded from a weakness."

Mr. Pugsley followed, and in an address of about one hour and a half dealt with his side of the case. The judge's charge followed and the jury returned in fifteen minutes with a verdict of not guilty.

As Mrs. Stevens retreated from the court room she received the congratulations of her friends on all sides.

UNDER THE SCOTT ACT.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAW IN FREDERICTON.

First Offences are Abundant—A Peculiar Method of Procedure—Maysville Men and What They Spend in Town on Saturday Nights.

And now there is a little stir among the temperance leaders in Fredericton respecting the way in which the Scott Act cases are handled. In the evidence of Mr. J. W. McCready appears to have a monopoly of the trade so far as prosecuting is concerned.

Cases come up in the court before Mr. Marsh, all for first offence. If there are three complaints made, instead of being first, second and third indictments, they are entered as three first offences, and conviction for each means a fine of fifty dollars. A short time ago through Bragdon, the notorious Woodstock Scott Act spy, there were several convictions against parties in this city of this "three-first" class. It appears that they each paid one fine, waited a time for the second, and then after a similar portion of time had elapsed, paid the third. Whether this is the fact or not, the temperance leaders believe it to be the way in which the affair is handled.

They are now after another practitioner; one whom they believe will force payment of the three fines at once or committal to jail. They say it is all "rot" to allow the sellers of the ardent, time to sell enough to pay the second fine, and a similar allowance made for the third. The only apparent result of Bragdon's work is the opening of another house of entertainment at the end of the bridge, one of which sells as much as any two of the old ones.

The Maysville Workers.

The visitor to Maysville, on a Saturday night, especially following pay day, would speedily come to the conclusion that the cholera had arrived or that some Moses had declared another exodus. Such a getting out of town to greet the genial smiles of Fredericton's many shop keepers. No sooner does the factory whistle declare the hours than dressing begins, some of the more youthful of the company throwing off their coats preparatory to getting on better ones, before they reach home. The store clothes are put on, the big busses drive up to the doors and like sardines in a box, male and female, are packed in and away they go.

But many have teams of their own, and these are soon hitched up, till the main street is nothing but a cloud of dust with here and there emerging from it a red blazer or a slouch hat. Hardshells are worn but the slouch has the preference.

George Rourke will lead off with his high stepper, followed closely by Dunk Buchanan with his dapple bay. Then there is a rush and a cloud of gravel and Tommy Wheeler with the ghost vanishes in the dim future. Barker is out with Don Pulling, and pulling too hard on one rein he collides with the bus and Billy swears a few little swears and all is right again.

But the sequel is that these Saturday night trips pay the Fredericton store keepers an average of six hundred dollars weekly.

FRED RICKTON.

AT THE HALIFAX DERBY.

The Ladies Appeared in Their Best to Do Honor to the Occasion.

Wednesday's race meeting proved a very lucky one for New Brunswick, as represented by Mr. Willis, of St. John, and Mr. McMonagle, of Sussex, writes Morris Grandville. Out of the eight races on the card, five went to the above named, and two silver cups go over to St. John in consequence. The day was fine, but very windy, and the crowd of ladies who occupied the grand stand, had their pretty frocks and hats pretty well blown about by the end of the afternoon. It was a regular field day for frocks. Everyone had a fresh toilette for the Halifax Derby, and most of them were extremely pretty.

Lady Hopkins was looking very nice in black, with a zouave jacket of heavy silver embroidery. Miss Daly was in pale blue. Mrs. Ferrie was extremely smart in a wonderful mixture of heliotrope and pale blue, with a good deal of gold trimming; while Mrs. Dorman, the other bride, was in terra-cotta and blue silk corduroy, with large terra-cotta sleeves.

Mrs. James Morrow had the prettiest dress in the enclosure—fine striped grenadine over pale yellow silk, very well made and most becoming. Mrs. Geoffrey Morrow wore a tweed with a peacock blue waistcoat; Mrs. M. K. Morrow looked charmingly pretty in white, with a large pink hat. Mrs. Tremaine Twining and her sister wore pretty pale grey frocks, and looked very well. Mrs. Kirkpatrick also was very well dressed. Mrs. J. F. Kenny wore a handsome gown of dull violet, with purple sleeves; and another effective heliotrope dress was worn by Mrs. W. Duffus, who was chaperoning Miss Slayter in pale blue.

