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HE WASN'T LIKE ELIJAH.

WHY MR. POLLOCK LET THE GENERAL DOWN EASY.

The Fight Between an Evangelist and The Commander of the British Forces in America Causes Comment—The Evangelist vacates Rather than Make Trouble.

HALIFAX, August 12.—General Montgomery Moore, so those say who are in the inside circle and who have a chance to know, is a most unhappy man these days. The military hate notoriety of a certain kind. They like laudation as do other people but they are particularly sensitive to censuring criticism. Consequently, according to this rule, General Montgomery Moore must be very unhappy for he has been the subject of a lot of unenviable notoriety during the past ten days. It is known, however, apart from this that the newspapers for a week or so have been to him a source of positive pain.

The general is not a man easily convinced. When once he makes up his mind he turns not to the right nor the left but goes right ahead. He makes up his mind easily and quickly, in far less time than a ten of argument, if it were possible thus to measure logic, could change it. This has been exemplified more than once in the career of the general officer commanding since he arrived on this station.

General Montgomery Moore is not a man who has distinguished himself on the field of battle. Though he occupies a lofty position in the army he has never so it is stated, smelt powder burned in active service. This may or may not be the case, but no warlike deeds in his record have become known to Halifax people. But as a compensation he has fought some bloodless battles and won some bloodless victories. One of these it will be remembered was, when he practically expelled from the Sunday school, an officer who was laboring as a teacher in the garrison church. The general was informed that this officer was not adhering to the lessons for the children as laid down by the church; was not confining his footsteps strictly to the lessons of the day, etc., but was wandering off into the fields trodden by those teachers who use the topics and subjects enjoined by the international Sunday school association and used by the great majority of the churches. A visit was paid to the garrison one Sunday afternoon by the General and there true enough, was the officer hard at work trying to impress the young minds about him with the truths of the gospel as drawn from other immediate sources than called for by the day. There could be no mercy for such a miserable sinner and without delay the superintendent of the school was directed to ask for the resignation of the offender. The officer's departure was accordingly called for, but it made trouble and with him also went out several of the best teachers in the school. What was the garrison's loss, in this case, was gain for St. Paul's church, for in Rev. Mr. Hague's school he readily found a place. Yet so far as the general himself was concerned the victory was complete.

At the present time General Montgomery Moore finds himself embroiled in a more sanguinary conflict, for he has arrayed himself against a poor evangelist who would fain preach in a tent on the common and the authorities of this good city of Halifax gave consent for the erection of a gospel tent perched on the general's banners. What caused the general to take the side he did is the subject of some questioning, but the inside history of it is this.

A Mr. Brown, merchant of Halifax on behalf of Algernon J. Pollock, evangelist and tent preacher, waited on Mayor Stephen during the queen's jubilee festivities asking permission to erect a tent on the common where services might be conducted. The mayor was very busy with pressing duties and partly to get clear of the petitioner he said he was at liberty to erect a tent but that he had better see the military. Harvey wandered round from one office to the other till at last he found himself face to face with General Montgomery Moore, and what was worse he was confronted with a refusal to allow the canvas to be spread. Therefore the tent was not put up just then. Evangelist and agent waited a couple of weeks partly that the general might conveniently forget that he had been approached in the matter, and partly that Mayor Stephen might again be interviewed. His worship was seen and he repeated the permission

formerly granted to erect the tent. The Mayor argued in effect that circus tents were spread on the common with the general's consent; why not this gospel tent without it if needs be. He held that the joint ownership of the common by military and city did not forbid the placing on it of such a structure as a small tent capable, perhaps, of seating a couple of hundred people. What it would be illegal for either party to put up would only be a permanent structure. There was nothing "permanent" about a canvas tent that could be removed in an hour. So with the Mayor's new permission in his hands and despite the general's former refusal Algernon J. Pollock and his friend Mr. Brown raised the tent, sang in it their first hymn of praise and preached their first sermon beneath its folds.

General Montgomery Moore was not blind that he could not see this, nor angelic that he could meekly endure it, so he caused a letter to be written to the mayor asking him if he was aware that a tent was on the common, permission to erect which he (the general) had refused. Of course Mayor Stephen was aware of the fact, but he replied that according to his way of thinking there was no law to prevent Algernon J. Pollock with the civic permission, from doing as he had done. The letters from the military waxed warm and those from the mayor determined.

