

Knights of Columbus Fully Vindicated!

Capt. Swift Having Given Important Information, Proceedings Against Him Were Withdrawn--Evidence Taken in Case

At his office in the Central District Court yesterday afternoon, His Honor Judge Knight presided in the proceedings against Charles A. Swift for criminal libel, contained in what purported to be an oath taken by the Knights of Columbus and published and circulated by Swift. Mr. A. B. Morine, K.C., for the Knights of Columbus, and Mr. F. A. Mews for the accused. The press representatives were admitted. The following is the charge and sworn evidence:

THE CHARGE.

"That he, the said Charles A. Swift, did in the years 1912 and 1913 and within the last six months unlawfully, wickedly and maliciously write and publish and cause and procure to be written and published a certain false, wicked, malicious and defamatory libel in the form of an oath alleged to be taken by all persons becoming members of the Order of the Knights of Columbus containing divers false, scandalous, malicious and defamatory matters and things concerning Charles O'Neill Conroy and other members of the said Order well knowing the said defamatory libel to be false to the great damage, scandal and disgrace of the said Charles O'Neill Conroy and other members of the said Order and the evil example of the others in like case offending and contrary to the Statute in such case made and provided."

THE EVIDENCE.

William Bowden (sworn).—I am a printer. My office is on Duckworth Street. I know Charles A. Swift, the accused. He visited my office on one occasion in the middle of January. He asked me to print a job. He showed me a copy. It purported to be an oath of the Knights of Columbus. I can hardly swear that the contents of the paper then produced to me were the same as the paper now produced, but the tenor of the matter was the same. I told him I could not do it. He then left. He came back again the next day to ask me again to do it. I did not wish to do it. He then said he would come back five or ten thousand. He did not say what he wanted it for.

Cross-examined by Mr. Mews.—He did not ask me upon his first visit to make up an estimate, nor did he come back the next day to ask me what that estimate would be.

Kenneth Barnes (sworn).—I am a printer. My office is on Water Street. I know Charles A. Swift, the accused, to see him. He has been in my office. I think it was in the middle of January. He asked me to print the Knights of Columbus' oath. He said at first he wanted about two thousand copies printed. He made no change in the number. He did not say what he wished to do with them. He showed me the copy of what he wanted printed. He left the copy with me for a couple of days. I read it in the day time. (Here the alleged libelous matter set forth in the charge is produced to the witness.) This is the same wording as that contained in the paper which was handed to me by the accused; I have never read it before; I have not read it since. When I found what it was I sent a letter back with the document, refusing to do the work. My refusal was on account of the nature of its contents. I have not seen the accused since until to-day in Court.

The counsel for the accused stated that he did not wish to ask any questions.

William F. Coaker (sworn).—The Advocate Printing Office is under my charge. I know the accused, Charles A. Swift. He visited my office four or five weeks ago. He stated what he was there for. He wanted some printing done. He wanted the Knights of Columbus oath printed which had been circulated around. He did not show it to me. He did not describe it. He asked me to print the Knights of Columbus' oath which had been going around the town. I knew what he referred to. I had seen the oath so-called. We did have some conversation about the oath. I refused to publish it. He stated he wanted

two or three thousand copies. I expressed the opinion that the thing was a fake. He generally defended the truth of the matter. Then he left the office. He never came back about the same matter again. I don't think the contents of the paper which I saw are the same as this now produced. There was one afterwards published in the Twillingate Sun. I read the one in the Sun, after it was published in the Sun. The one I saw published in the Sun is the same as the one I saw before the accused came to me.

