

# The Daily Mail

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## NOT A HAPPY FAMILY

The followers of the government in the Legislature are anything but a happy family these days. They know that extravagance is rampant in every department of the public service, and while party loyalty prevents them from entering a public protest, it is known that they do a lot of grumbling which does not add materially to Premier Flemming's peace of mind. When supply was under consideration in the Legislature a few of the bolder spirits, including Mr. Slipp of Queens, who is an honorable man and would like to see a little common honesty and horse sense brought to bear in the conduct of public affairs, offered some criticism of expenditures in immigration, public printing, etc. There was an outburst the following day from Messrs. Stewart and Swin of Northumberland, who were elected as independents but have in the past given the government a generous measure of support. These gentlemen did not give expression to all their thoughts, but they said enough to convince the public that in their opinion at least, there is plenty of room for improvement in the administration of provincial affairs. The sanctimonious Premier Flemming, who does most of the talking for the administration, came to the front with explanations and apologies and endeavored to make it appear to his followers that everything was lovely. If the premier were the president of a banking institution and the members of the Legislature shareholders in the same, it would be obligatory on his part to employ altogether different methods, but in his position as premier of a profligate government, he seems to feel it his bounden duty to hoodwink his legislative supporters and humbug the people. He knows better than any other living man that the finances of the province were never in such a desperate condition as they are at the present time yet he puts on a bold front and talks glibly about the timber land bonus, farm settlement boards, colonization schemes and other great acts of alleged statesmanship which he claims for his government. The premier is a many-sided man and can put up a good bluff when occasion calls for it, but many people who formerly worshipped at his shrine, including the more independent of his legislative supporters, are becoming wise to his curves and their distrust and suspicions are beginning to find expression. Here in the County of York, where the people have a good opportunity to watch the trend of events, the party which at one time enthusiastically supported the present government is now seething with discontent. Life-long Conservatives openly denounce the extravagance, jobbery and rank favoritism shown by the Flemming administration and declare that it will be a delight for them to assist in voting it out of office when the opportunity arrives. Many of the premier's legislative followers are disgusted with his leadership and lack of firmness in dealing with public questions and while party exigencies keep them in line, the feeling which they have towards the government is one of supreme contempt. The little outbreaks in the House on Monday and Tuesday, while of a mild nature, are pretty certain to be followed by a real electrical storm before the present session comes to an end. The St. John and Quebec Railway Company is knocking at the door of the Legislature for another bond guarantee of \$10,000 per mile. They want to saddle a second mortgage on the road but capitalists will not look sideways at the bonds unless principal and interest are guaranteed by the province. This company has already received from the government and legislature more generous treatment than was ever accorded any other railway company in the history of the province and there is a strong feeling among many members that the line must be drawn and

they threaten to vote against any further increase in the bond guarantee. Other railway schemes are in the air and the promoters are demanding a guarantee of bonds for a large amount. Premier Flemming cannot afford to make fish of one and flesh of another, and if the St. John and Quebec Railway Company gets what it is after the demands of the other companies will have to be met and the outcome will be a ruinous increase in the liabilities of the province. The situation which confronts the people of this province today is not only serious but alarming and it is not to be wondered at that the more independent of Mr. Flemming's legislative supporters are unhappy and discontented. They know that the government, by its extravagance and its subservience to the big railway corporations and utter disregard for the interests of the people, has been piling up wrath for the day of wrath and they have sufficient prophetic vision to form a pretty correct idea of what will happen when the people are given an opportunity to pronounce judgment. It is not to be wondered at that there are rumors of the early retirement of Premier Flemming in the air.

The St. John and Quebec Railway Company has already received from the Flemming Government bonds to the value of \$2,725,572.50 which practically covers the entire guarantee from Gagetown to Centreville. Not a mile of the road is yet in operation and an immense amount of work is to be done before this section of the work is completed. The company has been paid a portion of the Federal subsidy. The money is all gone and the contracting company is now knocking at the door of the Legislature for more. The business like Flemming Government is certainly having its own troubles these days.

Telegraph—The Ottawa Journal says Mr. H. F. McLeod, M. P., "does not seem to be afraid to speak his mind about pseudo friends." It adds: "He made the fur fly yesterday over domestic politics in New Brunswick." He did. And the fur that is flying was formerly attached to Mr. McLeod's Conservative friends in York County. When he returns to that constituency he is not unlikely to lose some fur himself.

