

## The Daily Mail

Published every afternoon (except Sunday) at No. 613 Queen Street.  
Subscription price Four Dollars per year. Payable in advance.  
HERALD PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO., Proprietors.

Fredericton, N. B., May 23, 1910.

## EMPIRE DAY

(Standard of Empire)

A few days ago the government of the day in what is known as the Imperial Parliament refused to consider a Bill in which it was proposed to give official recognition to the celebration of Empire Day. If this decision has any effect at all upon the great movement to which the celebration of Empire Day belongs, it should be a stimulating one; the work of teaching the British people to appreciate the splendour of their heritage and the magnitude of their responsibilities should go on more ardently than ever, especially if it is to be hoped, where education is most needed, here, in the island cradle of the race. The idea of Empire Day first came to us from the Oversea Dominions, from the men who, as it were, form the advance guard and the fighting line of our race. Their outlook is wider than ours, their senses are keener, and they are closer to the unlimited possibilities which the future holds for an Empire such as ours if it be developed on the right lines by a purposeful and disciplined people. It is unfortunately here in England that men are to be found who have no race patriotism and no confidence in national destiny; it is here that representatives of the people professed leaders of public opinion, dare stand up on the platform and in their places in parliament and sneer at Imperial ideals. Our anti-Imperialists are of two kinds; the pseudo-humanitarian crank and the entirely selfish Socialist demagogue. The former invariably sides with the foreigner against his own country, he denounces the beneficent rule of Britain in India and in Egypt as a shameful tyranny. He is before all else a separatist. The Socialist demagogue, who professes to represent the working classes in parliament, is an even more aggressive type of "Little Englander;" he would have the masses of the people think of nothing but purely selfish ends, and aim at nothing but the acquisition of some mean but immediate material advantage. He would have them sell all their hopes of the future for a mess of pottage, that they could eat at once. "What," he asks, "is the Empire to you? What do you stand to make out of it?"

It is the task of the Empire Day movement to teach the masses in England that the Empire is really everything to them; that it is only by and through the Empire that the tremendous social and economic problems with which we are confronted can be solved; that it is only by the use of the fully developed resources of the Empire that the evils of unemployment and overcrowding can be stamped out; that the standard of living can be permanently raised, and that the national defence can be adequately provided for. It is for the Empire movement to neutralise the cheap cynicism of the half-educated would be "cosmopolitans" who are doing their best to kill race pride and patriotism and the sense of duty and responsibility amongst our people. The masses must be taught that there is no Briton born, however humble his station, who may not take pride—a very proper pride, without any taint of vain glory—in the inheritance our forefathers have left us. For what we hold has been won not by one class but by the whole people. Drake's seamen, Nelson's seamen, the soldiers who fought with Clive at Plassy, with Wolfe at Quebec, with Abercromby at Alexandria, the raw Militia lads who stood in the stubborn squares at Waterloo—were they not men of the people? And the men who in these days, when swords have been turned into ploughshares and soldiers have become statesmen, are civilising and cultivating whole continents to the permanent benefit of the human race, are they not men of the people too? There is no family in these islands that has not, at some time or other given a life for the Empire, and there is scarcely a family today that is not sending out, year by year, sons and daughters to do the Empire's work. It should not be hard, therefore, to answer the sneering ques-

tion the demagogues are putting to the masses: "What is the Empire to you?" But the work must be earnestly undertaken and persistently carried forward, and it should be especially directed towards the education of the rising generation in the duties of Imperial citizenship. We trust that the appeal issued a few days ago by the Earl of Meath for helpers in the Imperial movement will meet with the response it deserves. For the moment is critical; influences are at work which threaten to alter the course of our national life and destroy all the constructive work that the race has accomplished in centuries, and they must be energetically resisted. None can give more valuable assistance than the women of the nation; they, in the home and in the school, shape the character of the children and makes them good or bad citizens. If they will instil into their charges the sense of "responsibility, duty, sympathy, and self-sacrifice" (the watchwords of the Empire Day movement), there will be nothing to fear for our national future.

## CEMENT HOUSES

If Thomas A. Edison has actually realized his dream of constructing separate concrete houses by the use of molds into which the cement mixture is poured, and if such houses can be built for \$1200 each, it will require a vigorous imagination to foresee all the benefits which his invention will confer upon the world. For Mr. Edison intends that the world shall reap the benefit, without being compelled to pay toll to any greedy corporation. There will be no monopoly in the Edison cement houses, once they are perfected.

That means, first, that the housing problem, which every year is becoming more serious on account of the diminishing supply of lumber and its steadily increasing price, will be solved. And, second, that a \$1200 cement house, water proof and vermin proof and requiring few if any repairs, will be far preferable to a wooden house costing five or six times as much. Third, it means that hundreds of thousands of men and women wage earners throughout the country will be enabled not only to own their own homes but to own homes that will not require constant repairing.