Charles O'Neill Conroy (sworn).—I am a practising Barrister and reside in this city. The Order of the Knights of Columbus have a Council in St. John's, established about three years ago. I am a member of that Council. I occupy the office of Grand Knight that is the Presiding Officer of the Council. I am the highest officer in our Council. I would describe it as a social and fraternal Order, with insurance and sick benefit advantages. It is a secret society like the Foresters or the Elks, or a number of other so-called Orders. It has a Ritual; that ritual is secret, as in the other orders. I should say it is not as secret as the Ritual of some orders. That statement is my opinion and is not based on absolute knowledge. My reason for making that statement is that I understand that some Orders or secret societies require from their members an oath which is absolute in character, or which is binding on the members unless the law of the land require to part from it. The members of our Order take no oath whatever. The principles of the Order are four—Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. I have read the so-called form of oath which the accused is charged with publishing. That oath is used nowhere in the Order. No oath, either like it or unlike it, is used in the Order, and no promise, pledge, undertaking or any other word that expresses the same idea is used in the Order in spirit or letter, resembling that oath, is taken by any member of the Order under any circumstances. The language in any part of the Oath is not taken from the Ritual of the Order. The practices and the principles inculcated by the Order are exactly opposite to the spirit and the letter of the oath as it is possible for the mind of man to conceive them to be. The members of the Order do not disavow or disown allegiance to the King, or the contrary, wherever the Order is established. The oath is one of the fundamental principles of the Order. There is absolutely nothing whatever in the principles, ritual practices or spirit of the Order which justifies anything of the abominable sentiments set out in the alleged form of oath being ascribed to the Knights of Columbus. The main object and effect of the introduction of the Order into a community is to make the Catholic members of that community better citizens and better subjects of the Crown, and to remove all denominational lines. I know the accused Charles Swift. He has been a client of mine. Since the beginning of December I heard of the alleged form of oath around. I was familiar with the alleged form of oath, not with its exact terms, but with its general purport, before I knew of any actual instance of its circulation within the Colony. I have heard of its circulation outside the Colony. Shortly before I laid the complaint in this case I saw the form of oath which was being circulated. My object in laying the complaint is to expose the monstrous nature of the attempt to blacken the reputation of the Knights of Columbus. I had not in the least any special desire to punish Charles Swift, the accused. I should like to make my attitude in this matter very clear. When any public body, such as the Knights of Columbus, whether it is a Catholic body or Protestant body, is falsely defamed in such a manner as to stir up discord between different sections of the community, I regard it as the bounden duty of any decent citizen to do whatever he can to destroy the damage which is being done by that misconduct.

John Fenelon (sworn).—I am a practising Barrister, residing in St. John's. I am a Chartered member and

Advocate of the Order of the Knights of Columbus. I have listened to the evidence just given by Mr. Conroy. I confirm that evidence in every particular so far as it relates to the Knights of Columbus. The oath administered to me in these proceedings is the first and only oath of any kind whatever I have ever taken in connection with the Knights of Columbus.

Charles A. Swift (sworn).—This alleged oath came into my possession as near as I can recollect about 12th of January. I had heard of it being circulated in the States and Canada, and also in St. John's. I made an attempt to get it printed. I called upon Mr. Bowden, and asked him to print it. I asked the cost per 1,000. I called next day to see if he would give me an estimate. He declined to do it, and it was sent on from Mr. Bowden's office to Mr. Russell, at Bay Roberts. About four or five days after Mr. Russell returned it. Then I saw Mr. Barnes and Mr. Coaker, both of whom refused to print it. I think Mr. Russell said in his letter, "I am sorry to hear of this. I sent the same copy to Mr. Temple, Twillingate, and wrote him a letter, and asked him to print it. I would charge to print 1,000 copies. He called, 'send me \$7.00 and I will print 1,000.' I did not send him the money, because I read Mr. Fenelon's letter exposing the oath to be a fake one, and I immediately dropped all connection with it. I have never had any copies typed, nor copied. I should now like to express my very deep regret to Mr. Conroy and Mr. Fenelon and the whole Council of Knights in St. John's and elsewhere, that I should have been led to believe through false representations that this was the oath of the Knights of Columbus, and I wish to make an apology to all concerned saying I sincerely regret having caused any pain or ill-feeling to the members, and wish this apology to be as complete as possible. I may add that in January last I did not know any of the members of the Knights of Columbus as such."

Cross-examined by Morine, K.C.—I could not swear in whose handwriting was the copy I left with Mr. Bowden. I received it from Mr. Henry Blatch. It was given to me to try to get some copies printed. It was jointly talked over, and suggested that some copies should be printed. I did not suggest it. He suggested it to me. He knew I was going to Mr. Bowden. I told him the result. He knew I was going to Mr. Barnes, but not Mr. Coaker. I told him what Mr. Barnes' reply was. I told him about Mr. Russell and Mr. Temple. I told him contents of Temple's telegram. The suggestion came from Mr. Blatch. I was not living with Mr. Blatch, but met him on several occasions. I never saw the oath until he showed it to me. Mr. Coaker said he believed it to be a fake, cooked for political purposes. I believed it at the time. I don't think I made any attempt to get it printed afterwards. Besides the written copy, I had seen some type-written copies, and think there must be thousands of them in circulation in St. John's. I learnt the fountain head from which they came yesterday. The publication was first in U. S. at Mobile, Sept. 1911, in a periodical called the "Menace," as far as I have been informed.