Last Saturday the evangelist realized that matters were becoming too warm for him and he determined that on Monday he would strike stakes and take the canvas down. But with this determination there was another—a resolve to give the General a parting shot that he would remember for a long time, so that the battle might in a sense be called a draw and not as otherwise might appear an unqualified victory for General Montgomery Moore. His method of reprisal was the publication of an open letter in one of the morning papers on Monday. The meek evangelist remarked to someone that he would have published the letter on Saturday only that he was afraid it would so anger the General that he would take the law into his own hands and cut down the canvas by an armed force. This contingency he did not wish, for it was his desire to hold farewell services on Sunday. Accordingly the letter appeared on Monday morning and the general read it just about the time that Pollock was taking down his hated canvas.

Sarcasm and denunciation were the features of this letter, but the chief point of it was where the evangelist said he would not cultivate the spirit of Elijah who called down fire from heaven upon the heads of his enemies, but he would remind General Montgomery Moore that he would one day be called before his Creator to answer for the sin of having forbidden the proceedings of the gospel on the common in a tent, whilst granting ample permission to all kinds of circus shows to spread all the canvas they liked on the common.

The tent was taken down about noon. The same afternoon Mayor Stephen received a letter which showed that the general had abandoned controversy in the matter, so far as the military were concerned, but had handed the matter over to the lawyers at five o'clock on the afternoon of the day when the tent was removed. The Mayor opened a letter from the law firm of Harris, Henry & Cahan informing him that they had looked into the matter carefully and found that it was illegal for the tent to be on the grounds. It was a violation of "the agreement of Dec. 3rd, 1860," and was as well contrary to the provisions of city charter. The tent would have to go or proceedings would be taken to make it go. This letter, as has been said, dated Monday, was received several hours after the obnoxious tent had been removed by the evangelist.

In connection with law it may be stated that Recorder MacCoy holds that he was just as much in favor of the city side of the question as was the general on behalf of the military.

Thus the matter stands at present with Mayor Stephen holding the fort theoretically and with the General a practical winner and the evangelist in the Y. M. C. A. hall.

This common controversy in one sense is an old one, of which the present is but a new phase. Some 27 years ago General Trollope was in command as General Montgomery Moore is now. The city fathers concluding that it would be a wise thing to fence in the common and thus keep

it in better order did so. There was a controversy but this was too slow for General Trollope. One fine morning he marched his red coats out to the common and after addressing to his force a few words of encouragement said to them pointing to the fence: "There is your enemy, advance and captured him!" In a twinkling the soldiers charged; with one mad rush they reached the fence which moved not an inch but the force was close upon it. Then it disappeared in good order every man with a prisoner in his grasp in the form of a picket. The enemy was effectually dislodged.

Then the city brought suit against the general for damages. William Young, afterwards Sir William, was counsel for the city and Dr. Johnstone for the military. The case was tried and the jury disagreed. It is probable that the "agreement" referred to by Harris, Henry and Cahan was some arrangement came to after this trial.

Since then, however, gospel tents have frequently been in use in the common, and no objection was raised, but other generals seem to have been of different calibre from the hero of the present affair who is now commander-in-chief of the forces in British North America.

This narrative would not be complete without the statement of the fact that on Monday night, when the evangelist held his first meeting in the Y. M. C. A., hall that fervent prayers were offered that the General's heart might be touched and softened.

A CUT RATE IN BALLAST.

Why Was a Dollar Paid Them and Now Only 75 Cents?

A couple of weeks ago PROGRESS made mention of the fact that unnecessarily exorbitant rates were being paid by the city authorities for the common stone ballast used in connection with the Sand Point works. The references to these unbusiness-like transactions were not made without research as later developments have shown. When the first consignments of stone were received ninety cents was the price paid per yard, and later on as the demand became more brisk for some unaccountable reason those having to do with the buying ballast raised the price to one dollar. No claims were put in by the contractors for a higher rate, and consequently those acquainted with the facts of the case wondered very much at this new "economy."

All of a sudden a flotilla of scows and schooners started into the ballast business, one craft owner clearing over two hundred and fifty dollars by the Klondyke rate being paid for wharf-sinking material. Others made lesser amounts and were continuing to stow away sound city dollars with much celerity until the thought of cut rates in ballast struck a few council members apparently simultaneously. The board met, an axe on prices was used and now seventy-five cents is the topmost figure being laid out for a square yard of the once "valuable" material.

