

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM.

and, not having been overburdened with work or wages for some time, did not object to the incarceration.

Ultimately he was tried, found guilty, and fined fifty dollars or a month in jail. Many arguments arose between magistrate and constable, as the latter, having served in the United States, and there learned a smattering of Yankee law, was resolved to make his voice heard in the case. The inability of the prisoner to pay the fine of course made it necessary to fall back upon the alternative—thirty days in jail, which was a hundred and odd miles off. There was no conveyance to take him thither; and no roads even if there had been; and the man refused to walk.

"If I had the money I'd pay the fifty and have done with it," he said; "but, not having it, I can't do it. If I am to go to gaol, all right, take me; but whoever hears of a man walking there of his own accord?" And he whittled away at the stick in his hand, feeling that he was master of the situation. Being remanded until the next day, to keep up some semblance of proper procedure, he went away quite contentedly, only to return the next day and the next to repeat the same farce. At last both magistrate and constable began to look rather tired, while the prisoner, on the contrary, was quite at his ease. The wire was down between us and Winnipeg, and no advice could be obtained. So at last the constable, agreeing to forfeit his share of the fine, and the magistrate to take a time-bill on the contractor for the next section of the railway for the remaining twenty-five dollars, they let the man go.

Law is very like a sieve; it is easy to see through it, but one must be considerably reduced before he get through.—*Exchange*.

A NEWLY appointed Irish court crier being ordered to clear the court-room, yelled out: "Now thin, all ye blackguards that isn't lawyers must lave the court."

In a case in Connecticut, last month, the judge ruled that certain evidence was inadmissible. The attorney took strong exceptions to the ruling, and insisted that the offered evidence was admissible. "I know, your honour," said he warmly, "that it is proper evidence. Here I have been practising at the bar for forty years, and now I want to know if I am a fool?" "That," quietly replied the court, "is a question of fact, and not of law, and so I won't pass upon it, but will let the jury decide."

A prisoner was arraigned for some offence against the criminal laws of the State, who stated he was unable to have a lawyer. The court told

him to select one of a number of young lawyers present to represent him. He contemptuously surveyed the group of legal tyros, and remarked that he preferred to plead guilty at once than be embarrassed with such counsel. This provoked a ripple of laughter from the bystanders, at the expense of the ignored lawyers. The court gave the prisoner the full term. Thereupon, the lawyers laughed, and "honours were easy."

In Lynchburg, Va., a distinguished member of the bar, appealing to the court, for the discharge of his client, wound up with the statement that if the court sent him on further trial, a stain would be left on his character which could not be washed off by all the waters of the blue ocean and all the soap which could be manufactured from the "ponderous carcase of the Commonwealth's attorney." To this the ponderous attorney replied, that while he "deemed it foreign to the case at bar, he desired to advise the court, if they thought it advisable to boil his body into soap, they should look to the opposite counsel for the concentrated lye out of which to make it."

A NAUTICAL DIVORCE.—A correspondent writes from Yokohama: "One of those curiosities of procedure which crop up at times in the most unheard of way, came under my notice recently and may interest you. It is that of a husband and wife on board the *Bullion*, one of our American ships in the course of her voyage from New York to Japan, pronounced by her worthy captain, arrayed for the time with the authority of the chancellor. The record of the proceeding, as entered by the captain upon the 'log' of the ship, is as follows: 'Feb. 8, at 7 p.m., lat. 40° 30' S., long. 158° 33' E., Charles Brown, cook, and Harriet Brown, stewardess, separated as man and wife, with their own free will and accord, dividing their clothes and signed clear of each other forever as man and wife, each taking separate rooms.'"

When the lamented Judge Manniere was on the circuit bench, a German from one of the interior towns of the county who had just been elected as justice of the peace, but had never tried a case, came into his court to witness a trial, so that he might know to proceed when he should be called upon to administer justice. It so happened that he was present during the last day of the celebrated Hopp's murder trial, and heard Judge Manniere sentencing Hopp to be hung. About ten days after this his first case came on for trial. It was upon a note of hand, and amounted to \$12.25. Addressing himself to the defendant Hans, he said, "Stand up! What has the prisoner to say why the sentence of the court should