Mr. Morine, K.C., addressing the Court, said:—This proceeding was taken for the purpose of showing the bogus nature of this alleged oath. If the accused had justified his conduct, or attempted in any way to set up the truth of the alleged oath, the prosecution would be pushed to the greatest possible extent. There was no desire to persecute or even to punish where punishment was deserved. Mr. Swift having explained, and given proper information, the complainant is satisfied that Mr. Swift was a victim, that he had no actual notice, and that he sincerely regrets his part in the circulation of the defamatory matter. This being so, the prosecutor's object has been achieved, and he desires that these proceedings go no further against this particular accused. He will, however, prosecute for any further circulation of this same or similar matter, and re-

Wall Papers! Wall Papers!

Season 1913.

Now ready for inspection our first showing of **REGULAR WALL PAPERS.** A large variety to select from. Beautiful Colorings, Artistic Designs. We also have to the front a magnificent lot of

Job Wall Papers,

Prices:

10c., 15c. and 20c.

Marshall Bros.

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serves his right to prosecute anybody else who has been concerned in the publication complained of.

Mr. Morine, therefore, asked that the proceedings be withdrawn against the accused.

The proceedings were accordingly withdrawn.

Minard's Liniment Co., Limited.

Some time ago I had a bad attack of Quinsy which laid me up for two weeks and cost a lot of money.

Finding the lump again forming in my throat, I bathed freely with MINARD'S LINIMENT, and saturating a cloth with the liniment left it on all night.

Next morning the swelling was gone and I attributed the warding off of an attack of Quinsy to the free use of MINARD'S LINIMENT.

G. F. WORDEN.

St. John.

George Knowling

OFFERS FOR SALE

at his
East, West & Central Stores

350 Sacks

Choice, small, sound retaining

ONIONS,

10 lbs. for

20 cents.

250 Sacks Choice

P.E.I. Potatoes

10c. per gallon.

GEORGE KNOWLING

Feb 17, 5, 60d

Ice Moving Off.

The heavy slob ice which packed Port aux Basques and most of the S. W. Coast for several days got a "cant" off the shore last evening when the wind which had been blowing steadily from the S. E. took a northerly direction and blew stiffly. As a result the Solway was able to leave Port aux Basques at 5.30 p.m. yesterday and it is thought should make a good run down to Placentia.

AT LEACH'S BROOK.—For several days past now the water at Leach's Brook has given no trouble and the river is kept clear of ice. A foreman with a number of section hands are still camped in that section to be prepared for any emergency.

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Yesterday's Wedding.

At the residence of the bride's father, Hamilton Avenue, there was solemnized yesterday afternoon the marriage of Mr. William Wardlaw, of Ayre & Sons, to Miss Sarah Thiburn, the Rev. Mr. Sutherland officiating. The bride was becomingly attired and was attended by her sister, Miss Bessie Thiburn, and Miss Kathleen Ayre, while the groom was ably supported by Mr. Harry Rowe and Mr. A. Thiburn, brother of the bride. The groom's present to the bride was a cheque and the bride's presents were a pair of diamond rings. After the ceremony a reception was held in which the immediate friends of the contracting parties participated. The bridal party, who were the recipients of many costly and useful presents, testified to the popularity of the team in which they are held, left by last evening's train for Toppas, where the honeymoon will be spent. The Telegram joins in the congratulations extended to Mr. and Mrs. Wardlaw.

Was Jammed Off Cape John

In answer to their telegram sent yesterday morning to Capt. Yetman of the S. S. Kite, Messrs. Bowring Bros. have received a reply stating that the vessel made good progress north after leaving Westleyville. She is as far as Cape John where she was jammed for several days. Subsequently she was driven south by the ice floe. The steamer is now at Trinity and as soon as ice conditions permit will make another effort to get north. Capt. Yetman and crew are all well.

Couldn't Get Coban.

The S. S. Sagona with the Hon. J. C. Crosbie on board, left here at 1 p.m. yesterday to go outside and bring in the S. S. Kite, having been despatched by Harvey & Co. for the service. The weather became very thick after the Sagona sailed yesterday and though she was there all the evening in the ice and up till a late hour last night the ship could not be located and the Sagona it was thought last night will return without her. At 9 last night it looked as if a storm was brewing and Mr. Sheppard, of the Firm, thought that the Coban had forced outside to be clear of the land.

