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PROGRESS.

VOL. XI., NO. 546.

ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29 1898

PRICE FIVE CENTS

GOOD NIGHT IS SAFE.

SERGEANT OWENS RESIGNS AT AN OPPORTUNE MOMENT.

And the Council Recommends the Appointment of the "Special" Johnson—Where is Sergeant Owens' Share of the Police Fund? Will Campbell get Full Pay now?

A question seems to have arisen as to the authority of the chief of police to go into the county with such a warrant as that which was served upon Mrs. Melvin last week, and the decision of the supreme court in a famous case has been recalled in connection with it. It appears that during the term of the late Squire Tapley as judge of the court of the old town of Portland, the present chief of police, who was then plain Mr. Clark of the west end, and Coroner Robinson of Lancaster and some words over a case in a magistrate's court in that parish. Coroner Robinson must have expressed himself pretty plainly, for Mr. Clark hastened to Squire Tapley's and laid information against him for abusive language. Upon the information a warrant was issued, and one of the policemen of the force, named Donceit, was requested to serve it upon Coroner Robinson. He did so and brought the coroner to town and lodged him in jail. When the trial came off, Judge Tapley imposed a fine of \$10 upon Mr. Robinson for the language he had used toward Mr. Clark. The case was carried into the supreme court at Fredericton, and the judges, after hearing the arguments of both sides, decided that Magistrate Tapley of the city court of Portland had no jurisdiction outside the city limits, except in criminal cases. This decision would seem to apply to the present case and that it does so, is the opinion of a great many of the common council, and several lawyers with whom PROGRESS has talked. How Mrs. Melvin's action in forfeiting her deposit of \$100 might affect subsequent proceedings is doubtful, but there is no doubt about the indignation of the county officials at the action of the city authorities in the matter, and there is no doubt about the opinion of the aldermen, who have been saying from time to time that the chief of police had too many officials and too many men on the police force. There is no doubt either about the terms in which Alderman Macrae addressed himself to the chief in regard to this evening trip at the last meeting of the Common Council.

The chief's raid upon the house out the road was not favourable to the case that he has from time to time set forth to the aldermen. While complaining again and again that he had not enough police to patrol the city properly, he seemed to have no difficulty whatever in detailing five or six of them to accompany him upon his raid upon the Melvin house. That fact has been pretty generally commented upon, and the merchants, who complain to the aldermen that the city is not properly guarded during the night, should remember and excuse them on the ground that they can not be expected to look after the Marsh Road from the one-mile-house to Rothesay as well as cover all their beats in the city.

This was not the only police matter that was discussed at the last meeting of the council. The recommendation of the safety board to do away with the services of the special policemen was sharply criticised and after much discussion the council refused to adopt that section of the report. The reason for this was, no doubt, the charge that has been brought forward that there was an attempt to dismiss Officer Johnson from the force. This Mr. Johnson has been a special policeman for some time. He succeeded in getting on the force through the good offices of a number of gentlemen, who are always looking out for jobs for stray Englishmen and but for their recommendation, there is no doubt Mr. Johnson would never have been on the police force. It is not his fault, however, that he is not up to the requirements of the service from a physical view; in other words he is under-sized. It is not his fault that his manner of addressing a friend in the evening has led to a good deal of merriment and amusement on the part of the public generally. He says "Good night" for "Good night," which is not a crime in itself; but the fact that he will not allow anybody else to address him in the same manner seems to imply that he claims a copyright on his method of pronouncing the evening salutation. It was not for this though that he incurred the enmity of the famous Jimmy Brennan,

