

in open Court be examined on oath as to what means or property he or she has. The aim of the "barris'er" who conducts the examination is to prove out of the mouth of the witness that he or she could spare \$1 to \$5 per month out of his or her earnings to pay on the judgment. If he succeeds, he gets an order for that amount, and the next "unfortunate" comes upon the rack. There have been as many as thirty of these judgment summonses at one court, and, in more than half the cases, no order is made. In the days when the late Chief Justice presided at his monthly levee in the County Court, there was little sympathy shown for the professional "beat," but the scornful indignation of Sir Matthew at the abuse of the process oftentimes had the effect of keeping it in check.

There is an anti-gambling crusade in the east, and in many cities, not only is gambling attacked, but also other kinds of vices. However, the latter is regarded as one of the strongest and most insidious of the moral reformers' foes. It lurks in gilded and ungilded pleasure resorts. Like a baneful parasite, it fastens itself upon the most invigorating recreations, and infecting them with its poison of greed and meanness and theft, soon degrades innocent amusements to the plane of criminal pursuits. If the closing of gambling dens and the imprisoning of professional gamblers would exterminate the vice, the work of the crusaders were easy; but the gambling spirit has so pervaded the world of sport, that the reformers have set themselves to perform the difficult task of weeding out the tares without injuring the wheat.

As is remarked by the *Manitoba Free Press*, to waste words disputing about the essence of the wrong in gambling, even to adduce an excuse that the simple mouse willingly runs into the claws of the cat, will neither satisfactorily explain away the evils resulting from the practice, nor account for the degradation of every amusement that admits of gambling. Condemnation of the regular business of gambling would be superfluous. As a profession, it is not as honest and straightforward as theft; it masks under the garb of amusement, or other cloak of apologetic explanations, and commits a sort of mesmeric or hypnotic robbery. Its influence on the players is just what would be expected when men make either a recreation or a profession of the practice of taking other people's property without giving anything in return.

The authority quoted above avers that even the association with gambling has practically killed many forms of recreation. What but the influence of betting has degraded boxing, to an exhibition of brutality, has almost taken baseball from amateurs, and has brought the turf into

disrepute? Lacrosse is going the same way; cricket and those sports in which women participate have hitherto escaped and may hope to remain free from it. It has been said that the Americans are incapable of enjoying sport purely as sport, but turn all recreations into hard working, money-making business. It would be true to say, that in the United States the gambling spirit strives to get possession of every popular amusement, and as soon as that influence is felt, the amateur athlete must give place to the professional, and invigorating sport to exhausting excitement. Altogether the crusaders have set themselves to a very difficult task. They may not be able to pull up the evil root and branch; but after the crusade, the vice will scarcely dare flourish in broad daylight.

New Westminster people are in a state of intense excitement over the proposition to change the name of the city on the Fraser to plain Westminster. The proposed change, as is remarked by a correspondent of the *Columbian*, would lengthen the name for all purposes except those which require formal statement. Colloquially, it is now "Westminster," or more commonly, "New West," or even "N. W." But, were the name "shortened" to Westminster, the whole word must be written. "W." would be impossible—"West." or "West'r." vague and slovenly. The name of the city was given to it by Her Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, and the loyal people of New Westminster regard the proposed change almost in the light of an insult to the sovereign of Great Britain. It also asked, how about records, titles, maps, gazetteers, encyclopaedias? The city is "New Westminster" in these, and New Westminster it would continue to be for many a year, despite the change. Change the name and the city would be in danger of losing its identity—becoming a sort of municipal Tichborne claimant!

I do not wish to be considered as unappreciative of the gentle sex, if I say a word in criticism of their public actions at times. A woman seldom knows how to act when on a street car, especially if the car is crowded. She assumes an attitude as soon as she gets inside the door that she says to every man, "Don't you know enough to give a lady a seat?" There is a big difference between a lady and a woman. A great many women think they are ladies. They are not. I was on a car the other night when a woman sailed in and took a position directly in front of me. There were three women next to me that were occupying the space of nearly five as they chatted away like jackdaws, and at the far end was a vacant seat, but this woman kept looking at me, and the

chatters never budged. I finally got up, mad all through, that a female has so little sense as to neglect a survey of the car before demanding a seat.

Then I saw one in a shoe store this week. She wanted the heel of her shoe fixed, and in a certain way. The shoe dealer told her she would be unable to wear it in that way, but she insisted, and so the shoe went into the shoproom. She grew impatient and insisted that the shoe had been out of her hands long enough, and so the clerks to pacify her kept running up and down stairs without result. Finally the shoe came up, and she tested it, but it wouldn't work, just as the dealer had predicted, and then she was mad. She made an assault with her tongue, and called the dealer all the names representative of incompetency that she could resurrect. The dealer grew red in the face, and as he afterward said, "If she hadn't been a woman I would have kicked her clear into the street." She deserved that treatment.

And then they want to vote, that is, the women who ought to have been men want to vote. You can put it right down in a book that if the Creator had intended women for that work he would have made them with different dispositions. Women haven't the disposition necessary to the conduct of public affairs. Some women cannot even run a Hebrew Ladies' Society without involving themselves in a quarrel that will keep them from association together as long as they live. The nature of woman is too set to admit of the free exercise of judgment. You can't argue with her after she forms an opinion. She has no comprehension of facts. She looks at everything as she would like it to be, rather than as it will be, and so she gets poor results. The great trouble with woman's work in morals is that she is not practical. She expects what she cannot get by the very nature of things.

I do not wish to be misunderstood in this matter. I have the greatest respect for woman in the right place—the home. That is her field; she is to mould the lives of the little ones who come under her charge and make the most of them she can, instead of the most for them.

Grace Irving, who recently stabbed a man named Turner at New Westminster, has been convicted of common assault. The reports say that the judge charged in her favor, and no doubt he had good reasons for doing so. Turner plucked the burning brand from the fire, but blotted out his good action by consigning her once more to the flames, after she had tasted of the sweets of a virtuous life. But this does not detract from the fact that there is altogether too much poetic gush over male "betrayers." The denunciation is merited when a young and

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