

HOT WORK IN HOUSE OF COMMONS

Paterson Minister of Customs and G. W. Fowler in Collision.

FORMER TELLS THE KING'S M.P. THAT "YOU CAN'T PLAY

Political Bully With Me."

Ottawa, April 26.—The House enjoyed one of the stormiest days of the session yesterday, the fight being renewed over the alleged writing of political literature by Mr. John Bain, the private secretary of the Minister of Customs.

Mr. Fowler of King's, N. B., opened fire with an insinuation which Hon. Wm. Paterson quickly resented, and for three hours the speaking was fast and furious.

Mr. Paterson gave a clear and satisfactory explanation of the basis of the charge, stating that some statistical tables, which Mr. Bain had prepared for him and which he had used in the House and elsewhere, had found their way into the Liberal pamphlets.

This was supplemented by Mr. Alex. Johnston of Cape Breton, one of the committee of publication, who gave his word that Mr. Bain was not responsible for any of the comments in the pamphlets.

Mr. Paterson and Mr. Fowler exchanged compliments, the minister averring that Mr. Bain if turned adrift in the world would do better than the opposition critic, while the latter referred to Mr. Paterson as a "ministerial megaphone," and suggested employment for him in announcing the attractions of a circus tent.

In the discussion Mr. Fowler renewed his attack on Mr. Bain, the axis not customs committees.

"Nothing does it but has been done by Mr. Bain," said the hon. gentleman knows anything he had better make the charge," interrupted Hon. Mr. Paterson, in tones of emphasis.

Mr. Fowler returned to the issue, and repeated his allegation that Mr. Bain drew \$2,800 from the public revenues and wrote literature for the Liberal party, to which he belongs. Then he went through the country trying to find cause for the dismissal of Conservatives because they voted as their conscience dictated. It was wrong, it was discreditable, judged by the standards laid down by Liberals themselves.

"The hon. gentleman does not tell us what Mr. Bain did," said Mr. Paterson, as Mr. Fowler sat down.

"He wrote Pointers, one, two and three," replied Mr. Fowler.

"Does he know that?" asked Mr. Paterson, and, not receiving any definite reply, the minister of customs went on in rising tones of thunder:—"You can't play the political bully with me—(cheers)—I am quite ready for this discussion. Hon. gentlemen brought it up very suddenly the other night, and wanted to press me for an answer. I asked what their charge was." The member for Halton (Mr. Henderson) mentioned so and so. I said I would speak with Mr. Bain. I have done so; I am ready to meet hon. gentlemen. (Cheers.) Let me point out, first of all, that hon. gentlemen gave no time to investigate their statements. They moved that Mr. Bain be discharged. They say we sent a deputation to investigate cases of political partisanship, but there was to be no investigation, no word from Mr. Bain; cut his head right off. (Applause.) Thirteen of them stood up to vote for it, and that gentleman (Mr. Fowler) among them. What did Mr. Bain do? Mr. Bain has prepared statistical statements for me, time and again, statistical statements that have been used in this House in my speeches. They are on the public records, and he has prepared these, and he has handed these out when he was asked for them, and they could have been found in my speeches, the greater part of them, if the hon. gentleman had

sought them. I want to tell the hon. gentleman that a man's private secretary is necessary to a large extent in politics. He is the confidential man of the Minister, and I want to tell you more, that there are gentlemen who have been private secretaries to Ministers in days gone by who are in the public service now. Ask them if they ever prepared any statistics for their Ministers. If there is any criticism it should be against the oldest offender, and it shall not commence with the private secretary of the Minister of Customs." (Cheers)

Mr. Paterson went on to say that Mr. Bain was as efficient a public servant as there is in this country. He had prepared statements used by the speaker in the House. He would admit that Mr. Bain had prepared the financial statements which are in "political pointers No. 3." He would later read some of those statements, for, if there was a y persons in this country that should have the benefit of them, it was the Tory party. (Applause.) If it could be shown that any part of them was not true it should be pointed out. "If they are mere recitals of the history of this country, of its marvellous progress and development, which they are, every Canadian who has any patriotism in him ought to rejoice in knowing that they have been scattered abroad, and that there has been a service done to the country." (Loud cheers.)

