

Maritime Farmer.

FREDERICTON, N. B., May 16, 1888

A Word with Mr. Gregory.

The newspaper that expresses Mr. Gregory's views that it is because of the FARMER's poverty rather than its virtue that we do not fear Mr. Gregory's libel suit.

Action of the Common's Pressmen.

Some of Mr. Hawke's journalistic friends publish half a column of the proceedings of Ottawa local newspaper men which express sympathy for the imprisoned editor, and resolve to ask an opinion from the members of the House of Commons press gallery.

Another report published in the Toronto Empire says that the foregoing resolution passed by a vote of 18 to 5 in a gallery composed about equally of Grits and Tories.

The Shoddy Peddlers.

New Brunswick papers, observes the Montreal Gazette, are drawing attention to the operations of a party of cloth peddlers or cloth swindlers who are going through the country selling inferior goods and taking farmers' notes in payment.

Life Insurance.

According to an abstract of statements of life insurance companies doing business in Canada during the year 1887, which has just been issued, the total number of companies are 39, 11 being Canadian, 16 British and 12 American.

A Difficult Point.

In the House of Commons debate on the Hawke case, Hon. Mr. Thompson, Minister of Justice, when he came to discuss the point of the six months' limit in election petitions, and Judge Fraser's decision thereon in the Westmorland matter, said that Judge Fraser, when acting on this point, was acting on one of the most difficult portions of our law.

Mr. Gregory, through his newspaper, threatens to re-open York for a Dominion contest at an early day, calls on the Liberals to organize, and instructs them that they must put a straight Liberal in the field.

When a politician gets on the down grade he travels fast, and only a miracle will arrest his progress. It is so with Norquay the ex-Premier of Manitoba. He was ousted from office, his constituency has been so gerrymandered that he cannot be elected in it, but must seek another, and now the Winnipeg Conservative organ calls upon its party to dismiss Mr. Norquay from the leadership of his party, because it alleges he no longer represents Conservative views.

Eloquenty Defended.

Judge Fraser's Integrity Vindicated in Parliament

In this part of the country where Judge Fraser is personally known to the great masses of the people, his integrity and honesty of purpose, his high personal character and noble qualities of heart and mind, render a defence of his acts or motives unnecessary.

There are floods in the West as well as the East. Yesterday the banks of the Mississippi river were overflowing, and caused a great sea, covering 800,000 acres of land, in the midst of which is a modern Venice, with impromptu crafts of all kinds and sizes.

A terrible disaster on the Santa Fe road, at Thunderbolt, Texas, occurred yesterday. The "Thunderbolt" train was standing at a station, when the cars and engine from a side track, ran down and struck the train. One car, loaded with naphtha, exploded, throwing the oil over everything, setting the train on fire.

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NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A Summary of Foreign, Dominion, and Provincial Happenings

Gathered from every Quarter.

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The Fisheries Treaty has passed the Newfoundland legislature.

St. Hilare, M. P. P. for Chouinot and Saguenay, Quebec, died Saturday.

The population of the city of Quebec is placed at 60,000 Catholics and 6,000 Protestants.

The Governor General was banqueted by Ottawa citizens last night at the Russell House.

Mercurial will meet the Quebec legislature with a majority of nine in the Assembly and two in the council.

Seating is nearly finished in all parts of Manitoba and the North-West, and many places the grain is above the ground.

Charlotteville had a \$45,000 fire yesterday. The Baptist church and two skating rinks being among the buildings consumed.

Geo. F. Baird, M. P. for Queens, who has been unwell for two weeks, has arrived home from Ottawa and will not return this session.

R. Romane, usher of the black rod in the Nova Scotia Legislature, died at Halifax last week at the great age of 92 years.

The total value of assessable property in Winnipeg for the current year is \$19,500,000, and the population is placed at twenty-five thousand.

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It is stated that the Queen's visit to Berlin has created wonders. Her interviews with leading personages in Germany having left a very favorable impression.

A special telegram to the Toronto Mail says that one of the London society papers state that on the Queen's birthday a number of coronets, including Canadians, are to be knighted.

Crickets are devastating Algeria, entirely destroying vegetation. Their dead bodies are creating a pestilence and interfering with the running of trains between Constantine and Oran.

