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MR JACK ON THE STAND.

HIS MEMORY IS NOT AS GOOD AS IT MIGHT BE.

Mr. Skinner Says The School Board Did Not Order Mr. March's Arrest and that Mr. Baxter Is Not the Lawyer of the Trustees—Trying to Place the Order.

The hint thrown out by PROGRESS last week that it might be well to know who was responsible for the order to have the necessary papers made for the arrest of Mr. Ernest March upon so serious a charge, appears to have been acted upon at the last examination in the police court when the chairman of finance D. R. Jack was on the stand.

Mr. Jack has been a member of the school board for some time and whether by chance or mischance has at length been selected chairman of finance for that body. His duties are probably more of a critical nature than anything else and the only really important matter which has brought out the fact that he was chairman of finance has been this bond suit. The evidence seems to have indicated that trustee Jack in his official capacity had a good deal to do with the order for the apprehension of Mr. March. Where he and his transient adviser, Mr. Baxter, found their grounds to move on is what has been puzzling those following the case closely. So far they have not shown sufficient proof for well grounded suspicion, let alone arrest. It was truly unfortunate that Recorder Skinner was absent from the city at that juncture for with his experience and caution he could hardly have failed, with a complete knowledge of the facts so far as known then, to have advised delay.

According to the official evidence Mr. Skinner stated in arguing with Mr. Pugsley that the board of school trustees had not authorized Mr. Manning to lay the information against Mr. March. Who did then? Surely trustee Jack and Mr. Baxter did not take such a step upon their own decision! Again, according to the evidence, at the meeting held in Mr. Jack's office the only other trustees present were the chairman Judge Barker and Mr. W. C. R. Allan. Mr. Jack's memory, while on the stand, was so defective that he could not remember the details of this most important meeting, in fact he seemed to be in doubt as to who and how many were present. This was in the face of the fact that the meeting was held not as many weeks ago as it has been years since the bond was issued and yet, as Mr. Pugsley said, Mr. Jack could not overlook the fact that his client could not remember all the details of his office work of that period. This was a hard shot at the hesitating witness but there was a harder one in store for Mr. Baxter when in the course of his attempt to get some information concerning the authority for the arrest from Mr. Manning. Mr. Pugsley made that gentleman say that "Mr. Baxter was the lawyer of the trustees in this case" to which Mr. Skinner's prompt rejoinder was "Mr. Manning has no right to say that because it is absolutely incorrect."

PROGRESS has obtained an extract from the official minutes showing how Mr. Pugsley tried to get information in regard to the authority for the arrest.

Mr. Jack was on the stand and Mr. Pugsley examining him:—

"Did the Board of School trustees direct Mr. Manning to lay this information against Mr. Ernest March?" Objected to by Mr. Skinner.

"Did you, Mr. Jack, or did the Board of School trustees direct Mr. Manning to lay this information against Mr. March for the 'rogery of this bond?'"

Objected to by Mr. Skinner on ground that the school trustees had not authorized it and even had they done so it had nothing to do with the guilt or innocence of Mr. Sley's client.

Edward Manning, being recalled, in reply to Pugsley Q. C. said the information which was in J. B. M. Baxter's writing was signed by him. On being requested by Mr. Pugsley to tell who Mr. Baxter was, the witness after repeated objections by Mr. Skinner, said:—"He (Baxter) was the lawyer of the trustees in this case."

At this Mr. Skinner arose protesting, stating that "Mr. Manning has no right to say that because it is absolutely incorrect."

Had Mr. Manning been given an opportunity he might have gone further and stated that Mr. Baxter was an alderman of the city and that he seems to be particularly fortunate in being associate counsel in city cases. In the absence of Mr. Skinner he was asked for his advice in this case in the first instance but, having given it, it will occur to most of the taxpayers that recorder Skinner needed no further assistance in the conduct of the case. Mr. Baxter, however, appears to be retained and takes what part he can in the examination as it proceeds. Who will pay him is a question for future consideration and the council may then take the opportunity to decide whether the precedent in the Connolly cases is going to be a costly one in the

future. The city does not need more than one lawyer.