## DENTIST GERRARD PAID FINE AND COSTS Declares He Did Not Promise to Refrain From Practising—Another Information Laid

Dr. Gerrard, the English dentist who is having trouble with the N. B. Dental Society, discussed his case briefly this morning with a representative of The Mail. He said that the statement made in the police court on Wednesday that the fine imposed upon him in the police court a short time ago had not been paid, was incorrect. He gave his check for \$29 to a constable on Saturday last, and he had learned that the check had not been cashed at the bank yesterday. (The Mail has since learned that the money has been handed over to City Treasurer Perkins by the official who collected it.) Dr. Gerrard denied most emphatically that he had promised the Dental Society to cease practising his profession. Had he made such a promise he said he would have kept it as he is a man of his word. He went on to say that he qualified as a dentist in the Old Country and practised his profession there twenty years. When he came to this country he tried farming, but being unable to earn a living at that he was compelled to turn to his profession. He applied to Dr. Godsoe to let him register but the application was refused. He offered to take the examination required by law but his offer was not accepted. He did not think that at his age he should be compelled to take the preliminary examination but he was willing to do even that. He was willing and anxious to comply with the law but the Dental Society would not let him. He had a family to support and it was necessary for him to earn a living. It is said that Mr. P. A. Guthrie, who has been retained as counsel by Dr. Gerrard, will endeavor to get a special act through the Legislature giving him authority to practise. Dr. Godsoe, while here yesterday, laid information in the police court against Dr. Gerrard for practising his profession illegally. He says that it is the intention of the society to follow the matter up.

Owing to the opposition of organized labor the city council of East St. Louis, Ill., has unanimously appealed an ordinance passed several months ago legalizing the employment of city prisoners on street work.

## DECIDED AGAINST

(Continued from page eight.)

And this council is also of the opinion that no investigation can be held as asked for in Mr. Farrell's petition of March 13 for the reason that no specific statement of grounds therefore was made in the protest filed by him, on March 9, inst., which is a condition precedent to the holding of such investigation.

TO PRESERVE BALLOTS.

A. J. Gregory, K. C., counsel for ex. Ald. Farrell was present and asked that ballots and documents relating to the election be preserved, as action in a court might be taken. The Council ordered them to be placed in safe keeping. Mr. Farrell is in New York and the next step probably will be taken on his return.

PASSED AWAY LAST NIGHT.

Lewis B. Perley passed away at his home, Brunswick Street last night after a lingering illness. The deceased was aged sixty-four years. A widow and one son, Lewis C. Perley of Missoula, Mont., now in Fredericton, survive. One brother, Henry A. Perley, residing in Calgary, Alta., and one sister, Mrs. M. B. McNally of Fredericton, survive. The deceased was a well known resident of this city and for many years was employed at the wood-working factory of J. C. Risteen & Co.. The funeral will take place tomorrow afternoon leaving the house at three o'clock. Rev. Neil McLaughlan will conduct the service at 2.45. Interment will be made at the Rural Cemetery. The funeral will be under the auspices and the members of Hiram Lodge, A. F. & A. M. No. 6, will attend.

HEROES HONORED.

Capt. A. F. McKinnon of the steamer John L. Cann and Capt. J. F. McKinnon of the steamer Westport who rescued the passengers and crew of the ill-fated steamer Cobiquid were presented with gold medals by the City of St. John, yesterday.

CLEEK THE VANISHING CRACKSMAN.

The first of the Cleek series shown at the Gaiety Theatre yesterday entitled "The Vanishing Cracksman" drew large sized houses and from the expressions of approval it is quite evident that the remainder of the series will be watched with the keenest interest. In addition to the regular programme Pathe Weekly is also being shown. This popular news weekly contains some of the very latest dances which are so popular at the present time, danced by recognized stars from the leading theatres in New York City. Tomorrow Gilbert M. Anderson, the world renowned Broncho Billy will be seen in the western photoplay "Bronco Billy's Conscience."

A GREAT OFFER

The Daily Mail will be mailed to any address in New Brunswick until May 1st for only Twenty Five Cents. This period will include the session of the Legislature, which judging by recent events is likely to be far more interesting this year than it was last. If you are not a reader of The Mail you do not know what is going on in political circles. Subscribe now.

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