

PAY FOR THE LOST LETTERS.

Registered Letter Bill Read a Second Time.

Gowganda Negotiating With Ontario For Postoffice.

C.P.R. Stock Issue—Crossing Law For New Railways.

Ottawa, Feb. 9.—The progressive policy that has marked the administration of the Post Office Department under Hon. Rodolphe Lemieux is again reflected in the provisions of the bill read a second time to-day, under which compensation, not exceeding \$25 in amount, will be paid for registered letters or parcels lost in transit from one point in Canada to another. Heretofore postage on domestic mail, registered letters or parcels has insured special precautions, but no compensation was paid in case of loss, though there was such a provision covering letters and parcels sent abroad or coming from other countries.

The bill was favorably received by the House and passed through the committee stage.

In moving the second reading the Postmaster-General stated that in 1906-7 the number of Canadian registered letters lost was 100, and in 1907-8, 208. The amount required to make compensation, therefore, would not be large, and would, to some extent, be minimized by the greater care which would be exercised by officials of the Post Office to trace lost letters under the new regulation, and also by the fact that more people would register their letters in the knowledge that compensation would be paid.

In reply to a suggestion by Mr. Crothers that the amount of the compensation should not be limited to \$25, in case of letters or parcels of greater value, Mr. Lemieux announced that he had under consideration a plan of Government insurance on the part of the Post Office Department which would enable larger amounts to be paid. As it is, the bill provides that the sender or addressee of a lost registered letter or parcel under the value of \$25 will only be compensated to the extent of the proven value.

Mr. Henderson (Halton) thought the Postmaster-General should reduce the drop letter rate in rural districts to half a cent, and offered an amendment to that effect.

Mr. Lemieux suggested, however, that before making any further reduction it would be wise to wait a little to see what effect the regulation put into force last year would have on the revenues, and Mr. Henderson, recognizing the wisdom of the suggestion, withdrew his amendment.

Mr. W. F. Maclean, in a plea for a postal service at Gowganda, the Postmaster-General explained that he was in negotiation with the Ontario Government with a view to obtaining a site for a Post Office at Gowganda. He had been informed that there was some objection to granting a lot where any building could be erected until a few weeks had elapsed, and he hoped that Mr. Maclean would use his influence with his Ontario friends to put no obstacles in the way of the Post Office Department.

C. P. R. STOCK ISSUE.

Mr. W. F. Maclean is not yet satisfied that the Government has pursued the proper course in authorizing by order in Council the increase of C. P. R. capital stock. To-night he seized the opportunity presented by a motion to go into supply to reopen the subject, and in support of his claim that Parliament should have control of such matters, referred to what happened in 1902, when a similar application by the C. P. R. was discussed. He quoted from Hansard to show that the then Minister of Justice took the view that it was necessary to pass an act to authorize the additional capital stock, and that certain conditions should be applied to the specific purposes for which it was asked, and that the new stock should not be sold for less than par. He also called attention to a promise made by the then Minister of the Interior, that a reference would be made to the courts to ascertain the actual cost of the C. P. R., and asked whether that promise had ever been fulfilled.

Hon. Mr. Graham did not think an act was necessary, but promised to look into the matter. As for the conditions imposed in 1902, he thought they were covered in the order in Council passed in the present case.

Dr. Stuckey supported Mr. Maclean's contention that Parliament should have some control over the increase of capital stock.

CROSSINGS LAW FOR NEW RAILWAYS.

An important point relating to the impending legislation for the protection of the public in respect to level crossings was raised by Mr. Lennox, who pointed out that there were numerous bills on the order paper applying for the incorporation of new railway companies. He took the view that it would be unwise to grant any new charters until the Government had laid down their policy with regard to level crossings.

Hon. Mr. Graham assured the House that any plan which the Government might devise in relation to level crossings would apply to every railway company incorporated during the present session, which Mr. Lennox regarded as satisfactory.

DEEPENING WELLAND CANAL.