The dead body of Patrick McKewen, sixty years of age, was found by the police on Union street, St. John, early Sunday morning. He had been a baker but of late years was the victim of drink.

Electric rifles are the latest. Instead of the ordinary percussion rifle used by the militia of silver battery and a primary coil will, so it was lately stated before the American Institute, fire the rifle 35,000 times without re-charging.

A deaf mute, has written Dr. Mackenzie, offering to sacrifice his life if he could be transferred to the emperor's throat. Dr. Mackenzie replied that he would lose his life, and would neither help the emperor nor benefit science.

The success of the operation performed at the Montreal Hospital last week by Dr. Fox, and mentioned in the FARMER, of transplanting the cornea of a rabbit's eye to the eye of Mrs. Annie Schick is now undeniably established. The return of Mrs. Schick's vision is an assured fact.

On Thursday, while workmen were engaged building the iron part of the Waterworth bridge, about six miles from Gloucester, Ontario, a temporary bridge on which the men were at work, lay the heavy iron beams across the way, and all were precipitated into the river. Two men were instantly killed and several others seriously injured.

The thirty-sixth national convention of the Ancient Order of Hibernians is in session at the Hotel de la Reine, Montreal, Quebec, under the presidency of Mr. J. J. O'Rourke, president of the order from 38 States and territories, about 250 in all. Representatives from Scotland and Canada are also in attendance.

The report of Secretary McNeill's investigation into the case of the late membership and money.

Says the New York World: It is not often that new-born twins influence the legislation of a commonwealth. Yesterday, however, State Assemblyman Brownell of Hamilton County received a despatch informing him that he was father of two of a kind.

The House, in honor of the event, unanimously advanced two of Mr. Brownell's bills to a first reading. The bills were introduced by the youngest lobbyist known to history.

Great efforts are now being made in England to carry out the Government scheme of Crofter emigration to Canada. A contribution of £2,000 is required from private sources before the Government will grant £10,000, which is to be repaid in twelve years.

An advance of £120 is made to each family, and some twenty-five families are being assisted. It is thought the scheme will be the means of inducing hundreds of other Crofters to settle in Canada.

In the Newfoundland legislature, Attorney-General Winters has given notice of a resolution to the effect that the necessary for immediate action. At all the military posts and on the coasting stations the work of strengthening the defenses was being carried on with vigor.

The re-arrangement of offices in the Quebec Ministry reveals the complete ascendency of the "Castor" Conservative element of the Cabinet. Mr. Thompson's place in all things is now frankly admitted by his associates. They do, indeed, control the Government.

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DISCUSSED IN PARLIAMENT.

JUDGE FRASER ELOQUENTLY DEFENDED BY THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE.

The Weldons, Grit and Tory, also to the Rescue.

The Latter's Candid Opinion of Mr. Hawke and his Martyrdom.

No Definite Action Taken.

In the House of Commons at Ottawa, last Wednesday, Mr. Davies brought up the question of the imprisonment of John T. Hawke of the Montreal Free Press for contempt of court.

He related the alleged facts connected with the case, and claimed that while newspaper editors should be held strictly to the law, it was not the only tribunal competent to try such a case as the one under review was twelve sworn men empaneled as a jury. When a court was sworn and a judge came off the bench, he was no longer to be considered as a person suffering from a mental infirmity, and having rendered a decision, had no right to send a newspaper editor to jail for criticizing it. He contended that it was a case in which the Minister of Justice should advise the Governor-General to exercise the executive clemency, and concluded by moving the adjournment of the House.

Hon. Mr. Thompson, Minister of Justice, on rising, said he recognized to the fullest extent the importance of the question from the point of view from which the hon. member for Queen's had treated it. He, however, was not quite able to understand the object of the hon. gentleman in addressing the House, nor why, for the purpose of making a case for the interference of Parliament, he should conclude by a motion to adjourn. In so far as he had intended to present his argument in favor of executive clemency in the case of Hawke, he must submit to his own judgment that this argument was not well taken, for this reason. He based his contention entirely on the legal view of the case, and not on the merits of the person of the subject concerned.