Although cast in molds, the Edison houses will not resemble one another, like the peas in a pod, for the molds are adapted to many variations of arrangement, making it possible to change the style of houses with the same set of molds.

Edison has completed his miniature model, and the model is a success. The public will await with great interest the completion of the first actual dwelling cast in a mold.

## MCLEOD AND MAXWELL

## TEST NACKAWICK MUD

A Railway or a Flying Machine Badly Needed in That Locality—Brethren at Variance

An up river correspondent writes to The Daily Mail under date of May 20 as follows:

"The Hon. Rob. Maxwell, forecastle member of the Hazen government, and the Hon. Harry F. McLeod, solicitor general, paid a visit to the Nackawick yesterday, and inspected the route of Mr. Pinder's proposed railway. I understand that the Hon. Harry F. and his ancient friend, Mr. Pinder, had to be provided with separate conveyances, so that things might go along smoothly.

"The hon. gentlemen were greatly pleased with their trip. They told a friend that they came up opposed to the railway, but changed their minds in regard to it, after they had seen evidence of the cohesiveness of Nackawick mud. They no doubt, came to the conclusion that the people were entitled to either a railway or a flying machine.

"I understand that the King of Nackawick has made dire threats as to what he will do if financial assistance for his road is not forthcoming. Mr. O. S. Crockett has also delivered an ultimatum to the effect that he will make the sawdust fly if the government does not flash up in good shape for James K. We are certainly on the eve of great things up this way."

## PERSONAL

Friends of Mr. W. J. Edgcombe, who has been seriously ill from pneumonia, will be glad to hear that he is now out of danger.

Mr. W. F. Hoar, of Montreal, is registered at the Queen.

Mr. James P. Wetmore, of Central Blissville, is at the Barker House.

## THE ST. JOHN RIVER SURVEY

Mr. A.E. Hanson Gives Some Facts with Reference to this Survey that the Gleaner Failed to Include in it's Story --- The only Fake About the Survey is the Gleaner's Account of it.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS

While the Mail is ready at all times to open its columns for the discussion of matters of public interest, it must not be assumed that the opinions expressed by correspondents are necessarily those of this journal, nor can it accept responsibility for any such opinions. This journal does not undertake to publish all or any communications which may be addressed to it, and any such, not accompanied by the name and address of the writer, as evidence of good faith, will not be noticed under any circumstances.

## A LIE HAS SHORT LEGS

To the Editor of The Mail.

Sir—After taking up the time of Parliament during last session, and costing the country thousands of dollars, and are trying by disgraceful tactics to find fault and make a scandal, with any public expenditure, made by the Minister of Public Works in this Province, Mr. O. S. Crockett, the political alibi of this country, alias the "idee fixe," sick and pale with monomania again, attempts to rob me of my good name in my professional capacity. Stooping low and flying in the dark, he comes this time armed with the assassin sheet the Gleaner, like a hungry cormorant from the abyss of indecency, inoculated with ideas hatched from his unreliable and inconsiderate mind, trying to assail my character, even as his sheet attempted to do only the other day, with one of their own men who represents Queens Co., in the interests of the Conservative party.

I may or I may not be satisfied with answering his low and vile, unfounded statements in the public press, and I take this opportunity first to give him fair warning.

In reference to the St. John River survey of which I am in charge, there has only been spent to date \$6,000 by myself and staff, and \$2,500 by Mr. Chas. Miles, and his staff, making a total of \$8,500.

This fellow Crockett also stated that there was previously a survey made. This is an absolute falsehood. There never was a survey made before of the river above Fredericton, except a small survey of Bear Island bar and the Dogway and owing to the shifting gravel etc., a resurvey is generally necessary, if public money is to be spent on dredging, with any chance of being effective, etc. In the year 1845, 1846 and 1847 the British Admiralty made a most extensive survey between St. John and Fredericton, costing thousands of dollars and today the plans and official data is one of the most valuable assets to the archives and records, stored in the vaults of the Crown Land office. Mr. Maxwell, the chief of the St. John Valley Survey, gathered a lot of information from these plans the same as will be gathered later on from the present survey of the river above Fredericton.

Also it is known that the United States and Canada are generally having every river surveyed as well as every province in the Dominion, costing millions of dollars. This information is absolutely necessary particularly from a military standpoint, but for any future information, and even if the St. John River is not dredged for navigation, the information obtained, which comprises not only a series of continuous triangulations, but at every 100 foot intervals a chain of soundings across the river between here and Woodstock and will more than repay the country for the outlay.

I challenge this contemptible political accident, to produce any fair minded engineer belonging to his party, after looking over and inspecting the plans and report, to say that the work has not been done in a professional manner and well worth the cost. His pigmy mind would have a dredge for digging with out sufficient data, and it would be likened to the man who builds his house upon the shifting sand.

His statement saying that I purchased a canoe from myself is a lie—I purchased the canoe from Alderman Harry Harrison and sold it to Samuel Stevens of Douglas for \$4.00, who represented to me that it was illegally seized from the owner the late Benjamin Waugh.