who got to dislike him just about as heartily as he does the Chief of Police. James is a persistent individual, and he set about, it is said, to put Mr. Johnson off the force. Other names are mentioned in connection with his, and among them that of the magistrate himself, but it is only fair to say that Mr. Ritchie disclaims any idea of interfering with the position of Officer Johnson. It can hardly be supposed that the politician of Prince, Brennan, wanted the job for himself, because, no doubt he remembers the time when he wanted to get on the Exhibition police, and he got a recommendation from a gentleman, then very prominent in local politics, in the shape of a letter addressed to the chief of police. As Mr. Brennan tells the story, he went to the chief of police with the letter, and the latter, though he had every reason in the world, according to his idea, to listen to the recommendation of the gentleman, hardly read the commendation before he tore it into a score of pieces and threw it into the waste basket. Of course, the story went back to the politician, and it is said that there were mutual explanations afterwards. Ever since that time Mr. Brennan has been after the chief, and while the latter does not appear to grow thin over the fact, still he has the uncomfortable notion that he is being watched very closely by the persistent James.

After the principal portion of the discussion of the police by the council on Tuesday, some new business came up and with it came a surprise in the shape of the resignation of Sergeant Owens, who has been sick for a long while and is too aged and feeble to return to the force. The sergeant sent in his resignation to the Chief, and while doing so, took occasion to express his appreciation of the manner in which his superior officer had treated him. Of course the Chief knew nothing about this—even though the Sergeant was waited upon—yet it must have been very gratifying for him to receive such an expression of opinion from an officer who has been so long on the force as Sergeant Owens.

He placed the resignation before the council at a very opportune moment, and Officer Johnson was the man in the minds of many of the aldermen after the recent discussion of it. He was appointed quick as wink, and now the only way to get him off the force is for the chief to bounce him. That, however, is not likely or probable so long as the lucky (?) Englishman carries himself as straight as he has since he has been a "special."

But one or two interesting things came up in connection with the resignation of Sergeant Owens. He is quite old and feeble, has been sick for a long time and during that time has enjoyed half pay from the common council.

Is there nothing else coming to him, Mr. Chief?

Has he not a right to his portion of that police fund, that is said to be deposited so safely in the name of yourself and two other trustees to the Savings Bank?

Would not a share of that fund have been very acceptable to him during his recent illness?

Was not the fund originally raised for that object, to relieve the distress and necessities of sick and aged policemen? These are questions, it appears to PROGRESS, that are timely and should be answered. Though not a member of the force now, Sergeant Owens has not by his resignation forfeited his right to that portion of the fund that should have been handed over to him during his recent illness.

Another thing that the council may well make a note of is that the number of sergeants are, through the resignation of Sergeant Owens, reduced to their proper number, and it may fairly be assumed that if Sergeant Campbell has only been getting patrolman's pay, since he was promoted, the additional allowance will now be given him.

TURNED OUT OF THE "ANNEX."

Two Halifax Young Women Who Were Thought to be Nice.

HALIFAX, Oct. 27.—Quite a sensation was created in the city last week over the capture in one of the prominent hotels of two of this city's fair females, in company with two commercial travellers. The young ladies are both of very respectable parents, and are particularly well known throughout the city. One of them is the daughter of a widow who resides on Smith street, and the other one lives with her parents on Gerrish street. Both of the

females have been associates for a long time and were frequently almost daily, seen promenading along the most prominent streets. They always dressed well and, strange to say, they both sang in church choirs, one in a church on Brunswick street, and the other at the south end of the city but both of the same denomination. Previous to this episode many thought their characters were above reproach, but others who saw more of them were loath to hold them in such high esteem. The South end female has appeared on the stage quite frequently and delighted her auditors with her sweet, smiling face, and charming voice. She also has taken part in a number of amateur theatricals with considerable success, but the new role in life which she has assumed will no doubt give her more prominence than she desires to have. The young ladies have very often been seen in the company of gentlemen who were strangers in the city, and many persons wondered how they came to be acquainted with them, and that was a secret which was best known to themselves, and one which they never cared to make public. At first they were quite mild in their operations, but time and experience has made them both bold, and in consequence they have got in the present trouble. The leading hotels seemed to be their strong fort, as very often they passed along and with their graceful smiles and winning glances, they have captivated the hearts of many commercial travellers. For this class of men they had a sort of a weakness, and it did not appear to be very much trouble for them to pick an acquaintance. An appointment was then made for after the shades of sundown, and it was then that those two innocent females held high carnival. One night last week at a very late hour, they "picked up" two commercial men, or perhaps it may have been vice versa, but however they became acquainted by other means than that of an introduction. A short conversation followed as to where the best place was to go. The commercial men were equal to the occasion and they devised a scheme which was the cause of getting the whole four of them in quite serious trouble.

