

PROGRESS.

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PRICE FIVE CENTS

POLICE PROTECTION.

Magistrate Ritchie Wants to Know why Certain Houses Are Never Reported.

In the words of Magistrate Ritchie "There is too much of this police protection business in this city."

This remark was the outcome of a trial of one of the Sheffield street unfortunates who figured in the police court on Monday. She was charged with selling "beer" without a license.

That doughty and officious sergeant, Campbell, had laid the complaint against the proprietor of the premises. He told his story in his own inimitable manner. After he had gotten through his little speech, Magistrate Ritchie, gave Sergeant Campbell a little inside information.

His Honor, the magistrate, remarked that it seemed more than passing strange, that some certain houses in the vicinity of Britain street, were never reported in their many violations of the law. The judge even asked Campbell how it was that a certain Kate Brown, resident at the corner of Britain and Pitt streets, was never reported for a violation of the liquor law. The magistrate went even further and asserted that this particular woman was under "police protection" and invited Sergeant Campbell to hand him in the names of any policemen who were in the habit of visiting that domicile.

His Honor claimed that he was in the receipt of a letter from a resident of that locality. Said letter contained some very damaging information, and further the missive stated that a policeman of the St. John force was seen entering the house kept by the woman in question. The magistrate particularly impressed upon Campbell the necessity of reporting any such misdemeanors by the police of St. John. Of course it was not even hinted that Campbell himself would be guilty of such a transgression of duty. He is supposed to be the model policeman.

In New York and other cities a crusade against vice has been inaugurated. The citizens of St. John were not aware that in our own quiet and peaceful city, certain houses presided over by women of doubtful reputation, were in the words of Police Magistrate Ritchie, "under police protection."

Yet such is the case. Many irreproachable citizens and tax-payers living in the South End know that it is a common occurrence to see policemen in plain clothes entering the precincts occupied by these females and making a stay that seemed to such citizens as if the city was paying pretty dearly for the services of such policemen when they could thus afford to waste their time. This remark does not refer to any special one "cop" but could be applied to a half a dozen of our present forces.

Why the Magistrate should select Campbell as the man to report the other policemen seems a mystery to the uneducated public. It may be because Campbell is never derelict in his duties, or, perhaps, it is possible that Campbell knows more about this matter than the public imagines. Anyway, there is one thing sure, some of the policemen are in bad odor up around the police court at present, and the coldness of the court room is not the only frigid article in that vicinity.

PROGRESS referred, some time ago, to the squabbles and internal troubles of that family on King street East. It was remarked at that writing, that they were not a happy family. Facts, have since proven that PROGRESS was right in the statement then made.

The statement made by the magistrate in the court on Monday morning came like a bombshell to "the lower five" on the outside of the rails. Some of the policemen were astonished too, but not in the same sense as the spectators. Some of the brass-button brigade knew very well that they were guilty, others were waiting patiently to hear the names of their brother-officers who were thus so remiss in their functions as guardians of the peace.

The word police—protection in itself, means more than is applied in this case. It means the bringing into our city the corrupt ways and practices of the New York police force. It means that some of our policemen—are receiving pay from the city under false pretenses, it means that policemen instead of patrolling their

beats infest the haunts of these abandoned women. In accepting money from these people the policemen of St. John are laying themselves open to a grave charge, and, if such a charge was once laid against them through the proper channel, they would find themselves placed in the dock as criminals, rather than testifying to the law-breaking qualities of citizens who are less culpable than they are.

A short time since, the police had a petition presented to the Common Council praying for an increase in their wages. According to Magistrate Ritchie, they are not worth the stipend they already receive. In fact, instead of getting a new overcoat, some members of the police force should lose the coat, which now covers a multitude of sins.

Leaving all comment aside. The magistrates statement is a sweeping charge against the police force. If "police protection" is in vogue in St. John we are in a sorry plight. The policemen have it in their power to disapprove the remarks made by His Honor. If they fail to do this they must and should consider themselves peace-breakers, instead of peace-makers. In the meantime the police awaits with interest the sequel of the Police Magistrate—Fate Brown—Sergeant Campbell episode.

In this happy season of Yuletide the whole world rejoices, but it is less than probable that there will be any festivities in that King street east establishment—hardly in this century. If the "police protection" charge is true some of the policemen do not need an increase of pay; why should they when they can afford to drive fast horses, build houses, etc., from out of their present monthly earnings?

Happy on the Stage.

There is more than musical ability in the make up of Gwynn Miles, as those who attended Tuesday night's concert will agree. There is a streak of humor in the well known vocalist, and quite a large one too. The Opera House was very cold on the evening mentioned, as it has been a number of times lately, and just as the singer came out to render a classical selection, a strong draught blew from the wings on the stage and could be felt in the audience, causing a few of the nearer ones to draw their wraps closer about them. Mr. Miles perceiving this and no doubt feeling the breeze himself, turned his head slowly around and upward, to see whence it came, then bringing his face back to the stage front he gently satted his neck, giving the audience at the same time one of his genial and irresistibly funny smiles. He almost said, he certainly acted, and to perfection the slang word of the day! First a smile went all around the room and then a thunderous applause and the witty little singer was made more popular than ever.