When the House went into supply on the estimates on capital account for 1909 totalling \$1,720,300, Dr. Sproule sought to draw from the Minister some specific statement of the Government's policy as to the deepening of the Welland Canal and the construction of the Georgian Bay Canal.

Hon. Mr. Graham said that, pending the report of the survey now being made to determine the probable cost of deepening the Welland Canal, he was not in a position to state just what the Government would do. That report would be completed this year, and would show what it would cost either to enlarge the present canal or rebuild it in part.

Mr. Graham believed that either an enlarged Welland Canal or a Georgian Bay Canal or both would be absolutely necessary in the course of a few years. He believed that the enlargement of the Welland Canal, as suggested, would enable Canada to retain the trade for the St. Lawrence route, notwithstanding the expenditure of one hundred million dollars now being made by the State of New York to deepen the Erie Canal. Experts assured him that rates on the

Welland Canal when deepened would compare favorably with any rate that the Erie Canal could give on through traffic.

TIME FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

The Opposition are not all for economy. Col. Sam Hughes entered a strong protest against the cutting down of expenditures on public works, claiming that in times of depression the Government should spend more money on public works instead of less, and so give employment when it was most needed.

Mr. Graham's retort was apt. "That is not the view of the member for North Toronto," he suggested. The Government did not wish to spend any more money than was necessary, and they believed that the appropriations asked would be sufficient.

Fair progress was made with the estimates, a number of miscellaneous items being passed.

Watch the Skin for Bad Blood

It Comes to the Surface in the Form of Pimples, Boils, Rashes and Humors.

Where the blood is weak and depraved the system lacks staying power and force. Frightful ulcers and unsightly blotches break out, the skin becomes yellow and muddy, the eyes lack lustre. Reader, does your blood need attention? If so, get Dr. Hamilton's Pills at once; they filter out all poisons, eliminate disease-making germs, nourish and revitalize every drop of blood in the body.

No medicine exerts such a marvellous influence for good as Dr. Hamilton's Pills; they clear the complexion; make it exquisitely beautiful; they cure pimples, rashes and skin troubles of every kind. Read the following carefully:

No Appetite—Bad Color—General Debility.

"I was run down," writes Mr. Albert E. Dickson, of Fairhaven P. D. "My color was dull and unhealthy, appetite was poor, and I constantly suffered from rheumatism. I found it hard to sleep, and felt worn out and tired all the time. Dr. Hamilton's Pills made an instant change. I grew stronger, my blood was restored, rheumatism vanished. To-day I am vigorous, cheery and healthy in every respect."

You will never realize what good health means until you feel the quickening, vitalizing effect of Dr. Hamilton's Pills. Every tired, overstrained, nervous man and woman should use this grand tonic regularly. Life will then be full of happiness and buoyant health. All dealers sell Dr. Hamilton's Pills, 25c per box, or five boxes for \$1. By mail if price is forwarded to N. C. Polson & Co., Hartford, Conn., U. S. A., and Kingston, Ont.

DR. HUNTER.

Veteran Methodist Minister Celebrates 75th Birthday.

Rev. Dr. W. J. Hunter, who was pastor of Wesley Church in the 80's and again two or three years ago when he filled out the unexpired term of Rev. T. E. Egerton Shore, celebrated the 75th anniversary of his birth on Saturday last. Dr. Hunter, is now pastor of McLeod Street Methodist Church, Ottawa.

Rev. Dr. Hunter is a Canadian, but of Irish parentage. He was born at Phillipsburg, Que., on February 6th, 1834. At the age of nine he removed with his father's family to Ontario, settling in the county of York. He was educated at the public schools, and at Victoria College, and was called to the ministry in 1856, when he was 22 years of age. Four years later he was ordained and, on July 9th of the same year, 1860, was married to Mary Jane, daughter of the late Isaac Robinson.

