

pleased to accommodate him by asking if there has been any repeal of the Criminal Code as regards theft, and why a well dressed and good looking woman, who must have known that she was breaking the eighth commandment (it does not appear whether she attended her husband's Sunday School class) should be let off when men or women less favoured and with less advantageous surroundings are sent to jail for similar offences? In the above case he perhaps looked upon the woman as a kleptomaniac and not altogether responsible; but, whilst the public might be pleased that she was not severely dealt with, such pleasure as well as a desire to find an excuse for this dispenser of justice (with blinded eyes it may be, but without a sword or pair of scales) is marred by the alleged fact that out of about fifteen cases of shoplifting brought before him during a couple of weeks of last month, there was not one punishment. Other records equally startling might, it is commonly said, be cited.

Another judgment of this learned judge, which, if the evidence given in the newspaper reports be correct, cannot be overlooked. We refer to the prosecution of a cabman in the city of Toronto for over-charging and defrauding a foreigner to the extent of a considerable sum. It appears that this cabman having received two dollars from the foreigner to take him a distance of a mile or so from the railway station, when they arrived at their destination he demanded a further sum of a like amount. As the traveller had only a single one dollar bill and five gold pieces, equal to about twenty dollars, the cabman cheerfully pocketed the lot, the unfortunate and ignorant foreigner being told that the gold pieces were only worth about twenty cents each. In the face of this, his Honor is said to have remarked, "the circumstances are very suspicious, but I will give you the benefit of any doubt," and acquitted the prisoner.

Another case is that of a servant girl who had stolen from her employer, and who it is reported had been dismissed for theft from every situation she had been in for a number of years. She received the paternal advice to be good in future, and was again let loose on society.