Mrs. A. M. K. Doull was prettily dressed in pink muslin with a large white and pink hat. Miss Kenny was also in white and

pink, and looked very smart. Mrs. Nugent-Fyfe had one of the most brilliant costumes to be seen—heliotrope cashmere, with bright violet lapels opening over a vest of primrose yellow. Miss Lawson had one of the prettiest frocks of the day, a gray-green with sleeves of blue and yellow shot silk, and she wore a most becoming hat. Miss Isabel Lawson, who has recently arrived from England, was with her.

Miss May Townsend had a very dainty dress of ivory white and pale green, of which latter color there was very little about. Mrs. F. Jones was in black with a violet hat. Miss Nagle wore a curious but rather pretty mixture of salmon pink and heliotrope. Miss Norton-Taylor was in pink with apple green velvet bretelles. Miss Dever had bright emerald velvet on her frock. Mrs. Carleton Jones wore a white coat and skirt with a pale blue vest. Mrs. Hamilton, the wife of Captain Hamilton of the "Blake," was in tawn color with a large red hat.

One might go on for a long time with the list, for people had turned out in their best for the occasion, and a prettier stand has seldom been seen. The racing was very good, and tea and cake were provided for people on the grand stand during the afternoon.

RECTOR STEVENS DID NOT TAKE IT.

An Explanation Due in Regard to the Black Gown at St. Luke's.

An explanation seems to be due the late rector of St. Luke's in regard to the black gown that Mr. Sibbald did not wear. The gown was presented to Mr. Stevens by a member of the congregation, and it was his personal property, which he had an undoubted right to take with him when he left, as PROGRESS was informed he had done. It has since been learned that he did not take it, having always held the opinion that it was for the use and benefit of the church. It was therefore hanging in the vestry when Mr. Sibbald took charge, and he could have worn it had he chosen to do so.

Had he done so, however, there is grave reason to apprehend that the result would not have been conducive to the efficiency of the service, for a gown cut to loosely fit the massive frame of Rector Stevens would have been ridiculously long and large for Rector Sibbald. There is also a strong suspicion that the latter would not have worn it had it suited, and now that the surplus has been worn for two Sundays without any special calamity visiting the people, the gown will probably be allowed to take a rest until somebody comes who can fill it.

GIBSON WILL RISE AGAIN.

The Burned Village Will be Rebuilt—Relief Needed.

Perhaps no greater calamity could happen to any community than to be visited by a destructive fire without the means of fighting it. The people must persevere stand by and watch the wind driven flames lap up all that made life comfortable for them.

Gibson was a pretty suburb of a beautiful city. Its neat villas lawns and gardens and the general air of comfort that pervaded it made it attractive to the stranger and a pride to those who lived there. Just about the hour that many St. John people were recalling the fire of 1877 the flames broke out in Gibson, and in a few hours but two or three of the houses remained standing. The particulars have been published in the daily press, and now that the people are recovering somewhat from the shock, they are looking around them to see what can be done to rebuild. An example has been set them by the foremost owners of real estate, and with from \$75,000 to \$80,000 of insurance, there is not much doubt but that the village will rise again. In the meantime there is much relief needed, and as soon as subscription lists are opened there will be no doubt of the prompt response.

She Cornered the Market

A gentleman in Truro who manages to buy and read PROGRESS every Saturday, found a few weeks ago that he was unable to get the paper as usual, and it was some time before he discovered the reason. It appears that in that particular issue, the joys and woes of the Josie Mills' company, at Halifax were set forth, and that as soon as the papers arrived in Truro, where the company happened to be playing, one of the members, Josie Mills, lost no time in buying up all that the dealers had.

Why the Gun Was Spiked.

The Carleton company of artillery has been trying to remove the spike put in the gun from which a salute was to be fired on the Queen's birthday, but so far without success. It is understood that the residents in the vicinity object to the gun being fired for the reason that the concussion is liable to break the windows in their houses. It has been suggested that if all other methods fail the spike may be moved if the Carleton aldermen start a debate on the ferry question and talk into the muzzle of the gun.

Lowest Prices in Stationery and Blank Books, McArthur's, 80 King St.