Give It His Personal Attention.

The Honorable Minister of Railways when last in the city found that there were a great many people who wished to interview him upon matters interesting to themselves personally as well as to the constituency. It was a very difficult matter indeed for him to obtain an hour to himself because of the demands upon his time for a hearing. There were many matters in connection with the Intercolonial that called for his attention and one of them at least was the erection of a new station at Torryburn. At the present time there is no telegraphic station between Coldbrook and Rothesay, and the winter port business has made it at times imperative that this should be remedied at the earliest possible moment. A very long and new siding has been put in at Torryburn and the necessity of a telegraphic station at that place has been impressed upon the management of the road. All the trainmen, however, agree in saying that there is a very heavy grade at this point and the locating of a new station where the siding is now and has been for many years would not be in the interests of the railway. So when Mr. Blair got ready to leave St. John he did not go to the central station but took

a coach to Coldbrook and, evidently with the idea of enquiring closely into the different statements that had been made to him, boarded the engine and got his information first hand from the driver. He rode to Torryburn getting off there and took his own time in inspecting the different sites that no doubt had been recommended to him. This is the explanation of a somewhat curious story that has been going the rounds to the effect that the minister left the city by this route in order to get away quietly. But it is sufficient at any rate to say that the demands of the department over which he presides are at all times uppermost in his mind and that such a trifling matter, comparatively speaking, as a station at Torryburn receives the same careful attention as the larger projects do.

SHE WANTED AN EXCHANGE.

A Crockery Store Man Who Discovered Who Was Lifting the Goods.

The Christmas season to many a family proves a difficult problem to solve, especially in the matter of a choice of a gift to a son, or a daughter or some loved one. To the newspaper man this particular season has its gloomy side, because he generally knows what to choose as a Christmas box. There is one person at least that has found nerve as good as cash any day.

The person referred to resides in the North End and is well known in social circles in that part of the city. Just a week ago a certain member of this family visited a North End crockery store and after pricing several articles, departed without having made a purchase. Shortly after the lady's departure the proprietor of the store missed a china toy, not very expensive, but odd, because there happened to be but three of the kind in the shop. None of the clerks had sold the article and the proprietor of the establishment concluded at once that the toy had been stolen. On Monday morning the proprietor got a severe nervous shock when a little girl entered the store and handed him a parcel with the remark that "mamma" wanted it changed for a cup and saucer."

When the parcel was opened and the stolen toy revealed, the proprietor sent back word to the child's mama to come herself and select a cup and saucer.

It is needless to say, the woman has not as yet complied with the crockery man's request, and furthermore, she is not likely to call either to claim the toy or make the exchange.

Harrington Turned Up.

PROGRESS some weeks ago referred to the mysterious disappearance of John Harrington, from his North End home on Sheriff street. Last week he surprised his relatives and friends by walking into his former home. The young fellow had been in Massachusetts, and having tired of his trip, presented himself at his old home, making a very substantial Xmas gift.

PROGRESS CONTENTS TODAY.

- PAGE 1.—This page speaks for itself. Read it.
- PAGE 2.—Green goods gang busy—They give much work to post office inspectors. Other brief miscellany.
- PAGE 3.—Musical and dramatic news of the week.
- PAGE 4.—Editorial, poetry and a lot of other timely reading.
- PAGES 5, 6, 7, and 8.—Social happenings throughout the city and from all over the maritime provinces.
- PAGE 9.—Plenty of gold in Noize—An expert points out the cause of failures there. Story of a white slave—The original of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" speaks of his life.
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KING'S COUNTY RECOUNT.

Facts Brought Out Showing That the Deputy Returning Officers Did Not Know Their Duty.

The Kings county recount which is to be resumed this morning at Hampton, has assumed a phase that is interesting as well as important. So many things have come up in connection with the recount of the ballots, that those who have been watching the operations of the court, are amazed at the different interpretations placed upon the law by the deputy returning officers. It looks almost as though quite a large number of them either did not understand the duties of their position or did not wish to understand them. Things were permitted to be done, which for example in the city of St. John, would never have been thought of. Ballots were marked in almost every possible way and now because the friends of Col. Domville or Mr. Fowler did not object to them at the time, the judge who is recounting the ballots says that he has nothing whatever to do with those that were not objected to on the polling day. There is no doubt that Judge Wedderburn thinks he is perfectly right in his decision and all right thinking people are contented to leave it to his judgment. Still there is no use in denying the fact that the friends of Col. Domville and of the administration are very much annoyed at the turn events have taken in Kings county, because there was undoubtedly methods used which did not conform with the law. The paper that was sent from Ottawa and upon which the ballots were to be printed was only used in part and the evidence that very many of the ballots were printed upon other paper than that sent by the clerk of the court in chancery is indisputable. For example the following list taken from the returns from the recount officer, Judge Wedderburn, speaks for itself. PROGRESS takes it from the Sun report which surely will not do Mr. Fowler an injustice.

