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Board of Works

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TWO CENTS PER COPY

MR. McLELLAN REPLIES TO THE GLEANER CHARGES

In Another Open Letter to Mr. James H. Crockett--The Latter's Failure to Accept His Challenge Calls Forth Caustic Comment--Mr. H. A. Powell, a Prominent Conservative Lawyer, Exonerates Mr. McLellan in Richards Will Case.

To Mr. James H. Crockett:

My letter of Monday last to you received the treatment I anticipated. You received it Monday—you published it Saturday. As I have only permission from the Mail for one other article, I hand this letter to that paper, at the same time as to yours. This, therefore, compels me to close my part of our newspaper controversy. After endeavoring to call your bluff in some instances I am perfectly willing to allow matters to rest in the public mind as far as the newspaper end of it is concerned. Permit me in passing to state that I had no idea that such a large section of the public would receive with such favor the contents of my last. From all sections of this City, County and Province I have received such favorable expressions of opinion as to the fair proposition I made you to meet me openly that your complete crawl has stamped you forever as either a deliberate libeller or guilty of the charge I imputed regarding your absolute lack of courage. I knew you had none. Your actions for the last five months in avoiding any chance of a meeting proved the fact to me. I wanted to dissipate from the public mind any lingering doubts on the subject. In view of the facts let the public decide which of us is the "blatant coward."

Allow me to again re-iterate that neither myself or others whom you have attacked has ever written or suggested the contents of a single article appearing in the "Mail" concerning either you or your brother. You again charge this to lay the foundation of your unprovoked attacks. Instead of accepting my challenge, and in a blustering and bluffing way you have employed the week rehearsing a lot of charges with the idea of smothering up your abject refusal to meet in a place where you would either make a public fool of yourself or would have to produce some little evidence anyway to support your position. I have already charged you have no evidence. Any unbalanced and unscrupulous mind can write out a set of charges against any living man. If you had the slightest evidence (plus a little courage) you would have sought the brightest spot on the stage, not only to destroy me, but to sustain your reputation at least from an imputation of cowardice.

In case such a little matter has been overlooked let me repeat a part of my last letter, as follows: "I do not fear the results of the fullest investigation into any of my private enterprises or business dealings. I have therefore now retained Counsel, and may bring such action as will afford you the fullest opportunity to prove the direct charges you have made. Your answer to this letter will possibly bring a decision. For the present I wish to do or say nothing that will interfere with a fair trial, but even this I will abandon if you will accept the proposition I now make you. It is this, and if you are not lacking in the courage I doubt you possess, you will accept. "Come out from behind your ink pots," to use the challenge of the Hon. Geo. E. Foster to the Editor of the Toronto Globe, and meet me on any public platform in this City, clear of your usual ambush and in this open, manly way you can make your charges and produce your evidence. I will meet you and cram your slanders down your throat, and give you an opportunity to reply to any remarks I make concerning your personality and affairs." That this challenge strikes the public mind as fair there is no doubt. You could not in decency side step without making a noise like a real howl in the community. It must even have reached your ears.

Dodging this issue until Saturday night, you, James, tried to look as virtuous as the family cat that has just swallowed the pet canary. You gave us "stones" where we expected "bread." You politely excused yourself, and gave us these gems which I quote from The Gleaner. "Ye gods, listen to them, and from the same pen that has maligned respectable

citizens for the last twenty years.

Here they are:
First: "Is it not beneath the dignity of a 'gentleman' to give attention to such a challenge?"

Second: "What could possibly come of such a meeting?"

Third: "He could establish nothing because there would be nothing but his unverified statements."

Fourth: Mr. James H. Crockett says of James H. Crockett, "Mr. Crockett is not a timid man by any means."

At such a meeting a fine flammer would have been compelled to first make his charges and then to verify his statements. Could you have done that, James? You would have been Johnny on the spot. You would have been a regular scream. You could have walked off with the City Hall piano. See what you missed? I did not propose to come with unverified statements. I would have asked you about, well, a whole lot of things, but about your opinion of the following:

CANADIAN PACIFIC R.Y. CO.'S
TELEGRAPH.