Snowing Up West

The rain which had been falling up west for a while yesterday ceased and was succeeded by frost and snow last evening. The wind blew with 4 and W. and the cuts were filled with 4 and 5 feet of snow. No rotary went over the Toppas and the Bruce express it is hoped will get over this section with little trouble.

CONSUMPtives.—Yesterday afternoon two men—Richard Tobin, of Duckworth Street, and Maurice Best, of Southern Harbour, P. B., entered St. George's Hospital on Signal Hill, to be treated for tuberculosis.

"Clan Mackenzie"

SCOTCH WHISKY,

OLD and MELLOW

In Bottles or on

Draught.

HAYWARD & CO.

Cable News.

Special to Evening Telegram.

BERLIN, Feb. 18.
Enver Bey was not killed. He telegraphed some friends here to-day, that he was safe on the Peninsula of Gallipoli.

SAN SALVADOR, Feb. 18.
Three assassins of the late President Arango of San Salvador, were shot by soldiers yesterday, in the presence of a large number of people.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.
Many Federal soldiers were killed during fighting in the vicinity of the American Embassy at Mexico City. Many bullets entered the Embassy, but the damage was slight.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 18.
President Jadaro has agreed to the appointment of a President ad interim, according to an announcement by the Mexican foreign minister.

NEW YORK, Feb. 18.
At a luncheon in his honor, Lieut. Shackleton reaffirmed his intention to lead another Antarctic expedition. Human lives are nothing, he said, if we can add one iota to the sum of human knowledge.

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 18.
Firing went on the whole night, with questionable results. At 5.15 a.m. the hostilities ceased, but why is not known. The tenth day in the civil war at the capital found no change in the position of the antagonists, but it is understood that the Federals have been reinforced.

LONDON, Feb. 18.
A novel machine gun, in which a mixture of explosive gases is the firing force, has been invented by a chemist in Hull, who claims that it will set fire to anything it hits, at a distance of five miles.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.
Secretary Knox informed the Cabinet to-day that notwithstanding the fierce fighting, no infraction of the rules of civilized warfare, or of the principles of international law had occurred in Mexico City to warrant interference. The responsiveness both of Madero and Diaz to the suggestions of Ambassador Wilson, Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, had been so complete and satisfactory as to justify the officials in their opinion that strict neutrality should be observed. Apparently the U.S. policy has met with the approval of the European Powers. During last week Knox has talked with several ambassadors, and in no instance has a disposition to criticize the administration been manifested.

LONDON, Feb. 18.
An American sufragette, named Zelle Emmerson, who was window smashing in the East End with Sylvia Pankhurst, has been sentenced to two months. The woman and her gang broke all the windows in the Liberal Association Hall at Bow. Sylvia got the same sentence, both with hard labor. The Emmerson woman was sentenced to six weeks, on the 14th, but her optional fine of \$15 was paid by a friend.

BERLIN, Feb. 18.
Dr. Friederich Friedmann sailed for New York to-day by the Kronprinzessin Cecilie. He took with him a quantity of the live germs which he claims are so efficacious. He proposed to cure 95 out of 100 cases of Tuberculosis in a test, for which a New York banker has offered a million dollars, if successful.

PARIS, Feb. 18.
The inauguration of Raymond Poincaré as President of France, for the next seven years, took place to-day with simple ceremonies. Much enthusiasm was displayed as the new Chief Executive proceeded to the Elysee to take over the office from Resident Falleries.

Here and There.

Ladies' see ad of Pictorial Review Magazine in to-day's paper.—Feb 18, 11

GALATEA ARRIVES.—The owners of the brig, Galatea, have received word that the vessel has arrived at Pernambuco, all. The voyage took thirty-five days.

Smoke B.I.V. Cigarettes For Sale by J. W. CAMPBELL, Ltd.—Feb 11, 11

SOLWAY DELAYED.—The S. S. Solway left her pier at Port aux Basques at 3 p.m. yesterday and anchored in the harbour owing to the ice blockade and will wait until the ice moves off before she can get down to Placentia.

Dr. de Van's Female Pill.
A reliable French regular. These pills are exceedingly powerful in regulating the generative portion of the female system. Relieve all cheap imitations. Dr. de Van's are sold in a box, or three for \$10. Mailed to any address The Sobell Drug Co., 10, Wall Street, N.Y.C.