During the 53 years of his service Dr. Hunter has occupied the following churches: Newmarket, and Aurora, Bradford, Dundas, Watford, including Burlington and seven other preaching places; Clinton; London; Toronto West, including Richmond and Queen street churches; Centenary and Union Tabernacle, Hamilton; Ottawa, Dominion Church; Hamilton, Wesley Church; St. Catharines, St. Paul Street Church; Toronto, Carlton Street Church; Montreal, St. James' Church, and Coaticook, Que., etc. Although he has been superannuated since 1900, he has not been out of a pulpit during that time more than 15 to 20 Sabbaths.

FINED FOR SPITTING

Hundred and Fifty Arrests Made in the City of New York.

New York, Feb. 9.—A campaign against the expectorating nuisance was instituted in this city to-day by the health department. Every subway and elevated station in the city was patrolled to-day by sanitary officers, and more than 150 arrests were made of men caught in the act of spitting on the platforms.

Magistrates in the various courts held their hands full in dealing with the prisoners, nearly all of whom were fined, usually a dollar each, and severely reprimanded as well. The authorities said the crusade would continue indefinitely.

PAIN CURED LIKE LIGHTNING.

Explains the ease to pain that comes when Nerviline is applied. Not a twinge of neuralgia or rheumatism, not a stiff limb or lame back, not a bruise or ache that Nerviline doesn't cure right quick. Nerve to take, more penetrating because five times stronger than any other liniment. Nerviline is, without exception, the great family remedy of to-day. Internally and externally it eats up pain like magic, cures all minor ills as well as the doctor. Pleasant to the taste, harmless as a liniment, you ought to get "Nerviline" and prove its worth. Sold everywhere in 25c bottles.

IMPRISONED IN MINE.

Hundred and Twenty-Five Men in Russian Pit.

Yuzovka, Russia, Feb. 9.—An explosion occurred in the Catherine mine here to-day. One hundred and twenty-five miners are imprisoned in the mine. An engineer and three workmen who attempted to rescue the victims have been killed.

Revolutionists at Resht, Persia, have murdered the Governor of the province and a number of administrative officials.

New York Surgeon Tells Graphic Story of the Dying Hours of Abraham Lincoln

Dr. Charles A. Leale, Who Attended Martyred President After John Wilkes Booth Shot Him Down, One of Two Survivors of Those at Death Bed.

(New York Herald.)

Of that historic group of grief-stricken watchers who stood silently waiting about the death-bed of Abraham Lincoln when the spirit of the great emancipator took its flight in the morning of April 15, 1865, only two are living to-day to take part in the exercises commemorating the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the martyr president.

In that sad-faced group, made familiar by the painter's and the engraver's art, were a score or more of persons—members of the dying president's personal and official families, army officers and medical men. The sole survivors now, after the lapse of more than forty years, are Robert T. Lincoln, son of the president, and Dr. Charles A. Leale, a physician of this city, living at 604 Madison avenue. The late John Hay was a member of that group, too. He was then the private secretary of the president. Later he became one of his biographers, and later still the gifted Cabinet Premier whose name has been affixed to some of the most important treaties and State documents in his country's history. The death of John Hay reduced the number of survivors to the two named.

On that fateful night in Ford's Theatre, when comedy ceased its mimicry on the stage while tragedy wrought out its treacherous crime in the flag-draped presidential box, it was the hand of Dr. Leale that first brought to the aid of the stricken president the touch of surgery. It was due largely to Dr. Leale's prompt attention that Abraham Lincoln did not expire immediately and that the death of the president's life for a period of nine hours permitted him to die surrounded by family and friends and enabled the national Government to adjust itself somewhat to the situation caused by the tragedy.

Dr. Leale, when he made his first examination, said to those others who had crowded in to hear tidings of the chief whom they loved: "The hurt is mortal. He cannot recover." The grim diagnosis, destined to be verified before the next morning, was telegraphed and carried by the morning papers. Dr. Leale's prompt attention that Abraham Lincoln did not expire immediately and that the death of the president's life for a period of nine hours permitted him to die surrounded by family and friends and enabled the national Government to adjust itself somewhat to the situation caused by the tragedy.