HE WAS SEVERELY LECTURED.

It was not a Very Pleasant Ending to a Pleasant Evening.

A few evenings ago a happy laddie lover escorted his pretty miss to her Sewell street home and after a pleasant chat at the door for a minute or two he bowed a sweet bow and tripped merrily up the street again. He had not gone far however before two pair of manly arms held him prisoner and bore him back to the domicile of his sweetheart where the girl's mother in assumed anger lectured the very much mortified and not a little frightened boy, on the virtues of the curfew bell and other matronly hobbies. He answered "yes mam" and "no um" to her battery of questions and it was not until all the boarders in the house had secured a good square look at the landlady's prospective son-in-law that the chagrined young fellow was released. He acted very manly and gentlemanly throughout the ordeal, no doubt thinking discretion the better part of valor, in this particular case at any rate.

The Grocers Picnic.

The Grocers picnic which will take place on Tuesday next at Watter's Landing promises to be an event of much enjoyment. The City Cornet Band will furnish music for dancing and every effort will be made to make the day very pleasant for those who attend. Lilley Sons & Aldous will furnish refreshments, dinner being 35 and tea 25 cents. Watter's Landing is an ideal place to spend a day and every one who can should make a special effort to attend the picnic. Time of sailing and prices to be found elsewhere. The proceeds are to go towards the park fund.

IN MR. CUISACK'S FAVOR.

TESTIMONY PROVING THAT HE HEARD TOO MUCH NOISE.

It May be That He was not so far Wrong in His Action of That Eventful Sunday Evening—What Some Witnesses Have to Say in the Interesting Matter.

MONCTON, Aug. 9.—The excitement of the hour in Moncton is the Cuisack investigation, and thought it is a mild one, it is better than nothing in these dull times.

It would seem as if Officer Cuisack—who by the way continues to wear his uniform, and discharge his duties as usual, in spite of the decision of the city council that he should be suspended—was making out rather a good case against his accusers. He is giving evidence in his own defence just now, and while some of his statements throw an interesting sidelight on the peculiarities of Mr. Cuisack's personal character, and opinions, at the same time they materially alter the appearance of some of the circumstances which have seemed most against him. For instance, he says that instead of accosting Mr. Peters' son on his own grounds and ordering him to go in, as the evidence of the complainants would lead one to suppose, he first heard young Peters and two companions shouting and singing on the street and in endeavoring to locate the noise which seemed to come from the direction of Alma street, he turned up that street the three young men, of whose identity he was ignorant at the time, running up the sidewalk before him. When he reached Mr. Peters' residence the young men were on the veranda, and as it was then half past eleven o'clock, he stopped and admonished the hilarious youths, advising them to be have themselves and go in as it was late. One of the party responded that they were on their own property and could do as they liked. Cuisack answered that he had seen them running up the sidewalk and hollering as they ran, but they with one accord denied the soft impeachment, and the officer departed after informing the party that he was going to lay an information against them.

The young fellows themselves have given testimony on oath, and while they acknowledge having warbled such songs as "The Swanee River" on the night in question, while sitting in the swing in Mr. Peters' grounds facing Alma street, they say that the hour was a quarter to, instead of half past eleven, and swear positively that neither of them either "screamed" or whooped on the street that night. The other youths, besides Brooks, Peters, are Messrs. Lee Dickson, and Graham Jardine, both very quiet, and gentlemanly lads whose word most people would take quite as readily as that of Officer Cuisack, to say the least. But at the same time there are decided discrepancies between the two accounts, and it remains for the members of the city council to decide which is most worthy of credence.

As for Mr. Hanington's charge, today's evidence for the defence makes it appear that there must have been a good deal of noise somewhere in the vicinity of School, or Botsford street, on that otherwise peaceful Sunday evening from which all the trouble dates. Cuisack has produced the reputable witnesses, Messrs. Samuel Anderson and Fred H. Kinnear both of whom have stated that they did hear a considerable amount of noise proceeding from the direction of Mr. Hanington's house, on the night in question. The former gentleman was coming down Botsford street that night when his attention was attracted by some noise, especially singing, which seemed to come from School street. The night was very calm, and in the words of the witness there was fun and merriment going on to such an extent that he intended going across that street to see what it was, but concluded on hearing some one say good night, that it was a party breaking up, and he continued on his way, but heard the noise as far down as St. George street. On being pressed, Mr. Anderson admitted that at first he did consider the noise objectionable, and "thought there was trouble over there" but on stopping to light his pipe the noise changed to laughter, and he came to the conclusion, after a couple of minutes that it was merely a merry party.