Claims Charge is Proved.

After dinner Mr. Fowler continued the debate. He could see no reason why the minister of customs, who, he said, might be called the "ministerial megaphone," should have waxed wroth and worked himself into a fury. Because the minister was unable to deny the charge that Mr. Bain had been the object of his particular care, and had been preparing campaign literature, he had sought refuge in rage and noise. Mr. Fowler admitted that it came within the duties of the private secretary to a minister to prepare information for his chief, but contended that Mr. Bain was not a private secretary, but the assistant commissioner of customs. He also complained that the minister of customs had told him to sit down when he sought to reply to a question which that gentleman put to him, and Mr. Fowler asserted that instead of seeking to bully the minister of customs that gentleman had tried to bully him. Mr. Bain had no right while in the service to engage in political "back" work, and the minister had practically admitted the truth of the charges made, and had not offered one word in explanation or extenuation.

Mr. Paterson Draws a Distinction.

Hon. Mr. Paterson retorted that when charges were made by some gentlemen it was incumbent upon him to deny them at the time, but it was not always necessary to do so; the character of the gentlemen making them determined that. If it was a gentleman whose opinion he valued or whose word carried weight, he would think it necessary to settle his word against that gentleman's, but he must be the judge in such cases. If Mr. Fowler had been gifted with nicer moral perception than himself let him rejoice in the fact, but not throw obloquy upon another gentleman not so highly gifted by nature. (Laughter.) When Mr. Fowler made certain statements respecting Mr. Bain on Friday last he was not in a position, not having the knowledge, to answer correctly, but had expressed the opinion that Mr. Bain would speak to him about it. He had not been mistaken in his estimate of Mr. Bain, who had spoken to him, and spoken very freely, in reference to the matter, and made no attempt to hide what he had done. The statements to which the opposition took

IF WOMEN ONLY KNEW

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exception were prepared, not with a view to an election, but, as he had stated, in the ordinary course of Mr. Bain's duties. It may have been that the original statements, prepared several years ago, had been brought down to date for purposes of comparison. Mr. Paterson quoted at some length from the statistics to which the opposition took exception, which dealt with the growth of \$67,000,000 in the foreign trade of Canada from 1878 to 1896, as compared with an increase of \$228,000,000 during the seven years of the Liberal government, between 1896 and 1903. He pointed out that all the information embodied in the statements had been used by him upon the floor of the House, and none of the opposition had contradicted them. Therefore, he failed to see any ground for the charge of partisanship. Mr. Paterson also quoted the civil service act to show that Mr. Bain's promotion to the office of assistant commissioner of customs did not prevent that gentleman retaining his position as private secretary. Comparing the abilities of Mr. Fowler and Mr. Henderson, the chief critics of Mr. Bain, with that gentleman, Mr. Paterson expressed the belief that if all three of those gentlemen, were turned out into the world together upon their merits, Mr. Bain would command a higher salary than either of his critics.

Where it "Touches."

Mr. Fowler retorted that instead of the minister of customs having been "touched" by the attack upon his secretary, it was the treasury of the Dominion that, in his opinion, was being "touched" for Mr. Bain's salary while he was writing political pointers for the Liberal party. He resented Mr. Paterson's comparison as to the respective capabilities of Mr. Bain and himself, and said he did not know that the minister of customs would be able to command in any other capacity as generous remuneration as he received as minister of customs. He had been casting round in his mind for some walk in private life for which the minister of customs would be eminently fitted, and the position which suggested itself to his mind was that of those gentlemen who, standing outside the circus tent, described the curiosities to be found in the side show. The minister would be well qualified, he thought, to fill such a position as that.

