

THE REPORTER.

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THE REPORTER

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BETHUEL LOVERIN,
Publisher and Proprietor

Almost a Murder.

Late on Friday evening, our usually quiet village was thrown into a state of excitement by the report that a brutal assault had been committed upon the persons of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Mulvena, an old couple living about one mile west of the village. It appears that a man named James Mark worked the farm, living in part of the house. Disagreements and ill-feeling had been rife between the two families for some time which finally culminated on the evening in question. It seems that Mark, who had been drinking some during the day, came home about 4 p. m., and going into Mulvena's room they had some words regarding some grain, and Mark struck and knocked Mulvena down and kicked him about the head and body. Old Mrs. Mulvena interposed to save her husband and was also struck and beaten. Her hip bone was broken and one of the bones of her shoulder fractured. Mark went into his own part of the house, when Mulvena secured the door with a short bar. In a few moments Mark burst in the door and again assaulted the old man, battering his head and face to a complete jelly. Mulvena managed to reach the door and shouted to a neighbor who was passing to send for H. H. Arnold (who manages Mulvena's business). Mr. Arnold at once drove to the scene of the disturbance, and was instructed to lay an information against Mark for assault. B. Loverin, J. P., was appealed to, and driving up to Mulvena's, the old man swore out an information against Mark, which was placed in Constable Brown's hands. In the meantime, Mark had left the house and started towards Lyndhurst. Brown and Arnold started in pursuit, and when near Cornell's Hill, they met Mark returning accompanied by a young man named Freeman. A lively scuffle ensued for a few moments, Mark resisting arrest, and Freeman pitching into Arnold. They were, however, soon quieted and brought on to Farmersville. Saturday at 1 p. m. was fixed for the trial, and when the hour arrived the town hall was packed by an excited crowd anxious to learn the result. Justices Loverin, Wight and Alguire were the

presiding magistrates. Mr. Mulvena being sworn, deposed to the effect that on Friday last, Mark came into his room, striking him and knocking him down and kicking him about the head and body, also assaulting and beating his wife; that Mark then went into his own part of the house, when he (Mulvena) fastened the door by placing a small bar against it; that shortly afterwards Mark broke in the door and again assaulted Mulvena and his wife. Dr. Cornell, on being sworn, said that he had examined Mr. Mulvena professionally, and found him badly cut about the face and head; did not examine his body; did not consider the injuries on Mulvena dangerous. At this stage, Constable Brown served a warrant on Mark, charging him with committing an aggravated and malicious assault and battery upon the person of Mrs. Hugh Mulvena, with intent to do grievous bodily harm. Mark was at once placed on trial for this offence. Mulvena's testimony was again taken and was substantially the same as in his own case. Dr. Cornell being called stated that he had examined Mrs. Mulvena and found a fracture of the shoulder bone, also that the hip bone was broken; did not find any bruises on her person, excepting some on her face; considered her case dangerous, owing to her advanced age, but thought that with the very best of care she might recover. Mark admitted the assault and battery, but claimed that it was under very aggravating circumstances. The magistrates, after hearing all the evidence, decided that there was sufficient to warrant Mark's committal, and he was accordingly sent to jail to await his trial. Constable Brown left with the prisoner for town about 5 p. m. and safely lodged him in the county jail.

Fire Protection.

To Editor of The Reporter.

DEAR SIR,—I was much pleased to notice by the last issue of the REPORTER that you had taken up the question of fire protection, and I trust that you will stick to your text until you succeed in impressing upon the minds of those interested the necessity of doing something toward protecting our beautiful and thriving village from the ravages of the fire fiend. I would like to see our city fathers take the matter up, and have an estimate prepared of what it would cost to furnish the necessary water supply, and purchase and equip a good hand engine. We do not realize the risk we run for want of some organized system of fire protection. But should the fire bells call us out some night to witness the accumulation of years, to the extent of several thousand dollars, go up in smoke, then would dawn on our minds the truth of the old saying, "that we had been penny wise and pound foolish."