Down to Hollis street the quartette proceeded and halted for a moment in front of



Two Halifax Girls Who Were Thought to be Nice and Respectable Young Ladies Until a Few Days Ago.

the big stone building which is known as the "Annex" opposite the Queen hotel. Here their courage failed them for a moment, as they hesitated about making the break, but at last they plucked up courage and entered. This delay was the means of bringing the attention of several persons who were on the opposite side of the street, among whom was the agent of the property, Mr. Bligh. When they entered they told the man in charge of the place that they wished to engage a couple of rooms for a month. Their baggage they said was at the station, and that they intended to remain only for the night, as they were going to Bedford in the morning, but would send their baggage down, and return in the course of a couple of days. This was quite satisfactory to the man in charge and they were shown to their respective rooms. Before retiring however they thought they would like some liquid refreshment, and one of the "knights of the grip" repaired to a saloon across the street and purchased two bottles of wine. He returned again, and then the ball was opened. Everything was favorable for a good time, and there was no obstacle in the way that was to prevent them from carrying their plans out to the letter. Little they thought that their identification had become known to any one about, or they would not for a moment have remained in the place. The agent at first was not quite sure he was right, but

(Continued on Fourth Page.)

DIRTY LINEN IN COURT.

THE GIST OF THE EVIDENCE IN THE BELL DIVORCE SUIT.

Bell's Evidence Produces an Unfavorable Impression—Ordered to Pay \$200 and Alimony—What Young Law's Father Says About His Whereabout.

All the dirty, linen of the Bell divorce case is being washed in Fredericton this week. The parties are all there and up to the time of this writing Bell and his witnesses have not finished giving their evidence. He had men from St. Stephen to try and prove that at the time the "South End Beauty" said he was with her in his own house he was out all night apparently wandering about the streets of the border town.

One of these witnesses however does



"THE NORTH END BEAUTY."

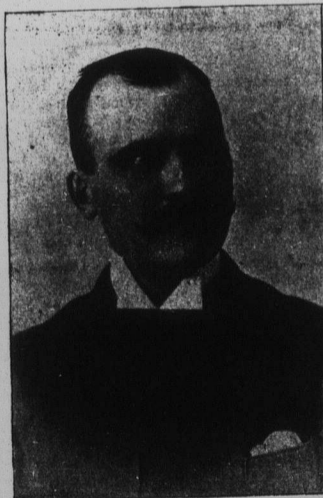
not believe in anything on earth or in heaven and the judge would not allow him to tell his story.

"Don" Sharp and his mother, from this city—former neighbors of Bell's—appeared upon the scene and told a story that seemed to make it appear that Mrs. Bell and one Ernest Law were so intimate that while her husband was climbing in the back window she was letting her friend out the front door at four in the morning.

And that evidence brings forth a letter from Law's father showing that on the night in question, which he remembers by the racket Bell made about the premises, his son was in his house in his own room.

Young Law comes with prominence in Mr. Bell's affairs for the second time. Some time ago Mr. Bell undertook to give him a punching for his wife's sake and it was stated then that Mr. Law carried the evidence of the encounter about with him for some time. Bell did not seem to blame his wife at that time but took his satisfaction out of Law whom his friends persuaded him was hanging around his wife all the time he was out of the city.

