

Sherwood; his health always poor was at the time very bad; the mosquitoes had tortured him and he was suffering from indisposition and great debility occasioned by a severe attack of the "fever of the country." After having charged the jury he became so ill that he was obliged to retire from the Bench; before doing so he stated to Collins and his counsel that Mr. Justice Hagerman would receive the verdict if they assented; this they did and Mr. Justice Hagerman took his place. The Jury brought in a verdict of "Guilty of a libel on the Attorney General"—the clerk entered a verdict of "Guilty" on the Indictment, but Dr. Rolph, Counsel for Collins, objected and Mr. Justice Hagerman then told the Jury that if they found the defendant guilty of any part of the Indictment, they should return a general verdict of "Guilty"—which they did.

It is probable that the more experienced Sherwood would have acted differently and in such a way as not to be open to objection. Much complaint was made against Hagerman's direction and more against Sherwood's very heavy sentence of a fine of £50, imprisonment for one year and to find sureties for good behaviour for three years.

The sentence was approved by Sir Peregrine Maitland and his Executive Council; but the House of Assembly took a different view. Collins was sent to jail where he complained of the Sheriff, Mr. Jarvis, not supplying him with bread, the Sheriff contending that this was an indulgence extended to indigent persons only and not a legal right; as a matter of fact, Collins had given his allowance of bread to the wife of an absconded jailer who had to support herself and her nine children. Collins did succeed in forcing the Sheriff to supply him with wood but there is no record of success in his claim for free bread.

The citizens of York and others petitioned for his release, but unsuccessfully; at length, the Lieutenant Governor asked for instructions from the Home Authorities, the Law Officers decided that the trial had been conducted in accordance with law but thought the sentence too severe, recommending its reduction by one half, and after ten months imprisonment the editor was released without bail.

The examples given may perhaps suffice to indicate the evil effect of the mosquito in this Province in early days—but who can estimate the toll of misery, disease and death taken by the tiny pest? The use of quinine has much mitigated the trouble for many years, but it is by no means got rid of. In the country to-day we see the fretful babe, with its swollen face writhing in torture from the irritation of the poisonous bites, the hard-working mother deprived of needed rest and sleep, the toiler of the field affecting to despise but in reality dreading the plague which saps his strength and dissipates his energy—the list is unending. In simple self-defence "the mosquito must go."