THE SHERIFFS LITTLE JOKE.

He Forgot the Council was in Session and Locked the Aldermen In.

The ability of St. John aldermen is almost proverbial and it is generally thought that they are equal to any emergency. This view may be right on the whole, but a little incident connected with Tuesdays council meeting shows that they are not as infallible as supposed.

The incident in question was merely one of these accidents which will happen in the best regulated councils but it placed the civic legislators in a very ludicrous position, and furnished material for a large amount of chaffing.

The council was in the midst of a discussion on Ald. McCarthy's motion to petition the government grant to be used for harbor improvements when Ald. McMulklin who had left a moment before to go home entered the room and said "Your worship I have an announcement to make. We are locked in." Then ensued a scene of confusion all the aldermen started for the front door at once, only to find that the tidings were too true as the door was securely fastened.

High Constable Stockford attempted to open the portal but to no purpose, so the councillors began to get nervous as visions of a dreary night in the court house came before them.

Ald. Wilson was the first to solve the problem of exit and as such deserves to receive recognition from the city for his presence of mind. He ran to one of the windows and opening it jumped out on Sydney street. Capt. J. B. M. Baxter of the Artillery, and representative of Brooks ward followed him and after what seemed an age landed safely on the pavement. He was followed by a newspaper man who in jumping missed his footing and fell on the alderman's new hat. By this time a number of passers by assembled on the sidewalk below and began to wonder what was the cause of the unwonted trouble. Questions were asked but the aldermen all maintained a dignified silence so the crowd continued to wonder. The door was finally opened and the aldermen who were too old or stout to jump went out by the regular way.

The question that then presented itself was, how did the door happen to be locked? and an explanation was soon forthcoming. Sheriff Sturdee who holds the key of the court house had forgotten about the council meeting and when he left the building he locked the door after him.

The matter was only a small one but it is safe to say it caused more excitement in the council for a short time than any question at issue for many moons.

SENDING BICYCLES TO TORONTO.

Is Something Like Sending Coals To Newcastle—Advertising Did It.

Perhaps it is something like sending coals to Newcastle for a bicycle dealer of the city of St. John to ship wheels to Toronto, which has become a sort of headquarters for the general English and American agencies, or bicycles. The very largest concerns in the world are represented in Toronto, and different agencies throughout Canada are appointed from that city, yet this week the Ira Cornwall Co., Ltd. shipped two wheels to Toronto ordered from that city from an advertisement inserted two or three weeks ago in PROGRESS. Perhaps this paper could make a point of the value of its advertisements by calling attention to this fact, but that has become an old story now. So many of the patrons of these columns have received custom from distant places in addition to that at home that it is like telling the same story over and over again to call attention to the proof. Mr. Cornwall, however, is naturally very proud of the fact that he has received orders from this centre of the bicycle trade, and perhaps is more pleased over that particular order than any other of the numerous ones he has received in this city and provinces. He reports his demand sales numerous, and an increasing demand for wheels this summer. His stock in the King street store is a large one and intending purchasers of bicycles will hardly secure a wheel without looking over his samples and getting his prices.

The Stock Holders Should Attend.

The annual meeting of the rural cemetery proprietors is called for the 6th of April, or Easter Monday. If those who are interested in this beautiful place will take the trouble to attend the meeting, they will undoubtedly gain some facts that will surprise them, for under the present management the amount of work that has been done in and around the cemetery is surprising. More than that, the receipts from all sources have been very gratifying. PROGRESS has had an occasion before to point out the improvements made and work that has been done in this resting place of the dead, and it is only right that the management should be encouraged by as full a meeting as possible of the lot proprietors.

TOUCHED THE BUTTON.

