

KING'S DEATH.

Accidentally Drowned While Under Influence of Liquor.

INQUEST HELD BY CORONER McEWAN AND A JURY.

Story of the Tragedy as Told by the Evidence.

An inquest into the death of the late Frank King, whose body was found in the river yesterday morning, took place last evening before Coroner McEwan, at the office of the Clerk of the Pleas. The jury consisted of Messrs. W. K. White, R. H. O'Brien, E. L. Dunn, James Lynn, C. F. McKendrick and John Tonar. The first witness called was

Mrs. Matheson.

She swore she lived near the Star Line wharf, was at home on Saturday evening, the second instant, and heard an unusual sound. Thought at first it was some person sick and thought they were in the water in a boat. This was about eleven o'clock at night. Continuing witness said, I went down stairs but the boys in the steamer were out with a lantern and pole, and found a hat in the water near the step. I concluded that whoever made the noise had been drowned. I had no idea who the person was as I really did not see any person. That is all I know about the matter.

To Juror White—When I looked out of the window I saw no person on the wharf. My attention was called to the wharf as the kitchen window where I was, was open.

To Juror O'Brien—I did not notify the police as there were men around the steamer.

Mr. John Christie, sr.

was next called and testified as follows: I was sitting in front of my shop on Saturday evening last in company with Engineer Barton of the Victoria. A man passed down the opposite side of the street. He seemed to be the worse of liquor. To the best of my knowledge it was King. I had noticed King around for several days. He was the worse of liquor. I did not leave my house but Barton, who had gone to the boat came back and told me some man had been drowned in the river near the boat. I will not swear it was the man I saw going down street. I saw the remains today and thought it to be the man King. It was ten and eleven o'clock that I saw King.

Mr. Nehemiah Barton.

engineer on the Steamer Victoria who was next sworn said,—I reside at St. John. On Saturday evening last I was sitting in front of Mr. Christie's shop when a man wearing a short light overcoat passed down the other side of the street. He appeared to be under the influence of liquor. This was between ten and eleven o'clock. In about ten minutes after I left Mr. Christie's and started for the steamer. When I got near Mr. Lemont's building I heard a noise as though some one was vomiting. This noise seemed to come from after guard of steamer, and I supposed some of the men on board were sick and vomiting. I went on board boat forward when one of the hands of the boat was in the act of going off with a lantern. I followed him and inquired what was the matter. He said there was a man in the water. When I got aft there were three of four men there, one with a life buoy in his hand, another was naked, ready to jump overboard. At this time all sound had stopped. They ran to the outside saying he must be there. A lady on the wharf said she heard a noise on side next to wharf. They looked on edge of wharf with a light and found a hat and then concluded to stop. I came up to notify a policeman, and Mr. Christie telephoned to police station and police came down, and persons grappled for body.

To Juror Dunn—It would be, I should judge, about ten minutes from when I noticed a man going down that I started down myself.

To Juror O'Brien—I did not meet

any person on my way down to the boat.

Charles Flinming

sworn said I reside at St. John, and am a boatsman employed on Steamer Victoria. On Saturday night I was getting ready for bed. I heard a noise and asked another boatman if he heard it. We both came on deck when we heard it again. I said let us go overboard. I got a light and met Engineer Barton, who inquired what was the matter, and I informed him. When I got there the steward was there with a life belt. Some ladies in a window over the warehouse said for us to take the other side of boat. We also looked on the wharf. Bert Foster was on the wharf. I hung out a light and Foster found the hat. The steward, Barton and myself, went around the warehouse. Mr. Barton went out and reported to the police who got the hat. Parties continued searching until one o'clock and continued next morning, and found nothing.

To Juror Lynn—Noise sounded like a man vomiting. Did not hear splash, nor see persons on wharf. From the time I first heard noise until I was on deck was about then a quarter of a minute.

Mr. J. M. Chappell.

who was next called, told of being on the draw of the railway bridge this morning between eight and nine o'clock and noticed a hand car stop on the bridge. John Paisley, who was on the car, pointed out a body in the water. I noticed the body. It was about one hundred feet above the bridge. I went on shore and called to one, George Jackson, to get a boat, informing him about the body being in the river. I also asked Station Agent White to telephone for a coroner. I then went to the river and cast off the boat. Mr. James Rodgers, Mr. Jackson and myself got in the boat and picked up the body in front of Mr. Whelpley's residence. The body was brought to shore. I then returned to Mr. White, who said Coroner Rowley, of Marysville, would be down at 11 o'clock. Mr. Rowley came at 11. I notified Sgt. Phillips of finding the body. I did not know King personally, but supposed it was he. The man had a light coat on.