Dr. Leale directed the removal of the wounded president, when he was carried across the street and laid upon a bed on the second floor of a stranger's house. The young surgeon stood to his post throughout the nine hours of suspense by the deathbed and when the fatal hour had come held gently in his grasp the limp right hand of the dying president, his forefinger pressed to the flickering pulse until at last it ceased to beat.

On meeting Dr. Leale for the first time a stranger's first sensation is one of surprise at his apparent youthfulness. When a Herald reporter expressed that feeling of surprise after having visited Dr. Leale at his home, the doctor laughed. "Yes," he said, "most persons do not know me personally, but who have only heard that it was I who held the hand of the dying Lincoln, expect that they first meet me to see a sort of 'Methuselah'."

The fact is that Dr. Leale is only 66 years old and looks younger. When he sat in Ford's Theatre watching the performance of "Our American Cousin" the night of April 14, 1865, and heard the crack of John Wilkes Booth's pistol, the doctor was an athletic young man of 23. But young as he was, he had been detailed in charge of the commission officers of the Army Hospital at Washington, D. C., a post which he held until the end of the war, after having served his term as a medical cadet and earned his commission as a surgeon in the United States Army.

On the night of the assassination, Dr. Leale had gone to the theatre less for the purpose of seeing the play than in the hope of obtaining a special view of President Lincoln. Dr. Leale had laid aside his uniform and attired himself in citizen's garb for the occasion. Prompted by the wish to watch the president at close range, he had secured a ticket in a box close enough to the presidential box to permit him to command a view of its distinguished occupants.

HEARD CRACK OF PISTOL.

At the moment when Booth levelled his weapon and fired at the back of the President's head it chanced that Dr. Leale's eyes were turned toward the stage and he did not see the stricken man fall forward from the rocking chair in which he was seated. But he had heard the shot, and a moment later he heard the agonized cry of Mrs. Lincoln for help.

Realizing that the President had been injured, if not killed, Dr. Leale forced his way through the excited throng and into the flag-draped box, out of which Booth only a moment before had leaped to the stage, flourishing a dagger and pausing only for his melodramatic cry of "Sic semper tyrannis!"

When the surgeon reached the side of Mrs. Lincoln he found her supporting the head of the dying man. He relieved her of that task and at once took charge of the situation, at Mrs. Lincoln's request. Placing his patient prone upon his back on the floor of the box, he began a careful examination and then removed the clot from the bullet wound in the back of Mr. Lincoln's head, relieving thus the pressure on the brain.

One of the first to reach the Presidential box from the stage was Laura Keane, the actress, who had been playing a star part in the comedy, "Our American Cousin." She begged that she might be permitted to pillow the head of the wounded President upon her lap. The surgeon demurred at first lest the slightest movement might hasten death, but, after having made a more thorough examination of the wound, he assisted Miss Keane, and as she sat upon the floor, the President's head was gently lifted in such a way as to cause no shock and was raised to the level of his eyes. There until tender hands carried the patient across Tenth street to the house opposite the theatre, which by the merest chance was destined to become the setting for the final scene in a great career.

"My first thought," said Dr. Leale, "was to get the President to some place of safety. All of us thought there was a plot to blow up the theatre, and we felt that the mine might be fired at any moment. One of the first things I said after having made a superficial examination was, 'His wound is mortal; he cannot recover.' Two other physicians, Dr. Taft and Dr. H. E. A. King, had come to

my assistance, and the President was carried across the street. Several army officers and soldiers with drawn swords went in advance of us and cleared our way. The President was carried up to the second floor and placed on a bed. On account of his great stature, for he was six feet four inches tall, Mr. Lincoln was laid on the bed diagonally.

"On our way over I was twice obliged to relieve the pressure on the patient's brain by again removing the clot. Mr. Lincoln was shot at half-past ten o'clock and lived until twenty minutes past seven o'clock the next morning. Before his death the Cabinet officers had time to assemble, and he died with his family at his bedside. As his spirit passed away I was holding his right hand."