MR. HAWKE HAD AMPLE REMEDY. He could have had recourse to a writ of habeas corpus from any of the judges in the Province of New Brunswick. Of course, it might be objected that these were the judges who sentenced him, but they were obliged, under heavy penalties, to grant a writ. He had his remedy without coming to the executive power, and he might have appealed from the Supreme Court of New Brunswick. He could no more ask His excellency to reverse the decision of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick than the Supreme Court could prevent Parliament from passing the statutes. He had no hesitation in saying that he refused every appeal from the decision of the Supreme Court, and where a person suffering from a mental infirmity had an opportunity of seeking a decision of the highest court of his Province, or having taken the opportunity, had not done so, he was not to be considered as a person suffering from a mental infirmity. He addressed himself to the House, and he held that the Minister of Justice, the petitioner against the sitting member, who was opposed to him. There was an affidavit made by Emerson, the petitioner, and signed by George, his counsel, and in these affidavits on this question the allegations made by the hon. member for Queen's did not appear. There was no affidavit made by the hon. member for Queen's, and he was not to be considered as a person suffering from a mental infirmity. He held that the Minister of Justice, the petitioner against the sitting member, who was opposed to him. There was an affidavit made by Emerson, the petitioner, and signed by George, his counsel, and in these affidavits on this question the allegations made by the hon. member for Queen's did not appear. There was no affidavit made by the hon. member for Queen's, and he was not to be considered as a person suffering from a mental infirmity.

NEVER ANGRY BEFORE THE COURT AT ALL, and they made no attempt to have it extended. Judge Fraser, in acting on one of the sections of the statute law, acted upon one of the most difficult sections of our statute book. He was acting under a section which was never intended to be applied to a case of this kind. He was acting under a section which was never intended to be applied to a case of this kind. He was acting under a section which was never intended to be applied to a case of this kind.

THE HAWKE CASE. (From the Ottawa Citizen.)

The case of Mr. John T. Hawke, editor of the Montreal Free Press, who was imprisoned for contempt of court, occupied the attention of the House of Commons during the week ending yesterday's sitting. It was introduced by Mr. Davies, in some what unusual manner—on a motion for adjournment. If Mr. Davies believed that the Supreme Court of New Brunswick, or any member of it had been guilty of conduct demanding the attention of the House, he should have moved differently; but the fact that he satisfied himself with ventilating Mr. Hawke's alleged grievances, proved that he did not attach much importance to the case, and that he was not really interested in the rights and privileges of the press. The answer of the Minister of Justice was complete in every respect. It was one of the clearest, one of the ablest, one of the most judicial statements ever made in the House of Commons.

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The Latter's Candid Opinion of Mr. Hawke and his Martyrdom.

No Definite Action Taken.

In the House of Commons at Ottawa, last Wednesday, Mr. Davies brought up the question of the imprisonment of John T. Hawke of the Montreal Free Press for contempt of court.

He related the alleged facts connected with the case, and claimed that while newspaper editors should be held strictly to the law, it was not the only tribunal competent to try such a case as the one under review was twelve sworn men empaneled as a jury. When a court was sworn and a judge came off the bench, he was no longer to be considered as a person suffering from a mental infirmity, and having rendered a decision, had no right to send a newspaper editor to jail for criticizing it. He contended that it was a case in which the Minister of Justice should advise the Governor-General to exercise the executive clemency, and concluded by moving the adjournment of the House.

Hon. Mr. Thompson, Minister of Justice, on rising, said he recognized to the fullest extent the importance of the question from the point of view from which the hon. member for Queen's had treated it. He, however, was not quite able to understand the object of the hon. gentleman in addressing the House, nor why, for the purpose of making a case for the interference of Parliament, he should conclude by a motion to adjourn. In so far as he had intended to present his argument in favor of executive clemency in the case of Hawke, he must submit to his own judgment that this argument was not well taken, for this reason. He based his contention entirely on the legal view of the case, and not on the merits of the person of the subject concerned.

MR. HAWKE HAD AMPLE REMEDY. He could have had recourse to a writ of habeas corpus from any of the judges in the Province of New Brunswick. Of course, it might be objected that these were the judges who sentenced him, but they were obliged, under heavy penalties, to grant a writ. He had his remedy without coming to the executive power, and he might have appealed from the Supreme Court of New Brunswick. He could no more ask His excellency to reverse the decision of the Supreme Court of New Brunswick than the Supreme Court could prevent Parliament from passing the statutes. He had no hesitation in saying that he refused every appeal from the decision of