Since reading your article on the

above subject, I wrote a representative of several of our leading insurance companies, asking what effect the purchase of a hand engine would have on our tariff of rates. His reply was that Farmersville would be classed E instead of F as at present. It would also be much easier to get insurance placed, and companies would carry heavier lines. By referring to the tariff, I find that to be classed E will reduce the rates $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., or \$2.50 on every \$1,000 of insurance carried. To one of our business men carrying \$5,000 insurance, it means a saving of \$12.50 yearly, which I am sure would be a good deal more than pay his share of the cost of an engine. Since the new tariff came in force, I have found it very difficult to get insurance placed, even at the present high rates. The largest amount any company will carry in the business portion of our village is \$2,000, and that only on first-class risks; third and fourth class, not more than \$1,000, and some not more than \$500;—and all because we have no fire protection.

Hoping this important matter will receive the attention it merits, I will not intrude further on your valuable space.

A. JAMES.

April 2, 1885.

Liberty.

Liberty is a fine thing. What would we be here in Canada if we had not civil, political, and religious liberty? Folks on the other side of the St. Lawrence make a great spread on the 4th of July and on like occasions, and their orators exhaust the vocabulary of the English language to find eulogistic and melodious epithets with which to decorate the shrine of their imaginary goddess. Well, I used to think it was all very fine, and that true political liberty is there only to be found in its purity; but after a while I found out that it was "not all gold that glitters," and that there was far less liberty under the Stars and Stripes than under the cross of St. Andrew and St. George;—that there was something more powerful than constitutions and Declarations of Independence;—that there was something which ignored the sublime teachings of that immortal document, and sustained a system alike a curse to the governed and the governor. One of its fundamental principles, and one constantly heralded from hustings and pulpit and lecture room was the "Equality of all men and their right to certain inalienable privileges," life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, yet at the same time over four hundred thousand of her children were living under one of the most infernal and degrading systems of slavery the world ever saw, and their owners sustained in its maintenance and support by a government which pretended to be the embodiment of true political liberty and equality. Then again, "the right of free speech." It

is a notorious fact that, when under the influence of the celebrated axiom already quoted, good men and women, prompted by its teachings and trusting in the right, dared to raise their voices and wield their pens in condemnation of the infernal system; their houses were destroyed, their printing presses thrown into the Mississippi, and themselves by almost a miracle escaped a coat of tar and feathers and a ride on a rail (fact). Well, I thought at the time 'twas rather queer. And then there was another fundamental principle in this so-called exemplification of true liberty, viz: "that the governing power was the choice and by consent of the governed." Good in theory, but not always in practice and never will be till the millenium. And this was carried into effect from the President to the poundkeeper, and what was the result? The higher officers, generally passable, though there were some notorious exceptions, and some—save the mark! Why, I've seen a sheriff who could write nothing but his name, which he learnt to do after his nomination, carrying his right arm in a sling during the canvass, a judge and a member of congress stamping the county for him; also, one postmaster who could not make out his quarterly returns, and another who could only tell the P. O. stamps by the color and like the sheriff, could not write his name. True, the two latter cases were not elective offices, but amounting to the same thing, being appointments in response to party petitions, and displacing qualified men. I knew a school commissioner who, just before an election (at which he was a candidate for re-election) was examining a candidate for school teacher, and whilst writing the man's certificate of qualification, he asked him just three questions, viz: What is reduction? the capital of Pennsylvania? and what is a fraction? And as he handed the successful and surprised young man authority to teach for two years, he wound up with a hope to receive his vote at the coming election! Now, I don't say all are of this stamp, but there are too many, especially in the West. And then look at the municipal government of the most important city in the Union, composed partly of some of the greatest scoundrels and blackguards unhung. Look at the gamblers and pugilists she sent to represent her in the U. S. House of representatives, carrying on their infernal gambling dens within sight of the White House. A state of things some like-minded parties, aye and editors, too, (I say like-minded, for I can't conceive a true Canadian or a loyal British subject wants the like here) are trying to indoctrinate us with. God grant the day is far distant when this fair Canada of our's shall be cursed with such a system, say I.

EURT NOHR

Farmersville, March 30, 1885.