

STARTLING STORY.

St. Stephen Man, Brother-in-law of a Well Known Barrister.

DRUGGED, ROBBED AND NEARLY KILLED.

By Thugs at Dedham, Mass.

STILL UNCONSCIOUS AND UNABLE TO TELL OF HIS MISFORTUNE.

Joseph McElroy, of St. Stephen, N.B., was found Tuesday night last near the tracks of the New Haven railroad at Dedham Mass., insensible and it transpires that he had been drugged and stabbed and then probably placed on the track with the object of concealing a murder.

McElroy is about 50 years of age, married and has two children. He left home last Saturday to go to Littleton Mass., to undergo an operation for cancer. He had a little money with him.

His people learned yesterday that something had befallen him, though not the whole facts and his sister, who is the wife of S. Nason, dentist, left for Dedham last night to be with her brother. Mr. M. McMonagle, the well known barrister of St. Stephen, is also a brother-in-law of McElroy.

The Boston Herald of yesterday says of the strange case:

When Constable Fred Fisher obeyed a summons Tuesday to go to Greenlodge, Westwood, to take charge of a man who had been picked up by the side of the tracks of the New Haven road and carried into the station, he little thought he was starting on the trail of a case that might well take the detective ability of a Sherlock Holmes. Such, however, seems to be the outcome.

All the time McElroy was in court he showed he was suffering, and to the observer seemingly from the effects of knock out drops or some other stupefying drug. He was taken to the county jail, on Village avenue, Dedham, in a carriage.

Fisher went to the little station. Here he found a man, weak, dazed, unable to care for himself, or able to explain anything concerning himself that seemed reasonable. His speech was incoherent, broken, hard to understand. Fisher thought the man ill and sent to Dedham for a physician, who pronounced the man as apparently suffering from the effects of too much drink. Fisher took the man in custody and lodged him in the lockup. Yesterday morning he brought him before the district court in Dedham on a charge of being a vagrant.

From the first it was plain to see that the man could not comprehend what was going on about him. He sat in his chair and gazed with fixed eyes at whatever object was in the line of his vision. By direction of the court a plea of not guilty was entered in his case.

Constable Fisher told all he had been able to discover, which was little, owing to his inability to make McElroy understand, or, if understanding, because of inability to tell what he apparently tried at times to.

Judge Grover thought the case most peculiar, and one that should be thoroughly investigated. To give Probation officer Schulz, Constable Fisher and others a chance to probe the mysteries, he continued the case until next Monday morning. He also directed that the man have medical treatment.

Here a startling discovery was made by the official of that institution. His clothing was searched. A Pullman car check from Calais (Me.), to Boston, a check for baggage in Boston, a dime and silk handkerchief were found. But no clue was to his name.

He was then taken to the bathroom. Then it was found the man had been the victim of foul play, a murderous attack. The clothing was neat, evidently recently purchased, the underclothing of good material. His stockings were woolen, knitted by hand, and his shoes were marked "H. T. Humphrey." His shirt, vest and coat were bloodsoaked.

Two deep wounds were disclosed, one under the right shoulder blade, and the other on the right forearm. There was also a cut or bruise in the palm of one of his hands.

The wounded man was cared for and then put to bed. He immediately dropped into a deep slumber, which lasted until 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon. At this hour Dr. Francis L. Babcock, the jail

physician, aroused him for an examination of his injuries. Dr. Babcock found McElroy's right shoulder blade broken, the result of either a fall or a blow. The wound at the back was probed to a depth of six inches. A second cut was also found on the arm. The physician expressed his opinion that the wound in the back was made by a stiletto.

While the doctor was working over him McElroy kept asking for a brother-in-law, whom he called "Henry Meredith."

McElroy is a man above 50 years of age, and weighs fully 150 pounds. His face is smooth shaven. His hair and eyes are dark.