Mr. Taylor (Leads) declared he could prove that Mr. Bain had prepared "pointers No. 3."

This Hon. Mr. Sutherland emphatically denied, as a fact within his own knowledge.

Mr. C. B. Heyd advised the opposition to go to the fountain head for facts, as had the author of those pointers, and then they would not so often go astray. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. Sproule, in a lengthy speech, protested against a public official writing such a pamphlet.

"Do you say he wrote it?" asked Mr. Heyd.

"I am not here to be cross-questioned by you," replied Dr. Sproule with fire. "I don't take the word of a man who don't know. It has been admitted by implication by the minister of customs."

Mr. Bain Only Prepared Figures.

Mr. Alexander Johnston (Cape Breton) assured the House that he was one of the committee charged with the duty of compiling the publications to which reference had been made. The committee had availed themselves of the figures prepared by Mr. Bain of the customs department for the use of the minister of customs in the House and outside of it. The comments made upon these figures, however, were not the comments of John Bain, and he made that statement in the most positive manner.

The debate continued in a calmer manner, Mr. Clancy ultimately expressing his satisfaction with the general management of the customs department.

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In washing woollens and flannels, Lever's Dry Soap (a powder) will be found very satisfactory.

MURDER TRIAL.

Evidence for Crown Against Geo. Gee

CONCLUDED AT WEDNESDAY'S SITTING OF THE COURT.

Defence Will be Insanity of the Prisoner.

Woodstock, April 28.—In the murder trial yesterday, Edward E. Carney said that on the morning of March 13, witness learned of the murder. After that the witness went to the prisoner's parents' home. Shortly after the prisoner arrived and admitted the shooting. The prisoner said he intended the shot for Millie Gee's heart or head. Prisoner expressed no sorrow at having shot Millie Gee.

Mr. Hartley, the defendant's attorney, asked if the prisoner looked crazy.

Mr. Pagsley objected to this question. The witness said he thought the prisoner was out of his mind.

Mr. Pagsley objected.

Mr. Hartley obtained the information from the witness Carney that insanity ran in the Gee family.

Here the prisoner had to be taken from the court room for fresh air.

Witness Carney admitted to Mr. Pagsley that the prisoner seemed to be quite intelligent. When the prisoner said he intended the bullet for Millie Gee's heart or head, witness said the prisoner seemed much excited.

Deputy Sheriff Foster said he had taken relatives of the prisoner to the asylum. When arrested for the murder of Millie Gee the prisoner seemed to have been drinking some. Mr. Foster thought there was nothing wrong with the prisoner mentally.

His Honor asked the question if the prisoner spoke to the deceased girl when taken to her by Mr. Foster. Witness replied that he did not. The deceased girl told witness that she thought she would die.

Mr. Hartley objected to the dying declaration signed by Millie Gee incriminating the prisoner George Gee.

Witness thought that the bullet passed through the girl before going through the casing of the door. The prisoner seemed to be sane since the shooting.

Cross-examined—Mr. Foster thought Bennie Gee was perfectly sober.

Mr. Hartley objected to calling Mr. Raley, J. P., who took the dying declaration of Millie Gee.

Charles Demerchant, of Bath, was the next witness called. Witness saw George Gee on the evening of March 12th. The prisoner had a gun.

Cross-examined by Mr. Hartley witness said he and George Gee were going shooting deer.

The prisoner was again taken from the court room. This second time of his going out in such a short time would seem to indicate nervousness.

Sandy DeMerchant, said he saw the prisoner on the morning of March 13th, between six and seven o'clock. The prisoner expressed satisfaction at having shot Millie Gee.

