

that but one other course remained and, suiting the action to the word, he opened the door of the room and took a horse-whip from his coat pocket, and threateningly raised it. As quick as a flash Gossip caught the whip by the middle and as quickly put the other hand in the breast of his coat—an act which gave Doyle the impression that his opponent had a pistol. Assuming an attitude of defiance, Doyle exclaimed; “fire and be — to you.” The reply of Gossip was: “no! I’ll not fire,” and then sought to appease Doyle by saying that if he would only tell him what he really wanted he would try to meet his wishes in every particular. He then let go his hold of the whip.

Doyle, becoming calmer, said that all he required was the name of the author of the abusive communication. He entertained no personal ill-feeling towards the publisher, but he had been grossly vilified in his paper, and he was determined to have adequate satisfaction. Gossip, impressed by Doyle’s intense earnestness, promised to inform “Plain Dealer” of the unpleasantness that had taken place and, at the same time, he gave the assurance that an answer would be forthcoming in the morning. The parties then separated, Doyle, with his whip carefully stowed away in his pocket, going into the House of Assembly, and Gossip betaking himself to his office to consider the next step. Matters, however, moved too slow for Doyle, and as a last resort to avenge his injured honor—for he felt most keenly the contemptible insinuations flung at him—he called Gossip “out,” but the latter:

Hold in the council board,
But cautious in the field, he shunn’d the sword.

You will, no doubt, be interested in an extract from “Plain Dealer’s” letter: “During the sitting of the legislature its proceedings generally attract my first attention, and I cannot express my alarm and indignation which the debates on the despatches excited in my bosom. I am a moderate man, sir, and though the northern blasts may not blow as coldly upon