Non-residents, A to G—One Domville ballot reserved, and one taken from the Fowler envelope, left the status; Domville 47; Fowler, 40. Not one ballot showed a water mark.

Go. 17, Sussex—One Domville ballot reserved; result, Domville, 27; Fowler, 28. Not one water marked.

Go. 7, Rothesay—No change; Domville, 145; Fowler, 63. Twelve water marked ballots were cast for Domville and four for Fowler.

No. 4, Kars, showed the greatest care in the order and neatness with which the returns were made, and the marks on the ballots were creditable throughout. No change was possible; Domville, 36; Fowler, 69. One of the former and three of the latter water marked.

No. 18, Sussex, A to F, produced no change; Domville, 93; Fowler, 98. This poll fared better in the way of the water mark, 45 of those cast for Domville and 55 for Fowler having the talismanic sign.

No. 12, Havelock, A. to K. passed without alteration, although only 5 of Domville's and 13 of Fowler's ballots showed the water line; Domville, 77; Fowler, 140.

No. 2, Cardwell, also passed scatheless; Domville, 128 (water marked, 25); Fowler, 187 (water marked, 22.)

No. 1, Hampton, A to K, had no water marked supplies, and the count stands; Domville, 128; Fowler, 95.

In the corresponding booth, L to Y Domville stands 94, with 89 water marks; Fowler, 128, with 61 water marks.

No. 5, Upham, made no change; Domville, 95 (52 water marks); Fowler, 126 (67 water marks).

The final poll was No. 3, Waterford, which gave Domville 97 and Fowler 112, with 57 and 56 water marks respectively.

To give some idea of how the ballots were marked it may be stated that one of them at least which came out had a cross opposite Col. Domville's name and through that cross were perhaps eight or ten parallel lines. Opposite the name of Mr. Fowler there was also a cross. The deputy returning officer allowed that ballot. Comment seems unnecessary and yet, because the representative of Col. Domville in that polling booth did not object to the ballot, the officer of the recount now says that he has nothing to

do with it.

This may be the law but it does not seem to be a law that can prevent fraud and illegal practices at elections. Another ballot was marked for Fowler and the initials of the man who voted were placed over the cross and underneath the figure 5 with a dollar mark beside it. That ballot was allowed. Perhaps, however the most remarkable thing in connection with the water line ballots and those printed upon other paper was the imperfect letter on the ballots not printed on the official paper, and the clearly defined letter on those printed on the water line paper. This would seem to show either that the ballots were printed in different offices, or that there had been two sets of ballots printed. In one district the returning officer did not initial any of the ballots, and in another district it seems as though a dozen had been initialing the ballots.

The hand writing of the returning officer was rather of a cramped nature and yet the initials on the ballots was in a flowing hand which showed that another person had certainly written it. This is perhaps the first time, under the new law, that any rigid investigation in the marking of ballots has taken place, and it will be for the interests of justice that it should be as thorough as possible. The friends of the government do not want any favors at the hands of the opposition.

The Returning Soldiers.

By the time PROGRESS is before the public, it will no doubt have been decided whether Colonel Otter and his men are to come directly to St. John. Should they do so, and should they come as the steamship people think on the eve of, or perhaps on Christmas day, what a novel Christmas, old St. John will have! Snow clad streets windows be decked with bunting, floating flags, smiling faces, cheering throats, and voices echoing everywhere a Christmas wish, and a Canadian welcome. Every heart will be overflowing with Yule-tide cheer and pure and unrestrained patriotism. What a living picture for the returning lads, as they tramp through the snow dressed in the khaki uniforms that have felt the heat of battle and the scorch of Africa's sun. Christmas always has been kept in a truly Christmas fashion in our dear old Loyalist town. Homes are bright and happy, parents and children, friends and relatives are drawn nearer together by the expressions of love and Yule-tide cheer, and the hearts of all beat an echo to the angels' "goodwill" song. What a day on which to receive our soldier boys! What a happy blending of national love and Christmas sentiment there will be! Toured, feted, and honored in the motherland, how it will fill their hearts with pride to receive such a royal Christmas welcome as we will surely give them, in their own Canadian home.

He Got Seventy Cents.

There's an old saying that when "some people fall out, honest people get their dues." The saying might fit many men although it is generally applied to those who follow the "horse swapping" business. It might be applied to many classes of tradesmen, and is sometimes spoken of when lawyers start to wrangle with each other. However it would not be amiss to speak of them as the somebody's who fall out. The police magistrate was engaged last week in dealing out judgment in a suit brought by one of the city constables against a west side lawyer who failed to pay up for little service rendered by the constable. The amount sued for was in the vicinity of \$3 and the constable who came out on top got seventy cents on account for the disciple of Blackstone.

Vacation Excursions.

The Intercolonial railway has made arrangements for Christmas and New Years vacation excursion return tickets to teachers and scholars returning to their homes. These tickets will be issued from the 8th to the 31st of December, good to return until January 31st, at first class one way fare between stations on its system, on presentation of standard form railway certificate.