Daniel Crane was living with Bennie Gee on the night of the murder. Prisoner called about 11 o'clock with a rifle. He said he intended to shoot himself, and told Bennie Gee the same. Witness thought the reason of his suicidal intentions was that prisoner said "He had been fooled." Shortly prisoner said he had to go home as his (prisoner's) father was sick. He asked to speak with Millie Gee. Both went outside. Witness thought he heard the report of a rifle and saw Millie Gee fall in the door. Mrs. Crane got up and closed the door. Bennie Gee started to go outside, but was stopped by Millie Gee, who said prisoner would shoot him. Deceased said Geo. Gee had shot her. Prisoner had seemed very jovial before the shooting, talked sensibly and appeared to be sober.

Cross-examined, witness said he had worked with the prisoner who appeared

to be very restless at nights in the woods. In answer to a question from his honor, the witness said prisoner had been keeping company with deceased for about four years.

Dr. Frank M. Brown described the operation on Millie Gee before and after death which was caused by the passage of a bullet through the abdominal cavity causing septic peritonitis.

(CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE.)

SICK AT YOUR STOMACH

Perhaps feeling as if the bottom had dropped out of your life. It's Nerviline you want. Nothing restores quiet and order to the stomach so quickly. All squeamishness and nausea goes away the minute you take Nerviline and an extra dose or two is always sufficient to set you up in first class shape. Nerviline is an old tested remedy for stomach and bowel troubles and always can be relied on. Sold in large 25c. bottles.

A Friend of Laurier's.

Canada has seldom had a more popular statesman than Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the present premier. This was strikingly illustrated when the Duke of York made a tour of the Dominion not long ago. It took two special trains to carry the party across the continent. The Premier and Canadian officials followed the Duke's train by half an hour. At Winnipeg there were cheers for the Royal party, but when the Premier's train moved in there was an ovation.

"Isn't the Duke a fine fellow?" cried an enthusiastic Englishman. "There are few men like him."

"Oh, yes, a fine fellow, your Duke," said an old French-Canadian. "He is alright. He friend of Laurier's."—New York Tribune.

There are some women who seem to be perennially youthful. The grown daughters are companions as well as children, and the color in the mother's cheeks, the brightness in her eyes, the roundness of her form, all speak of abounding health. What is her secret? She is at the middle age of life when so many women are worn, wasted and faded, and yet time has only ripened her charms. The secret of this matronly health and beauty may be told in the brief phrase, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. The general health of woman is so intimately related to the local health of the delicate womanly organs, that where these are diseased, the whole body must suffer. "Favorite Prescription" dries the debilitating drains, heals ulceration and inflammation, cures female weakness and imparts to the delicate female organs natural vigor and vitality. Women who have lost their health and their beauty have been made "robust and rosy cheeked" by the use of this marvellous medicine.

TOO MUCH AUBURN.

Novel Excuse of Mrs. Maggie Ryan, Charged with Theft of Go-Cart.

Toronto News.—Mrs. Maggie Ryan looks to the color of her hair to get her out of rather a serious difficulty. Last August she went down town to do some shopping. She left her baby's go-cart near the curbing on the roadway, and when she came out of one of the stores found that her own had disappeared, but Margaret Handraban's go-cart was there. On the principle that "in exchange was no robbery" she took it. In the police court this morning, when she was charged with theft, she admitted the above circumstances, but stated that she had no intention of stealing the go-cart.

"Then why did you paint the wheels black if you did not want to disguise it?" asked Mr. Curry.

Mr. Robinette, in explanation of this, called attention to the fact that Mrs. Ryan's hair was red. The wheels of the go-cart, when she got it, were of the same color.

"Persons in the street made odious remarks about her hair matching the wheels of her carriage, so she changed the color to black," said the lawyer.

The case was adjourned.

THE HARDEST PAIN TO ENDURE

Is the pain of a tender corn, but experience proves that corns are cured quickest by Putnam's Painless Corn Extractor, which acts in twenty four hours. Putnam's never burns or causes sores. The only painless cure is Putnam's. Use no other.

What two things is it that start at the roots and grow down? An icicle and a cow's tail.