Night Lettergram.

St. John, N. B., Nov. 23, 10

A22 S W C

"R. W. McLellan, Esq.,

Barrister,

F'ron, N. B.

Your telephone message received re Wm. Richards will. The contest over the will necessitated a most exhaustive enquiry on my part into the facts and circumstances attending its execution. The investigation thoroughly convinced me and the conviction has never been shaken, but that not only was the will genuine, but that your conduct with regard to it was in every way strictly professional and honorable. The settlement was effected through the exertions of Mr. James Robinson, acting for those disputing the will. You disapproved strongly of any settlement. I settled the case with Mr. Robinson at the request of the late Mr. Gunter, who desired to end a family quarrel. You are at liberty to use this letter in any way you see fit.

H. A. POWELL."

9.36 p. m.

(Now, before getting hot again, send your Local Government member "fixer" down to the C. P. R. and see if that telegram is of doubtful vintage.) I have already referred to Mr. Powell is a good Conservative. He knows all about the case. You know no more about it than a cat knows of his grandfather.

Again I would have told you that Dr. Atherton has been good enough to authorize the statement, that, although on the hearing of the late William Richards will case, he had questioned the fact that he had witnessed the second will, yet, after hearing the evidence of Miss Murray, (the nurse) and examining his signature carefully he is now convinced that he witnessed the second will, and he stands ready to confirm the fact. Do you get that now? Do you catch the point?

I would have presented you with one of the six or seven verified copies of the stenographer's report of all the evidence in this will case, and would have asked you to point to a single sentence regarding the alleged "mutilation" or "manipulation," (these are your charges) of the will. You could not or cannot find such a reference. What a holy show you would have made of yourself. Believing that "he who slanders" and runs away will live to "slander" another day," you were a wise guy, James. You have been running for the last twenty years, and you're getting played out. The ink is hardly yet dry on the savage attack made on a respectable gentleman whom you are paid to support politically, but who shuns you as the devil does holy water. Your hobby horse is wind-broken and has got the heaves—he interferes—he is gone over in the knees in front and is spavined behind. He

(Continued on page four)

A REMARKABLE SCENE IN RUSSIA



COINS AS PLAGUE-PREVENTERS IN RUSSIA

Here is illustrated a remarkable scene in a provincial town in Russia. An old man, stricken with plague, died in the street. His son sat near him, waiting the arrival of the police ambulance to carry the body away. While the dead man was on the ground several people, emulating, in a manner, the methods of the witch doctor, threw copecs for his funeral, thus hoping to insure immunity from the disease for themselves.

THREE TRAINMEN KILLED IN RAILWAY SMASHUP

Grafton, W. Va., Nov. 28.—Baltimore and Ohio passenger train No. 7 the New York and Chicago express, westbound, via Wheeling, one of the fastest trains of the system, was wrecked at midnight at the head of a seventeen mile grade and three trainmen were killed and three were injured, while a number of passengers received scratches and bruises. The dead: L. J. Flannagan, 501 of Grafton, single, engineer of the passenger train; H. H. Demose, of Grafton, fireman of the passenger train; Joe Weaver of Piedmont, Va., fireman of the helping engine with which the passenger train collided. Engine No. 1790 had helped the passenger train up the heavy grade and had steamed

ahead to make a siding and was backing up in the siding when the collision came with the on coming passenger train, a miscalculation having been made by one or both of the engineers. The crash was terrific. The helper engine was demolished and its tank thrown upon the adjoining east-bound track. The passenger engine was overturned, as were the baggage car and the smoker. But for the fact that there was but one or two passengers in the smoker the death list would have been heavier.

Freight train No. 64, east-bound, was passing at the time, and ran into the tank of engine 1790, causing the derailment of the freight locomotive and several cars.

STOCKS TAKE BIG SLUMP UNDER SELLING PRESSURE

New York, Nov. 28.—Wall street.—The stock market opened under pressure with decline reaching 1½ in Union Pacific, 1 in Reading and large fractions in other important stocks. Lehigh Valley was dealt in for the first time at 186 and 185½.

