

does not pretend to know much law, but he knows something else of more value.

Having taken for granted, without any evidence that the statement of the complainant in the case before him was correct, he dilates upon the monstrous iniquity of people being deprived of their money by these rascally lawyers: "Now-a-days it is next to impossible to get anything out of a suit in Court after the lawyers have finished with it. Hundreds and thousands of cases have arisen within the past few years in which there has been little or nothing left for clients when the charges for lawyers' services have been paid. The fees collected are outrageous." It would be difficult to work into any three sentences a larger collection of reckless statements and false charges. What a wide knowledge comes from the sing-song of Police Court practice: "A dollar and costs or thirty days—Next case!" These acts of villainy, moreover, are in the thousands. "Oh, mother, I saw more than a thousand cats in our back yard last night." "Nonsense, my child." "Well, I saw a hundred." "Don't exaggerate." "Well, I am sure there were ten; at least, I know there was the black cat from next door." Upon cross-examination might not the thousands of cases suffer a similar reduction.

As to the subject matter of the charges made, let it be distinctly understood that, as stated, they are utterly unfounded, and made against a body of men who are as honest and honorable as any class in the community; that legal charges in this Province are not enormous, but, as compared with other countries, very moderate, and this the Police Magistrate, a lawyer himself, ought to know. At least he could easily inform himself on the subject, and should have done so before making these charges. Also, let it be understood that such charges are not the deliberate and thoughtful utterances of a judge competent to give an opinion, but of one who is not familiar with the matters which he so airily discusses, and his work, which is only to deal with ordinary Police Court cases does not help him to speak with any authority on the subject.

Were he discussing Imperial federation or military matters his remarks would doubtless be both instructive and interesting, but as to legal matters—why, the boast of the learned Police Magistrate is that he does not know or care anything about law—that he is a law unto himself.