Mr. Kinnear stated that he was near his own house at the end of School street on the night referred to, returning home, and heard some noise which appeared to come from School street. It was sufficient to attract attention and he made a remark to someone about the amount of noise pro-

ceeding from that vicinity, but he did not remember hearing any "hollering." Mr. Kinnear admitted that he thought the noise unusually loud. It might have come from Botsford street, but his impression was that it proceeded from School street. He did not hear it after entering his own house which is some twenty-five or thirty feet north of School street.

The investigation was brought to a close this evening the last witnesses for the defence being Messrs. George C. Allen, and G. W. Maddison. The former testified to hearing sounds of talking and laughing from the direction of School Street, and which he thought a little unusual for Sunday evening. Mr. Allen resides on Botsford Street about fifty yards from School Street. Mr. Maddison who is a member of the staff of the "Daily Times" was sitting in the office of that paper on Botsford Street on the Sunday evening in question, and remembered hearing a noise about half past ten o'clock which sounded like a screech, or whoop, but which proceeded from Main Street, the very opposite direction from School street. Cuisack came into the office about eleven o'clock, and told Mr. Maddison about his evening call on Mr. Hanington remarking that he had kicked himself twenty times since, because he had not arrested that gentleman, and taken him to the lockup. Mr. Howe, who is conducting the defence, wished to call officer Cuisack in rebuttal, but stipendiary Kaye refused to allow any recalling on either side, and the case was accordingly closed, the evidence to be submitted to the city council, who will probably deal with the matter at their next meeting.

The evidence of Marshal Wadman would seem to dispose of the complaint that Cuisack left his beat without orders, as he stated that an officer's beat is any part of the entire city of Moncton where he may be required, but when they leave their beats they are required to report to the marshal, which Cuisack did, on the night of July 18th, saying that a stranger had requested him to go up School street on account of the noise in that direction.

One of the most interesting and instructive features of the investigation was the insight gained by the public into officer Cuisack's ideas of his own duties, and the degree of authority vested in him as a representative of the law. In defending the action he took in accosting Mr. Hanington and his guests, Cuisack remarked that he considered it too loud for a Sunday night party, and thought he had a right to break it up. He insisted that he heard the noise on Main street nearly a quarter of a mile away, and expressed surprise that Mr. Thomson's family could have avoided hearing it even hollering the opinion that they had been singing in the house themselves and so failed to hear the noise next door.

When asked why he had gone into the "Times" office on his way down the street, this two-careful guardian of the public weal, responded that he went in because he saw a light there, and did not consider that the "Times" people had any right to have a light in their office. If things have come to such a pass in the city of Moncton that what officer Cuisack "considers" or does not "consider" right is to be law even to the publishers of a morning paper being called to account for having a light in their office at any hour on Sunday night, or their right to burn a lamp all night and every night if they wish to do so, questioned, we may expect, should he remain loose much longer, to have him entering the houses of private citizens where he discovers a light at what he considers an unseasonable hour, extinguishing the lamps, and ordering the inmates off to bed. While functions of a social nature will become impossible owing to the danger of having that too meddlesome official "consider" that it is time the party broke up, and take upon himself to ring the bell, clear the house, and save the owner the trouble of looking up by performing that office himself, not only for the house, but also for the owner, should he object, or make any protest.

It really looks as if the citizens would soon have to vacate the City of Moncton altogether and leave Officer Cuisack to reign alone, first changing the name of the city to Cuisackville.

A Philanthropic Merchant.

The system of a King square merchant in granting a vacation season to his employees is a very simple as well as unusual one. Instead of allowing his clerks to have their holidays one at a time, he has closed his establishment down completely for a month, all hands being released from labor during that time and enjoying this the ideal season of the year, in a body. There must be a big bump of philanthropy about the head of the merchant in question.