It is thought McElroy came from Calais (Me.), to Boston; that he had a good supply of money with him; that somewhere he fell into bad company—the stiletto wound would seemingly indicate the North end—and was robbed and assaulted that his assailants, fearing serious results from their acts, took him by train or team to Greenlodge and left him at or on the railroad track, in hope he would be crushed to death by the next train. It is also believed that before he was taken to Greenlodge he was dosed with some poison that robbed him of his senses and which still ties his tongue, so that he cannot tell a connected story.

Dr. Babcock and the jail officials give it as their opinion that McElroy will not be able to tell the story of the assault upon him for two days.

[The injured man is an uncle of Miss Millie McMonagle, a student last year at the University of N. B.]

SEEKING A DIVORCE.

Nephew of Sir Charles Tupper Charges Wife With Infidelity.

Brooklyn, N. Y. March 20.—Dr. Charles O. Tupper, a nephew of the former Canadian premier, Sir Charles Tupper, and his wife Bessie were married in Yarmouth, N. S. in 1886. She was a member of a prominent family.

After living in Yarmouth and Amherst and in New Brunswick several years, they came to Brooklyn, where the doctor established a lucrative practice.

Mrs. Tupper refused to live here. She recently applied for a legal separation. When a motion was made for alimony and counsel fee, the husband put in a counter suit for absolute divorce, on the ground of adultery.

The co-respondents are named. Doctor Tupper alleges one case of misconduct in Montreal last September with William Dodds, who made his wife valuable presents of jewels.

The other specified case, it is alleged, occurred only a week ago, when, it is alleged, Mrs. Tupper was at a hotel in Boston, with Irving Lovitt, of Yarmouth, registered as M. E. Farnsworth and wife, Yarmouth, (N. S.)

According to the affidavit, it is also alleged Mrs. Tupper and a Mrs. Millen, while living in Yarmouth, made a trip to Boston with two men.

The affidavit from David Chapman, of Amherst, N. S., states that Dr. James Gore, who married a niece of Mrs. Tupper, declared Mrs. Tupper is now living somewhere in Nova Scotia, and the husband demanded the address of his wife be disclosed by the other side. Justice Maddox so ordered.

Doctor Tupper described the struggles of a young physician in making a name and fame for himself. He told of his struggle against pulmonary trouble, due to the rigorous climate of Nova Scotia, and of his final decision to come to the States. His wife refused to come with him, he says, until he could "furnish her with a carriage."

Potted Plants.

The reason some people "never have any luck with plants" is sometimes because the drainage is defective. A plant will not live in a heavy, sour, soggy soil, such as fills a pot when the drainage is not complete. This is especially true of palms, to which the stagnant moisture is sure death, but it holds true of any pot grown plant.

Sand Dunes In Gascony.

One of the most interesting and remarkable of the many regions for the observation of sand dunes lies between Bordeaux and Bayonne, in Gascony. The sea here throws every year upon the beach, along a line of 100 miles in length, some 5,000,000 cubic yards of sand.

The prevailing westerly winds continue picking up the surface particles from the westward slope, whirl them over to the inward slope, where they are again deposited, and the entire ridge by this means alone moves gradually inward. In the course of years there has thus been formed a complex system of dunes, all approximately parallel with the coast and with one another and of all altitudes up to 250 feet.

These are marching steadily inward at a rate of from three to six feet a year, whole villages having sometimes been torn down to prevent burial and rebuilt at a distance.

A lover, jilted because he lost his employment, retaliated by suing his ex-sweetheart in the Clerkenwell County Court, England, for £3 18s. lent to her. The girl's mother, Mrs. Pullen, declared it was a gift, but the young man, James Nicholas, produced a letter suggesting a meeting "so that we can come to a proper understanding about the money I owe you," and got a verdict.

Green—Walters has been looking pretty sad since his daughter got married, hasn't he? Correll—Yes; you see, he had no sooner got his daughter off his hands than he found he would have to put her husband on his feet.

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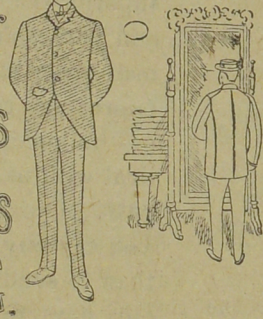
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