SOMEONE TRIED TO TRICK ALDERMAN MOSHER

And Keep Him From a Council Meeting by Sounding an Alarm of Fire on His Number—But the Alderman Was There and Connolly is Chief.

HALIFAX, April 2.—Halifax people seem to like to "fight to a finish" in any contest upon which they enter. When they separate into factions they leave no stone unturned to secure victory. The contest over the fire chiefship is an example of this. John Connolly some weeks ago was elected chief but Alderman Hubley gave notice of reconsideration. The winter port delegates went to Ottawa and while they were absent no meeting of the city council was held to dispose of the reconsideration. A meeting was called, however, before Alderman Stewart's return. Tois would leave the Ryan party one less in voting strength than they were when the question first came up. Accordingly the Ryan men decided there should be no quorum and thus postpone the meeting till Alderman Stewart should be able to take his place and vote. Alderman Hamilton was a Ryan man, but he professed disgust at the way the question had been prolonged and would not agree to the no quorum plan. This action gave the Connolly party a possible quorum. But there was yet another move to be made. Alderman Creighton and Mosher were known to be on their way to the council chamber between 8 and 8.30 on Friday night. They live far north, and if they could be detained even for fifteen minutes 8.30 would have passed before they could arrive at the city hall and the half hour of grace allowed for securing a quorum would have passed. So a false alarm of fire was sounded from box 27. The cold-blooded city fathers, however, were not to be turned back, even though box 27 was near their homes. Nero fiddled while Rome burned, and a house might go up in smoke round the corner from their residence, but that quorum at the city hall had to be made a certainty. Yet they could see no reflection, and doubtless hoping the alarm meant nothing they redoubled their speed toward and reached the council chamber in good time to answer to their names, make the necessary quorum, and vote reconsideration. The wily alarm ruse failed, and Connolly was finally elected chief.

The question comes up, how was that alarm sounded from box 27? The man who holds the key says no one obtained it from him, and so far as he knows the box was not opened. The alarm, therefore, must have been sent in from elsewhere by some official possessed of another key. The theory set afloat, in explanation of the matter by the anti-Ryan faction is, that some one high in the department sounded the alarm from a box in one of the engine houses, where he would not be observed, by opening the inner door of the box and sounding the numbers of a box near Mosher's house by hand. After opening the outer door only the legitimate number of a box can be sounded, but if a private key is used and the inner door opened, any number can be sounded by hand, regardless of the outer automatic number of the box. Taus was this matter fought to a finish.

REV. ROBERT LAING AMAZED.

The Evening Papers Help to Create Two Sensations.

HALIFAX, April 2.—Rev. Brother Robert Laing of the Halifax ladies college, was an angry man on Saturday evening when he picked up one of the Halifax evening papers, for there he read an announcement of a new subject in the curriculum of the college, which neither he nor the board of governors, nor the shareholders, had authorized, or even intended should be taught. Presbyterian money built the college, and Presbyterian money keeps it going, why then should this unauthorized study be introduced without this approval, to distract rather than improve and train the fair young ladies who crowd those scholastic halls? The worthy president of the college ran his hand wildly through his wavy hair as he read in cold type that:

"The spring term of the Halifax Presbyterian ladies college will commence in a few days, when among the other branches taught, special attention will be devoted to the study of electrocution."

Shades of Sing Sing! said the horrified president; is that something that comes under the eye of the director of the conservatory, or is in the English department, or is in it in the faculty of anatomy and physiology or must I see to it?" When last seen Rev. Mr. Laing had not yet made up his mind what it all meant, but it was expected the teacher of physical culture and elocution, or some proof reader, would be able to throw a "current of light" on the deadly question.

Another of last Saturday evening's Halifax papers caused a sensation by publishing a picture which was labelled:

"Mrs. H. B. Haggarty, one of the chorus who will sing at the Albani concert on Wednesday."

