

County Attorney, when the charge came before the Police Magistrate, explained to the Court that as the money had evidently been retained by the solicitor for legal charges, which were claimed to be due to him, there was no case to come before his Worship, and the charge was at once withdrawn. The Police Magistrate, thereupon—there being no case before him, and without any evidence except the ipse dixit of the complainant—proceeded in effect to accuse the solicitor of misappropriating money belonging to his client, and further, to make wholesale charges of wrong-doing against the profession as a class, winding up with some suggestions, as crude as they were comical, as to how legal business should be conducted. Were these observations made at an after-dinner speech they would have been received "with roars of laughter" (the Colonel is fond of a joke and tells a good story) and might be ignored; or, if they had been known only to a gaping crowd at a Police Court they would do little harm; but being uttered from the Bench by a person holding a judicial position, they cannot be passed over, more especially so as they have been circulated broadcast through the Press, so that many will be led to believe that the profession here is the degraded thing he charges it with being.

There is a personal feature of the case which may first be disposed of, and which, strangely enough, never seems to have occurred to the worthy Colonel, who, after all, apart from an occasional eccentricity, is an excellent Magistrate. He speaks of the "enormous charges" which lawyers make against their clients, but adds, by way of contrast, that in *his* Court "they try to get along without making any charges for costs if they can help it, and then the costs are very small." As a matter of fact, the costs of the Police Court are enormously greater in proportion than in any civil court; but let that pass. Now, the Police Magistrate, being of course a professional man, we are glad to see him well paid, but as he is so strongly of the opinion that there should be a reduction in lawyers' fees, it would be reasonable that he should begin by suggesting a large reduction in his own salary. For his services he is paid the sum of \$4000 per annum, which, in proportion to the amount of time spent is vastly greater than the fees received by any Minister of the Crown, Chief Justice, or other official in the Dominion. It may also be noted that some time ago the City authorities were persuaded to give him an assistant, who does half the work that devolved upon him, and who receives \$750 per annum. The gallant Colonel