DOING WELL.—Mr. Martin Rafus, who left here last fall for Montreal, is working in the Purchasing Office of the C. P. R., and his associates here will be glad to learn that he is doing well.

COLDS CAUSE HEADACHE AND LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine remove cause. There is only One "BROMO QUININE." Look for signature of E. W. GROVE, 25c.

BRUCE LEFT.—The S. S. Bruce left Port aux Basques last night taking the passengers and mails which left here by Sunday evening's express. The train made a good run over reaching Port aux Basques at 6 p.m. yesterday.

WANTED, A FIRST-CLASS VEST MAKER, also a good TAILOR; constant employment and good wages. Apply to SPURRELL BROS., 265 Water Street, next door to Parker & Monroe's. Feb 14, 11



Change Island Notes.

The St. Margaret's Ladies' Association held their usual tea and Sale of Work in the S.U.F. Hall, on January 2nd. Quite a crowd was in evidence, and the articles went like "hot cakes." At the end of the evening the Association was \$104 the richer. Well done, Ladies!

Mr. Arthur Earle spent his Christmas holidays at home. All his friends were glad to see him, and he returned to Twillingate by the Prospero on January the 8th.

Miss Thistle, the teacher for Main Tickle, arrived by Clyde, January 13th. We wish her every success. The Sunday School teachers gave a Social in the S.U.F. Hall on Monday, the 27th inst. A very enjoyable evening was spent, and the proceeds go to buy a Lectern for St. Margaret's Church.

On Wednesday, the Y.L.U., celebrated their anniversary. They attended Divine Service at St. Margaret's Church, where Rev. W. K. Pitcher preached a very inspiring sermon, taking his text from 1st Samuel, 3rd Chap. 15th and 19th verses. After the parade, they went to the S.U.F. Hall, where they enjoyed a sumptuous tea, and for the remainder of the evening indulged in hearty games. The following evening, the ladies gave a dance in their own hall.

The S.U.F. paraded on Monday, Feb. 3rd, and listened to a very able address from Rev. W. K. Pitcher, who took for his text 1st St. Peter, 2nd Chap. 17th verse: "Honor all men, Love the Brotherhood, Fear God, Honor the King." On returning to their Hall they did justice to the good things provided for the ladies. From 8.30 until 11 o'clock a concert was given, by some of the members, under the auspices of the Chief Officer, Bro. Thos. Elliott, assisted by Misses M. Waterman and Sadie Foley, with Miss L. M. Earle as accompanist. The Chairman was the Worthy Master, Wm. H. Earle, and he in his remarks, explained the short time the Society had to prepare a good entertainment. Notwithstanding Bro. Earle's cautions, the concert was one of the best ever held here and was appreciated by all. Much credit is due Bro. Elliott and his talented assistants, who gave the audience such a treat. At 11.30 dancing began and merry feet kept time to the music for hours.

Pneumonia is very prevalent here, and Dr. Leslie is a very busy man. He has little or no rest day or night, having such a large practice to attend to. The Doctor is a hustler, and is "making good." He is very popular here.

Miss Dessie Roberts has been ill for the past month. Dr. Leslie is attending her, and we hope she will soon be on the road to recovery.

Rev. W. K. Pitcher left on Ash Wednesday for Gander Bay. All "galities" have been suspended for the Lenten season; the L.O.A. will have their annual parade, dance and entertainment at Easter.

Miss Elsie Hawkins began her duties as Junior Assistant in the High School, last week. Success to the young novice.

Politics is very quiet here. Evidently the voters are keeping their powder dry until November next. Some people will get a surprise when the ballots are counted.

JACK FROST.

FABRICS

SUITABLE FOR THE

CARNIVAL.

We are now showing in our window various materials in bright, showy and effective shades suitable for

Carnival Costumes,

etc., at reasonable prices.

GEO. KNOWLING.

Feb 14, 51

MINARD'S LINIMENT CURE DYPHTHERIA.

P. E. I. TURKEYS and CHICKEN!

FLOUR in 14 lb. sacks.

5 Roses, Verbenas,

Royal Household, Windsor Patent.

PURITY BUTTER,

2 lb. prints and 10 lb. tubs.

TUNNY FISH20c. tin

ENG. POTTED FISH10c. tin

NORWEGIAN HERRING12c. tin

SMOKED CAPLIN. JAP. CRABS.

BONELESS CODFISH.

T. J. EDENS,

Duckworth Street and Military Road.