As people rubbed their eyes and looked at the alleged likeness there were threats

of actions for libel and other dreadful things. The picture was no more like the charming, accomplished and pretty Mrs. Haggarty, as those acquainted with her and who have become familiar with her through the excellent picture in PROGRESS two weeks ago, can testify, than the sphinx is like a belle of the nineteenth century.

MEN IN CIVIC POLITICS.

Who Propose to Help Govern the City of Halifax.

HALIFAX, April 2.—At the end of this month the civic elections will be over. There is not now any doubt that George E. Faulkner will be elected without opposition for Ward 1, to succeed Ald. W. J. Stewart.

In Ward 2 T. J. Barry and W. H. Campbell will try conclusions, and it would be safe to bet odds on Campbell having a walk over, with Barry considerably in the rear.

Alderman Thomas Mitchell will have no opposition in ward 3. There was nothing in the talk of W. F. Pickering coming out against him and all other rivals, deeming discretion wise, have dropped out.

Ward 4 is being actively canvassed by Alderman "Neddy" O'Donnell and W. E. Bremner, who opposes him. It is safe to predict that Bremner will lick O'Donnell hands down.

At one time it looked as if Dr. Chisholm would make a hot fight with Alderman William McFadrigue in ward 5. "The people's William" is a good canvasser and has many friends, and now it seems as if he could breathe easier in the prospect of retaining his seat. Especially is this so, when it is noticed that Chisholm's friends are not working as hard as they should to win. The civic servant who went round with Chisholm's requisition has not been much in evidence lately.

Alderman Isaac Creighton will be elected by acclamation in ward 6. Mr. Clancy, a grocer of some prominence, was talked of, but he has gone down before the prestige of the great Isaac, of Creighton's corner.

How He Had His Revenge.

The following one-act pantomime was amusingly carried out a short time since. A newspaper man a grocery clerk and an ice chest playing the leading roles. It appears that at one time the newspaper man had occasion to "roast" the grocery clerk who in turn vowed he would repay the scorching with interest. His day at last came and early in the week as the scribe was passing the well known grocery in which the clerk was employed, the latter ran into the street and hurling an ancient egg hit "his man" in the neck. A hot chase ensued in the shop, the proprietor of which was out at the time, around the counter over barrels etc., the journalist with blood in his eye and every prospect of fistic carnival. The clerk held the fort behind some barrels for a time but was forced to retreat before the advancing foe. At last a bright idea struck him and with the agility of a cat he closed himself in the big refrigerator. The scribe held the door for over a half an hour until the proprietor put in an appearance when he released the "ice-bound" egg-twister. He had his revenge and grinned a broad grin as the grocery-clerk knocked an icicle off his nose, combed the frost off his mustache, and reached for his overcoat.

GETTING IN THE FIELD.

Candidates Announcing Themselves For the Coming Civic Election.

Alderman McLaughlin's announcement that he will be a candidate for mayor puts a new and interesting face upon civic politics. It means that there will either be a fight between him and the present mayor, or that he will probably be returned by acclamation because he is not likely to have an opponent other than Mayor Robertson. It means that Dr. Daniel will be in the field for Queen's Ward also. The doctor's friends will welcome his return to civic politics to which when in the council he gave careful attention, and his sound judgment had much weight at the council. The cards of D. McArthur, J. B. Hamm and G. G. Ruel are out for their respective wards, but Mr. McArthur is a candidate for alderman at large. He is sure to poll a large north end vote and is sure of a certain vote all over the city. His friends will rally around him with energy and that means much on election day. As the elections do not take place until two weeks from Tuesday those who propose to be candidates probably think they have plenty of time to announce themselves. Mr. Seaton, however, is a candidate for Victoria, and Mr. Holder, a former alderman in the north end, is coming for Stanley ward, which has been held so long by Mr. McGoldrick. Mr. Holder is a protestant. Alderman-at-large McCarthy will of course offer again. Next week this time there will be a chance to see who are in the field and to gain some idea of their chances of success.