As Dr. Leale said this he took the hand of the writer in a firm but gentle grasp and illustrated how he had held his index finger on the pulse of the radial artery until it had ceased to beat.

Much that had occurred during those nine hours while the President's life was slowly ebbing Dr. Leale holds of too sacred memory to repeat even now for publication. Much that he himself did during those agonizing hours he is too modest to repeat lest he be thought by some who do not know him to be indulging in personal exploitation. It was only at the urgent request of his colleagues of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion that he finally consented to read a paper at a recent memorial dinner of that organization at Delmonico's, embodying at least his recollection of the nation's tragedy.

Others have told, however, of the presence of mind, skill and efficiency with which Dr. Leale stood to his post from the first moment to the last throughout the ordeal. Amid the confusion of the emptying theatre and the ever present dread of some further calamity he coolly examined his illustrious patient and made his prognosis; he arranged for the removal to a private house without unnecessary delay; he despatched the messengers that soon brought hurrying to the deathbed the son, Robert, then a captain in the army, and Mr. Lincoln's favorite clergyman also.

As one of the surgeons who had been in attendance, Dr. Leale had a prominent place during the funeral services in the White House and at the Capitol, standing close to the head of the casket while the body of the President lay in state. In the funeral procession he rode in the carriage immediately preceding the catafalque, attired, of course, in his uniform as a surgeon of the army. He has never worn that particular uniform since.

The sword which formed part of his equipment, this hilt knotted with a bow of black crape, was laid away and has never been donned since that day.

Dr. Leale keeps it in a cabinet in his home in Madison avenue among the relics of a busy life. Tenderly, almost reverently, he took it from its resting place and showed it to the writer, its scabbard somewhat tarnished by the years and its hilt, crumpled by the mourning crepe yet drooping from the hilt where he bound it on the morning when he had followed his chieftain to the tomb.

PLASTER CAST OF LINCOLN'S HAND

From another cabinet Dr. Leale took a plaster cast of the hand of Lincoln, made during the President's life. It showed a remarkable hand. Strength was written there in every line of those corded sinews and firmly set digits. "The same hand," was Dr. Leale's comment, "that split the rails in his rugged pioneer days and that inscribed later in the years of his fullness that strong, but delicate chirography in which he penned his famous public documents; the hand that wrote the Emancipation Proclamation freeing the slaves."

Laying the plaster replica carefully back in its case, the surgeon pointed out the framed picture hanging on the wall of his library—a copy of one of the well known paintings depicting the deed scene, historically accurate and copied from photographic studies of those who were present. It showed the young surgeon as he had stood during that last hour of the fateful night, close by the head of the old-fashioned bedstead on which Lincoln died.

Though of English ancestry, Dr. Leale is a native-born citizen of New York. At the age of fourteen years he began the medical studies which in 1865 yielded him from the Bellevue Medical College the degree of M. D., with the highest commendation as a specialist in heart and lung diseases by Professor F. H. Hamilton, under whose instruction he had been studying. He then served his term as a medical cadet and earned his commission as a surgeon in the United States Army.

On leaving the army Dr. Leale threw himself into the work of his profession. In March, 1866, the outbreak of Asiatic cholera took him abroad to make a special study of that scourge. From 1866 to 1877 Dr. Leale was physician in charge of the children's class at the Northwestern Dispensary of New York City, and for two years was specialist in heart and lung diseases at the Central Dispensary, also of New York.

In 1891 he was made president of St. John's Guild, and in 1892 was re-elected for a second term. He has spent much of his time during his busy life in ameliorating the condition of the poor, especially the children, and has performed many notable operations, records of which are to be found in the medical journals of his time. He has been consulted by specialists at Bellevue Hospital for the last twelve years, and is one of the Board of Managers of the New York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb.

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Bears the Signature of J. C. Watson

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BLYTHE GUILTY OF MURDER.

Jury Disregards Pleas of Insanity and Epilepsy.

Conviction of Walter Blythe, Who Killed His Wife With Poker.

Prisoner Will be Sentenced by Justice Riddell To-morrow.