(Quotations from direct private wires of J. M. Robinson & Son, Bankers, St. John, N. B., Members of Montreal Stock Exchange)

Amalgamated...	69½	67½
Atchinson...	103½	101½
Smelters...	80	78½
Brooklyn...	77½	75½
Canadian Pacific...	194½	192½
Great Northern Pfd...	128½	126½
Northern Pacific...	114½	112½
Penn...	13	12½
Reading...	152½	150½
Soo...	131	129½
Southern Pacific...	117½	115½
Union Pacific...	177½	175½

U. S. Steel Com..... 79½ 77½
Dom. Iron..... 61½
Que. Ry..... 58

MONTREAL MORNING SALES.

Iron, com., 25 @ 61½, 225 @ 61½.
Quebec Railway, 50 @ 58, 150 @ 58, 75 @ 57½, 50 @ 58.
Cement, pfd., 25 @ 85½, 80½ @ 23, 25 @ 23½, 25 @ 23½.
Detroit, 45 @ 55.
Montreal Power, 50 @ 137½, 129 @ 137.
Montreal Street, 50 @ 223.
Royal Bank, 5 @ 245.
Soo, 150 @ 132.
Illinois, 10 @ 90.
Iron, pfd., 10 @ 103.
Twin City, 25 @ 110.
Toronto, 12 @ 124.
N. S. Steel, 15 @ 85½.
Bank of Commerce, 14 @ 207½.

A NEW TURN IN NEW YORK TRUNK MYSTERY

New York, Nov. 28.—A new turn was given the trunk murder mystery today by statements of witnesses who declared that Albert Callier, the supposed victim, was seen alive in 1905, three years after the crime was supposed to have been committed.

The trunk containing the body, recently found in a tenement basement, is declared to have been left there in 1902 by Wm. Lewis, a waiter, for whom a widespread search is now progressing. Callier, a French artist who was a close friend of Lewis, disappeared in 1902, and until now no one is reported having seen him since. The authorities today, however, are in communication with two persons, who declare that they saw Callier in this city in 1905.

The investigation of the mysterious crime is turning today largely in the direction of inquiry whether the murder may have been committed on a later date than in 1902 and if the trunk was empty when left by Lewis. New inquiry into the identity of the victim was also undertaken.

THREE BOYS ESCAPE FROM INDUSTRIAL HOME

St. John, Nov. 28.—(Special)—John Copeland, aged fourteen, George Eitel aged sixteen, and Gordon Kay, aged fifteen, made their escape from the Boys' Industrial Home Saturday night and have not been captured.

Mr. F. W. Hatheway, local agent of the Star Line, intends to take a trip to New York during the Christmas season.
Dr. J. P. Peake of Oromocto is in the city.

PARLIAMENT DISSOLVED

Government of Great Britain is Again Appealing to the Country

King George Expresses Regret That Veto Conference Was Barren of Results.

London, Nov. 28.—The second parliament in the reign of the late King Edward VII., which met on February 15 last, was dissolved today in pursuance of the programme of the Liberal government to go before the country on the question of the prerogatives of the House of Lords.

The King's speech was notable for its brevity, the only reference to the constitutional crisis being a colorless expression of regret that the conference between the leaders of the opposing controlling parties had failed to agree on the reformation of the Upper Chamber.

The longest and most interesting paragraph which immediately followed an allusion to the death of His Majesty, his father, dealt with the recent arbitration of the Newfoundland fisheries with the United States and read:

"I confidently hope that the questions connected with the North Atlantic Fisheries between Canada and Newfoundland on the one hand and with the United States of America on the other, which have been the subject of controversy for nearly a century, have been at last finally settled by the award of the Hague Tribunal. It is the cause of special satisfaction that it has been found possible to solve by arbitration problems of such an intricate and difficult nature and that the award has been received by both sides in a spirit which must tend to increase good will."

Rome, Nov. 28.—During an audience which he gave today to most Rev. Francis Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, the Pope showed much interest in the approaching British elections. He inquired especially regarding the probable result, both in connection with the House of Lords controversy and the question of Home Rule for Ireland and the likely effect of the latter upon Catholicism in the United Kingdom.