Sharp's and Mallory's evidence do not favor Mrs. Bell. The former was evidently regarding her movements with some interest because he took the trouble to



MR. ADAM H. BELL.

follow her he said to the Pugsley building and saw her enter the place with a man whom he did not know.

This bit of evidence seemed to upset the fair plaintiff for with a hysterical cry of its falsity she sunk in her father's arms weeping.

Mallory brought on another scene when he told how he met her driving out the Marsh road at 7 o'clock in the evening with a gentleman of this city. What weight

his honor will give to such evidence as this remains to be seen. He did not express himself as he did when Bell was on the stand and made some astounding statements about his doubt of his wife's chastity at the time he married her. The judge scored him unmercifully for that and he passed some interesting remarks about clergymen who married young girls on the quiet.

Rev. Mr. Titcombe was the man in question but as he was out of the country the censure is not likely to disturb him. But the witness, Mr. Rankin, said that Mrs. Bell was only fifteen when she married Bell.

In Bell's evidence he denied the story of the Leatham girl in tots and tried to prove that he was not in his own house at all on the night in question. She swore that he wanted her to pose as a "North End Beauty" and be photographed for the lithographs for a new brand of cigars. The pictures he showed her were not nice she said. Bell produces the pictures and claims there is nothing objectionable about them.

The statement of one of the papers that much of Bell's evidence is unprintable is very true. He made a bad impression upon the court and his efforts to blacken his wife's character in the hotel lobbies was brought to the attention of the judge.

Another thing was brought to his attention too, viz. the question of court expenses and of alimony. Queer as it may seem, though Mrs. Bell brought the suit, her husband has to subscribe to her expenses the sum of \$200 half of which is payable on the 5th of next month and the other half on the 15th. Then the judge allows her alimony to the extent of \$25 a month while the case is in court.

As it may be sometime before he gives his decision this may amount to something in the end.

A Calais faker named Mace offered some evidence about Mrs. Bell's actions in the American house in Calais alleging that he saw her enter the room of Mr. Hill whom he believed to be there at the same time.

The case excites the greatest interest in Fredericton and the St. John papers are scanned eagerly when they appear by their readers here. Sympathy here appears to be with Mrs. Bell up to date largely on account of the reckless testimony of the defendant and the judge's comments on the same.

THERE WAS NO WEDDING.

Because There was no Groom—A West Side Story.

Among the weddings scheduled to take place in Carleton this week, was one which did not take place.

It wasn't the bride's—Miss Goslin's—fault,—far from it, but the young man in question—Mr. Alfred Cullen—probably thought discretion the better part of valor, for he took the train for Montreal and the west—likely as far west as he could get—just twenty four hours before the time set for the marriage. He evidently hadn't the same warm set feelings toward the event, which the bride and her parents fostered as he even neglected to speak to the clergyman—Rev. Dr. Hartly—about the matter and, the policeman's family went on unsuspectingly with their arrangements for the happy (?) union.

The worthy Doctor was, however, invited to be present by the bride's parents with the intimation that he was to be the joiner of happy hearts and hands.

Not having been spoken to by the other principal in the event it is not strange that he should have felt some slight anxiety as to whether the coach came for him or not and no doubt the news that the young man had been hustled off to the West by his father, who was strangely opposed to the match, and that his services would not be required, was a slight relief, which only came at the eleventh hour.

It is said that the announcement cards were returned by the parents of the would-be groom, by special messenger.

Death of Robert L. Smith.

The death of Robert L. Smith, a member of the firm of Messrs. Macaulay Bros. & Company yesterday morning was a severe shock to his numerous friends who while aware that he was seriously ill thought that the crisis was passed and looked for his recovery. Mr. Smith was stricken with brain disease some weeks ago and though nursed by anxious and loving friends and attended by the most skillful physicians his life could not be saved. St. John can ill afford to lose so promising and popular a young merchant whose success has been won by strict attention to business and fair dealing with all men.