Toronto, Feb. 10.—After a trial lasting the whole day the jury returned a verdict of guilty against Walter Blythe for the murder of his wife, Amelia, at Agincourt, on Jan. 4th last, by beating her to death with a poker.

When the jury returned the verdict, after less than an hour's deliberation, the learned judge said he quite agreed with it. It was a righteous verdict. He thanked them for the patient hearing and careful attention they had given to the case, and hoped they would never be called upon again to perform a similar unpleasant duty. Blythe had been sentenced to death for the murder of his wife, Amelia, at Agincourt, on Jan. 4th last, by beating her to death with a poker.

Mr. T. C. Robinette reconsidered his decision of the previous day, and defended the prisoner. He made another strong appeal for delay, producing a letter from Blythe's sister-in-law to show there had been insanity in the family. This, however, was unavailing, and Mr. Justice Riddell decided the case must proceed. Mr. G. T. Blackstock, K. C., at once heard the verdict and made another strong appeal for delay, producing a letter from Blythe's sister-in-law to show there had been insanity in the family. This, however, was unavailing, and Mr. Justice Riddell decided the case must proceed.

SUGGESTION OF INSANITY.

Only five witnesses were called by the prosecution during the morning, and they gave their evidence very briefly. Malcolm and Elizabeth Walker, who lived opposite, described how they were called in after the death of Mrs. Blythe, and said the prisoner admitted that he was responsible for the woman's injuries, having beaten her with a poker. Constable Hobbs, who was on duty at the time, said he saw Blythe at the scene of the crime, and that he was in a state of mind to do what he had done. Deputy Reeve Patterson corroborated this story.

Mr. T. C. Robinette devoted his brief cross-examination to attempting to show that the man was not acting as though he were sane. He also suggested that the beating of the woman was not the cause of her death. Medical evidence was given by Dr. H. E. Clutterbuck, who, in company with three other physicians, made the post-mortem examination. He testified how the woman had been beaten about the head and trunk, but more especially about the legs. He thought the blows could have been inflicted by the poker produced in court. From the appearance, he believed the woman had been struck hundreds of times.

To the counsel for the defence, the witness said that most of the wounds were on the legs, just below the thighs, and a very few had fallen near vital organs. Mrs. Blythe had marks on her head, but there had evidently been less strength put into these blows.

"A man who is as powerful as Blythe could have smashed the skull with that poker," said Mr. Robinette.

"Yes," was the reply. "Then you do think that he intended to kill her?"

The witness could not say. Counsel for the defence suggested that the doctors thought the wounds had been inflicted by a crazy man, but Dr. Clutterbuck said this was not the case.

SUFFERED FROM EPILEPSY.

At this point a short adjournment was made for luncheon, during which time the prisoner ate a very hearty meal, and afterwards appeared more at ease in the dock.

After Dr. Silverthorne, who made the post-mortem, had described the terrible injuries received by the woman, and the result of his examination of the prisoner, evidence for the defence was heard. This sought to prove that the prisoner was insane at the time of the crime. Dr. McManon was of the opinion that the prisoner suffered from epilepsy. He had learned from Blythe that other members of his family had died from this, also that he had met with several accidents, which caused injuries to his head. Traces could be seen of one of these that occurred about five years ago. "There is no doubt in my mind," said the doctor, "that he did not realize the seriousness of his actions at the time of the crime."

In cross-examination, the doctor admitted that epileptics usually acted on sudden impulse, and their memories were generally blank as to what had occurred. He had no doubt Blythe knew he was doing wrong in beating his wife, but he had no conception of the extent of the harm he was inflicting upon her, and certainly had no intention of killing her. Dr. Sisely, who, with the previous witness, had examined Blythe since the crime, corroborated this evidence, but admitted that he had previously made up his mind from what he saw of the injuries at the post-mortem examination. They could only be the work of a crazy man.

FAMILY HISTORY ADMITTED.

