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beneath the City. The meeting unanimously gave me every encouragement, and promised to see me through the struggle. I begged of them to name a committee to aid and advise me. They refused to trammel me with a committee, adding, "Too many cooks often spoil the broth." But I begged to name a committee, and to include in it some of the persons living in the neighbourhood of the dykes, who had a more immediate interest in the keeping this road open, and, in their names and my own, I would prosecute, for if in my own name alone, my opponent might plead that I had no immediate interest in the plea. The meeting saw the force of my reasoning and agreed. A committee of six was named, I to be chairman, having the casting vote. I believe a more zealous or harmonious body of men never existed, than this committee, which was six years in existence. A subscription was taken up at the meeting, and a sum got which I thought sufficient to put the case through the City Courts. I entered a plea and craved an interdict against the dykes being rebuilt till the case was decided. This was granted and served on Harvey just in time to prevent the road being again closed up. My exertions and, I may say, success in relieving the distress of the poor families, and getting the road kept open, added much to my popularity. It went so far as to be annoying to me, and it created jealousy in some little minds. The case was pushed through the local Courts. Our proof was so strong and clear, that we got judgment with all expenses.

Harvey swore that he would spend thousands of pounds to gain his point. He appealed, and carried the case to the Court of Session at Edinburgh.

I saw that the expenses were going to be very great, so I wrote to the citizens generally, setting forth the consequences, if we allowed Harvey to gain the victory by his stubbornness and length of purse, which would be the closing up of all the small roads and pleasant walks with which the city and suburbs were surrounded. I got this letter printed and distributed broadcast with an N. B. at the bottom intimating that I would once a week, viz., the principal market day, stand at the Cross with a strong mahogany box which I had made in purpose, with a slit in its lid for the money which I was certain would be poured into it—from the widow her mite, from the wealthy man his portion. The first day we got nearly £50; and such was the weight of the box that it took four men to carry it into James Duncan's shop close by. The Committee, including the said James Duncan, was in attendance to open the box and count the money.

Nearly half the amount was in copper. We opened an account in one of the Banks, where our collections were regularly deposited and a regular set of accounts were kept showing every receipt and disbursement.

We adopted other ways of raising money for the cause.

A man who had a panorama in the City got into difficulties and put it up for auction. We purchased it at a very moderate sum and leased the hall where it was, and opened it every night for two hours at half the former price. All kinds of people came, and the first week we cleared the cost.