Windsor Salt, Purest and Best.

THE SAME OLD TRICKS.

CHIEF CLARK STARTS OUT WITH A NEW LAW.

And Seeks Violations on the Back Streets—A Widow Woman Reported with two Others—A New Phase of the Law Which Will Be Fought out.

Inspector Jones and the commissioners were sworn in Wednesday and at once started to make the regulations necessary to govern the dispensing of drinks. They have hardly got to work yet but announce that they will consider applications for licenses on the 15th instant.

Still, if the commissioners have not got to work the chief of police has shown that he is still in the ring and that he has not lost any of his tactics with his inspectorship. Whether the new law acted as a sort of an energetic tonic or whether he wanted to show that, after all, the chief of all the police is all powerful, is perhaps immaterial, but the fact remains that on the evening of the day the new officers were sworn in the chief sent his officers out upon the war path. The result was reports against Jas. H. Slater, Mrs. Bartlett, of Erin street, and Patrick Cotter of Water street.

These places are widely separated and the police must have been very weary tramping all over the city hunting for violators of law. How they ever got as far as Slater's without passing several places where the law was a dead letter will remain a mystery. But they did get there and took what stock they could get their hands on. Then in order that the reputation of the chief might be kept up, the residence of Mrs. Bartlett, a widow woman on Erin street, was visited and a small quantity of whiskey and a keg or two of ale captured.

No doubt the men were acting under orders and proceeded directly from the central station to the places reported. It is absurd and ridiculous to think otherwise. If the chief wanted to be vigilant, if he wanted to show the people that he was still the chief of police, if not inspector, why did he not, man fashion, report some of the influential law breakers? Why did he send almost out of town to a quiet street and seize the stock of a woman and report her for violation of the law? Why should his officers pass a dozen places in their endeavor to get a chance at Slater, who it is pretty well known has not been in the best of luck. He has been fined again and again and in addition to that lost his stock while his more influential neighbors in the business have plied their trade from morn till midnight under the very eyes of the chief and escaped comparatively free.

Why pursue such tactics? Why not treat everybody alike? No one will find fault with the officers for doing their duty if they will keep their eyes open all over the town—but to keep them shut on one street and open on another is a method condemned by every one. The reports against women have been so frequent that even the magistrate has noted it, and when Mrs. Bartlett appeared before him Thursday and acknowledged the charge he imposed the lightest possible penalty coupled with some remarks certainly not complimentary to the vigilance that reported widows in out of the way places and permitted more extensive violators in the heart of the city to escape without notice.

But there was an additional charge made and a new one under the new law. It was against the Messrs. Jones for selling ale to an unlicensed vendor. Mr. Skinner represented the defendants and he made out a pretty strong case for his clients. It is not at all likely that this case will end in the magistrate's court. The wholesalers claim that the law is inconsistent and unfair to them, particularly in this respect, and they propose to fight it if they can do so with any prospect of success. In Halifax those in the wholesale trade have for years refused to take out licenses and only a few days ago, the police magistrate of that city gave the law another back eye by declaring it in his opinion ultra vires.

The claim that the law is inconsistent is founded upon the fact that a Montreal house, for example, can take out a license in this province, send their travelers here and sell goods and there is no chance to prosecute for sale to an unlicensed vendor.

But there are plenty of points in the new law and by the time they are all thrashed out the people will probably have an intimate acquaintance with its provisions.

A Suggestion For Easter Buyers.

A good many people have an idea that it is necessary to have something new for Easter. Many a man dons a new suit of clothes, while the favorite article of adornment for the ladies is a new bonnet, and others look around for what they need most and buy that as some sort of celebration of the festive season. Messrs Waterbury & Rising suggest that new boots or slippers are just as much in this line at

Easter time, and in fact more so, as any other article of wear. The streets are getting drier; spring can be said to be here, and if ever a man or woman is tempted to doff the heavy overshoe or the tight rubber and exchange them for something lighter and easier it is at this season. This firm at their two stores, 61 King, and 212 Union streets have the largest assortment of footwear of all kinds to be found in the city. Any style and every style, at all prices can be had for the asking.