Mr. Justice Riddell interposed, saying he thought some notice should be taken of the sister-in-law's letter. Mr. Blackstock said the Crown had ever wished to be fair towards the prisoner, and he would admit the letter as evidence, and assume everything contained in it was true. Mr. R. J. Kirby, who came from Cragwood, in York-shire, England, the home of Blythe, said he knew the family. A younger brother was an idiot and one or two members of the family had died in an insane asylum.

In rebuttal the Crown called Mr. John Chisholm, C. P. E. gang foreman at Agincourt, under whom Blythe worked for over three years; Constable Hobbs, Mr. Malcolm Walker, and Mr. Wm. Davidson, his landlord, all of whom had known him for a long time and who averred they had never seen anything peculiar about Blythe or noticed any illness to cause them to think he was other than a strong, healthy man.

Dr. E. Clark, Superintendent of the Toronto Asylum for the Insane, and Dr. Bruce Smith, Inspector of Asylums, said they had examined the prisoner on two occasions and could find no trace of insanity or epilepsy about him. Mr. Robinette cross-examined both very closely, but could not shake their belief. Mr. Justice Riddell asked them to carefully consider the grave responsibility that was placed upon them, and if they had any doubt to give the prisoner the benefit of it. Both, however, were positive there was no insanity and that the prisoner acted only under the impulse of an unmanageable temper, made worse by his semi-intoxication.

ADDRESS OF COUNSELL.

Mr. Robinette made a strong appeal to the jury on Blythe's behalf, asking them if they could not find him insane to at least reduce the charge to manslaughter. The prisoner was a hard working, industrious man, and the re-

morse he had suffered since the crime, and which he would continue to suffer until the closing hours of his existence, was a very real and terrible punishment.

Mr. Blackstock, for the Crown, said that cases of this kind were the saddest the courts were called upon to deal with, but however disagreeable the duty, it was necessary in the interests of the community that the jury would find a verdict on the facts adduced. The Crown had desired to assist the man in every possible way, and for that reason it allowed the letter from the sister-in-law to be put in as though it were sworn evidence. Regarding the plea of the defence, the record of the prisoner's life since he had been indicted, it revealed only a dirty, nasty temper, often aggravated by drink. The suggestion of a temporary fit of insanity that lasted only during the period in which the crime was committed was too ridiculous to be entertained for a moment. It would be an unfortunate day for society were the idea to become prevalent that a person had only to convince a jury he was insane to secure immunity for a crime. "Still, gentlemen, if you think you can reduce the charge to manslaughter I shall be glad, but the terrible injuries inflicted on the wife are so damning that I think it impossible for you to do so," were Mr. Blackstock's closing words.

THE JUDGE'S CHARGE.

Mr. Justice Riddell took an hour to deliver his address to the jury and very carefully explained the law. The jurymen were upon their trial as loyal citizens as much as the prisoner for his crime, he said, and the result of their decision, if it were unsatisfactory, might affect the welfare of the community for three or four generations. When one person killed another, the law presumed it was murder unless proof to the contrary could be shown. On the evidence before them murder was the only possible verdict unless they were satisfied the defence had proven the prisoner insane at the time he committed the act. For every fifty years the law and the doctors had been fighting to define the point when insanity should relieve a man from the consequences of a wrongful act. It would be a dangerous doctrine and a lead to terrible consequences if a man knew he had only to plead insanity to be relieved from the responsibilities of his actions. No man had a right to steal away his brains with hard drink and then ask a jury to acquit him of the responsibility of his actions. "I made my blood run cold," said his Lordship, "when I heard the evidence. If this man had used his hands, as he had done many times before on this poor woman instead of the poker, he might have pleaded that he acted under the impulse of great provocation. But to hear of a strong muscular man getting a poker to attack a weak woman is the worst case I have ever heard of in my experience of criminal affairs. Is there any man in his senses who does not know that repeated blows on any part of the tender frame of a woman will kill her? However, you must find your verdict on the evidence. If you think it has been proved that he was insane you may so find, but if not, your plain duty is to return a verdict of murder."