In the year 1908 my orders were to make a continuous survey from Hawshaw to Fredericton, but on account of the small appropriation it was found that it was entirely too inadequate.

The department is desirous of having full details of this river for different purposes and nobody but this

fellow would have wasted so much time trying to dig up another scandal. Let anybody who has read this assassin sheet's story take his calendar and see if he can see whether I charged for Christmas day. Having only 26 days on the pay list, there being only 4 Sundays and allowing for Christmas and taking these five days from 31 days for December. Why the observer will see at once what a vile attempt to mislead they are making again as they have always attempted to do.

This man would have the public believe that I charged the Department for Sundays as well as ordinary working days. If he knew the first thing about the Department's regulations he would know that such a thing is impossible. The Department knows exactly when the work began and when it was ended, and it is not a difficult matter to reckon up how many working days are comprised in the period.

His whole article, so far as I am concerned, reverberates about horse hire. Could any one imagine that a person could travel between Hawshaw and Fredericton all summer, and autumn, without horses? And as he winds up his unfounded statements, he says something about some oats, being purchased from Whelpley's, and also says that there were "no horses on the survey," and then puts it up to the reading public, Where did the oats go?

Let any fair minded man read these unwarranted statements, whether he is a Conservative or a Liberal, and if he can scrape out a vestige of wrong-doing, on my part in connection with this survey, or any other, and prove it, I will resign from my position immediately. Let Crockett come out from behind the woodpile when he casts his vile, low and contemptible unsigned and unacknowledged insinuations, whereby I have obtained any money that was not properly due me and which I have earned honestly and make these statements over his own name and I will show him what can be done by one who not only does not fear him but who will follow him to the last ditch.

My family and myself must be considered by the public in this unwarranted attack by Crockett and "he who tries to flit from me my good name robs me of that which not enriches himself but makes me poor indeed."

I desire the people of this country to read carefully these unfair statements in The Gleaner and carefully judge the character of the individual who represents at present this old county, which has most always produced men who would add some respectability and dignity to the honorable position as member for York.

This fellow is prepared to go as far as he deems it necessary to accomplish his ends. This can be proven as it was in the County Court by his sworn oath, when he swore that he did not receive but one jolt in his proboscis, and when asked by opposing counsel what about the igominis slap in the mouth, he absolutely denied it point blank and afterwards attempted unsuccessfully to brow-beat the only disinterested eye witness of the occurrence to swear as false as he did.

In conclusion I have successfully and "above board" made my way in this country and I appeal to every man and elector in this county that the representative of this county has failed signally to come to the standard. He is an eyesore to the respectable representatives at Ottawa whether Liberal or Conservative and in his great zeal to attempt to hearnish the Minister of Public Works because this is his "idee fixe" he might as well first learn that compared with Hon. William Pugsley, "he is a squaw and as the old Indian said "Pugsley he too big; Crockett too little."

Let us look over his record since he was sent to Ottawa, has he accomplished a single thing for this country? He would have, and has striven to drive away, all expenditures of any public character. Surely this Dominion of Canada and county of York has no room for such pigmy politicians. We want men of broad ideas, such men as Tilley, Wilmot, Blair and Pugsley, and if we can't get men of great ability why let us try to get a man even of the Conservative party is in the majority for the time being in York to represent this Old County in a proper and dignified manner and not have this pale livered "idee fixe" represent us in parliament any longer.

Yours very truly,

A. E. HANSON.

Mr. James Robinson, of Miramichi, is at the Barker House.

Mr. W. Walker Clark, chief of police of St. John, is in the city.

A party consisting of Messrs. MacVay, Green, Tabor and Bishop arrived from Woodstock on Saturday.

They are at the Queen.

Mr. H. C. Kinghorn will leave for Montreal this evening.

May 16, 1910

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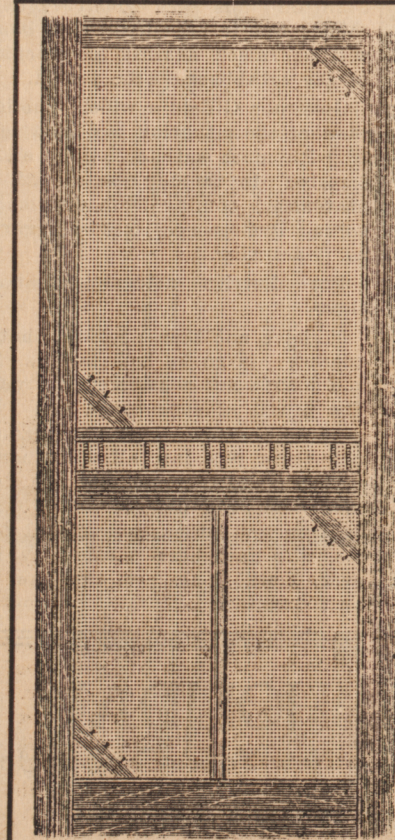
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