COUNTRY LIFE IS AWFUL SLOW.

So Thought Sasie McDougall a Young Petticoat Matron.

PETITCODIAC, April 1.—A short time ago L. McDougall of Lewis mountain went to Havelock Corner as he often had done before to do a little shopping. When he returned his wife and \$25 had disappeared. He went at once to Pettitcodiac but could not find her. Calling at the Union House, Pettitcodiac, Mrs. Harrington declared she had not seen her, but one Mr. Milton afterwards stated that he positively saw Mrs. McDougall go in to the Union House. They searched the roads and streets and watched trains when convenient but did not search any houses. Scarcely a fortnight had elapsed when her sister, Miss Annie Bleakney, received a letter from her with a Boston stamp on it, and several statements in it regarding her whereabouts. She was in then Boston, had struck a job at good wages, but Mrs. McDougall did not give any address. Within two days her father was on the road for Boston, with really no clue, but a determination to succeed. It was Monday he started on what many called a "Tom fools errand" and on Thursday evening he arrived home with his daughter, Mrs. McDougall. Mr. McDougall is a hard working, quiet man, who came from Nova Scotia in 1894 and purchased a farm on Lewis mountain for which he paid cash down, and is reported as having a little money invested in his native province. During last summer he made several visits to the residence of Wm. A. Bleakney a quiet farmer of North River. Mr. Bleakney had two unmarried daughters, the eldest Annie about 25 years of age and well experienced in house keeping, and the youngest Sasie some 16 years of age and fonder of out door life than housekeeping. Their mother died when the youngest was quite small, and the duties of housekeeping had devolved upon Annie while Sasie had her own way, drove anywhere she liked and enjoyed life generally. Strange to say Mr. McDougall's favorite was Sasie, and in a very short time he proposed and was accepted. When Autumn leaves were falling, Sasie rued her bargain, withdrew her affection and pursued the even tenor of her way among her favorite horses. But the appearance of a widow on the scene and the thought of that widow taking her (Sasie's) place, or the place she could have had, at Lewis' board, where she might preside as mistress was too much for her and she went back to her former love. Lemuel and Sasie were married in due time and Sasie for the first time took upon herself the cares of housekeeper and all went merry as a "marriage bell." One day after they had enjoyed wedlock some ten days or a fortnight she went to the village to do some shopping with "fifteen dollars in her inside pocket." She took the train for St. John where her father went and brought her back. She first declined to go back to her housekeeping, being tired of that business, but afterwards concluded to go and did so, and no one thought she would make another escape. But a good many people thought it was not a case of love at first sight or of love at all, but she had married in haste and perhaps would repent at leisure. She had only been married some three or four months when she again astonished the natives as first above related. What the outcome of this last escape will be, many, or all here are awaiting with interest.

The Men Are In Earnest.

HALIFAX, April, 2.—The charges preferred by the non coms and men of No. 3 company, H. G. A., against the officers of the battalion, have been forwarded to Ottawa by Lawyer J. T. Bulmer on behalf of the men. Similar charges to those made against No. 2 company, commanded by Major Hessel, have been made against the officers of Nos. 1 and 4 companies so that Major Oxley and Major Garrison will also be put on their defence in this matter.

Whether the government will appoint D. A. G. Irving, or D. A. G. Maunsell, to hold the inquiry, is not known, or whether indeed, they will appoint any one. The chances are, however, that very soon an investigation by the militia department with these wholesale charges will be vigorously on foot.

A New Firm's Announcement.

The advertisement of March Bros. on another page of this paper is so attractive that it should be read. This firm has three lines of wheels any one of which is well worth inspection. They also call especial attention to their repair shop.