

he had tasted all the joys of home life, his apparent unconcern gave way to make place for deep emotion.

Great tears rolled down his cheeks. He threw a glance on the old furniture of the room, which brought to his mind a world of recollections, then approaching his sobbing mother, he said in a scarcely audible voice:

"Mother, do not cry, I will soon come back to you; I am not guilty, and they will acquit me."

The Chief Constable and his prisoner then rejoined the detective, the coroner, and the Poirier woman, and all left together for St. Scholastique.

While on the way, the detective tried to converse with Mrs. Poirier, but she refused to open her mouth or utter a word in answer to any question. When they arrived at the prison, the detective was firmly convinced she would never confess.

Where Mrs. Poirier was locked up in a cell, her boldness disappeared and she began to look her situation in the face.

Like most guilty persons, she yielded to the first moment of weakness and had no rest until she could confess fully.

She asked for Detective McCaskill, who came immediately to her summons.

Then the Poirier woman, without any introduction, commenced her confession:

"It is Sam Parslow who killed my husband," she said. "Six months ago he bought a revolver and told me he would shoot him. I would not consent; I was afraid of the noise. I told him, we will get arrested on the spot."

"Last week Sam sharpened a knife, saying: 'I am going to rid you of him, even if I lose my head for it.' Sunday afternoon I started to go to my father's and left Sam alone with my husband. When I came back, I saw that the shades were pulled down. I knew then that Sam had accomplished the deed."

The detective, fearing that the Poirier woman might deny her story afterwards, said:

"It is too bad to see a handsome woman like you shut up in a dark cell, I will take you to a nice room, a parlor."

She appeared satisfied and said "That's good."

Mr. McCaskill then went out and got Coroner Migneault and Chief Constable Brazeau to hide themselves behind a curtain in the private office of the judge.

When Mrs. Poirier was brought into the room, she repeated almost word for word, if not adding to it, her previous statement, this time in the hearing of the two officers, who took copious notes of the interview.

After that the detective ordered the prisoner to be reinstated in her cell. She manifested her discontent at having been deceived, but apparently unaware that she had spoken before witnesses.

After this scene, Detective McCaskill sent for Sam Parslow and had him brought to the same room, where Coroner Migneault made