HATTIE LeBLANC TO BE TRIED FOR MURDER

Cambridge, Mass., Nov. 28.—A girl just past her seventeenth year, Hattie LeBlanc, will be tried in the Middlesex County Superior Criminal Court some time this week for the murder at Waltham, Nov. 20, 1908, of her employer, Clarence F. Glover. The little French Canadian girl is the youngest of her sex ever tried for first degree murder in the annals of New England Courts. Her aged father has come from his home in West Arichat, C. B., to aid his daughter.

Clarence F. Glover was shot in the back in the Waltham Laundry, of which he was the proprietor, and before his death accused Hattie LeBlanc, who was in the laundry with him at the time.

ST. JOHN PASTOR MAY GO WEST

St. John, Nov. 28.—Rev. J. H. Graham, pastor of St. David's Presbyterian church, has been offered the principalship of a Presbyterian college at Moose Jaw, Sask.

ONTARIO SENATOR IMPORTING HORSES

St. John, Nov. 28.—(Special)—J. Stewart, a sailor belonging to the schooner Tyrian, has been missing since Saturday. It is thought he was washed overboard in the big storm of Saturday night.

TO ADVANCE FREIGHT RATES

Transcontinental Railway Men Are Now Considering the Matter

Proposed Increase Will Amount to Thirty-Five Per Cent Over Present Schedule.

Chicago, Nov. 28.—Transcontinental railroad officials in session in Chicago, are planning an advance in freight rates between Chicago, New York, Boston and other eastern points and the Pacific Coast. The advance contemplates an increase amounting to 25 and 35 per cent., according to The Tribune today.

A plan is contemplated which will increase the rate between Chicago and the Pacific Coast, but also will cut down materially advantage over Chicago which New York and Atlantic seaboard shippers have enjoyed in the past. The rates from Chicago and New York to the coast heretofore have been the same. Under the proposed schedule, not yet endorsed by the interstate commerce commission, the rate from Chicago to the Pacific is raised fifty cents a hundred pounds, but New York has a dollar added to the tariff.

The Transcontinental lines are now in conference over their proposed through schedule increases. In their efforts to seek shelter under the amendment to the long and short haul clause of the interstate commerce law, effective February 17th, the railroads seek this increase in alternative. They say they don't want to be forced by the government to reduce their rates to intermediate points in the west, which in some cases are higher than the existing rate through to the coast.

Tentative schedule of rates now under consideration advances the first class rate from New York to the Pacific Coast cities from \$3 to \$4 per hundred pounds with corresponding increases on the lower five numbered and five lettered classes. The rates to intermediate points are to be graded between these figures. On this basis, the first class rate from Chicago to the Pacific Coast would be approximately \$3.50, instead of \$3, as at present.

The principal railroad involved in the plan for the readjustment of the western rates are the Harriman lines, including the Union Pacific and Southern Pacific, the Hill lines, the Great Northern and Northern Pacific, the Gould lines, including the Western Pacific and Denver and Rio Grande, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, and the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul, although nearly every line in the country will be affected.

OLD AGE ANNUITIES TO BE DISCUSSED

The Canadian Government "Old Age Annuities Scheme" is considered by those competent to judge, to be the best plan yet adopted by any country for the comfort and independence of our aged people. An exceptionally small amount put into the system and working out at the very high rate of interest of 4 per cent compound will produce an annual income quite sufficient to amply provide for an aged person. In addition to this you have absolute safety.

This whole scheme which so vitally affects the interest of the wage owner, and salaried men will be explained in a very interesting and entertaining manner by Mr. N. W. Brown, B. A. in the Y. M. C. A. hall York Street tonight. All are invited. The Opera House orchestra will be present and will commence playing at 7.30. The chair will be taken by his worship Mayor Thomas at eight o'clock sharp. Reserved seats for ladies and their escorts.

WASHED OVERBOARD

Sydney, Nov. 28.—(Special)—J. Stewart, a sailor belonging to the schooner Tyrian, has been missing since Saturday. It is thought he was washed overboard in the big storm of Saturday night.