Mr. Joseph Richards

called, stated that he was a hotel keeper. He viewed the remains of the mar at G. W. Adams' undertaking rooms today and believed the body to be that of Frank King, whom I have known for about three years. He boarded at my house. He was a quiet, harmless man when sober, but was addicted to drink at times, and was quiet then also, and outside of drink considered him mgral. Never heard him swear. He was also honest. I last saw him alive on Friday, the first instant, at myhouse, and judged that he was drinking. Think it was then about two hours before dinner. He was standing at the door and said "I owe you 25 cents I borrowed three years ago." He paid me. He was a reserved man, but told me he belonged to Miramichi. Never heard him say he had relations. He did not go away often and seemed to have no chums.

Policeman George Rideout

was next called. He said "I have known King for about five years. He seemed to be a quiet man, though he drank some. Arrested him about five times, as he was generally lying in an ally at night. I consider he was about 60 years old, tall and slight, and blind of an eye. I have not seen him the last four or five days. When arrested he has sometimes gone to jail and other times his fine was paid. The body I saw today I consider was that of Frank King."

To Juror White—"Think it was Thursday I saw him last. I always considered him quiet when drunk and often took him to his hotel. He told me he was formerly from Miramichi, City Marshal Roberts.

was next called and testified he knew King and last saw him on Friday evening on Regent street, near the barrack fence. I was in company with Sgt. Phillips. He was reading a paper. Mr. Roberts described King as he looked on that evening said he saw the remains today and would swear positively that they were those of Frank King. Mr. Roberts said that the captain and hands of the Steamer Victoria were very ready to lend every assistance, even to moving the boat.

This concluded the evidence. The jury after being out a short time, brought in a verdict, through their foreman, Mr. C. F. McKendrick as follows: That Frank King, accidentally fell from the Star Line wharf while intoxicated, and also find the captain and officers of the Steamer Victoria and public generally are deserving of praise for their efforts to rescue the body.

Coroner McEwan who presided in an efficient manner, addressed the jurors, thanking them for their attendance.

Lever's Y-Z (Wise Head) Disinfectant Soap Powder is better than other soap powders. It also acts as a disinfectant.

PARTIZANSHIP.

Tories Made Charge Against the I. C. R. Management.

AND WERE EFFECTIVELY MET BY MR. EMMERSON.

Guysboro Election Contest Threshed Out.

Ottawa, July 7.—When the railway estimates were taken up yesterday, A. C. Bell of Pictou, laid a charge of offensive partizanship against a number of I. C. R. railway department employees. He claimed that in the recent Guysboro election, active work had been done by several of them.

He said the prime minister had laid down the principle that an employee of the government had the right to vote, but if he carried his political activities further he would be allowed to devote all his time to politics; in other words he would be dismissed. The government had acted upon this principle in the case of Conservatives. He wanted to know if the same action would be taken in the case of these Liberals.

In reply to Mr. Bell, Hon. Mr. Emmerson, minister of railways stated that in elections these charges of political interference of government employees was likely to be made, especially by the losing side. The Guysboro Conservatives had been brought to his attention now, and he was daily receiving such charges from other constituencies.

St. John Offenders.

There had been an election at St. John recently and the government had lost. Mr. Emmerson said he had been given the names of a number of employees of the Intercolonial who were charged with taking an active part in the election. He promised Mr. Bell that as soon as the session was over and his hands were free he would go into the charges in a judicial way and consider not only the charges made in the Guysboro contest but also those made in the case of St. John. He hoped that his findings would be satisfactory all around. In the case of Warden Kirk of Dorchester Penitentiary, Mr. Emmerson said he had merely gone to his native place to vote.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson said in answer to Mr. Ingram that it would certainly be an improper act for any Intercolonial employee to do more than vote in an election. He said that every man on the Intercolonial had the right to vote freely and as he pleased. He said that every man knew this. It was different in the case of the Conservative administration. No attempt is now made to influence the voting of the employees by intimidation or to make use of their services in elections.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson said that the Conservative managers of the road had seen to it that in 1896 the employees who were expected to cast Liberal votes were sent away from the place where they had their vote and so deprived of their franchise.

He Wants Loyal Men.

Mr. Emmerson said he held it as an essential principle of railway management that the head should be supported by loyal men. He held that on the Intercolonial he should keep no man who did not give loyal service and loyal support to the operation of the road. "If I find such a man I shall not lose a single minute in striking off his official head."

Mr. Ingram said he doubted that any Intercolonial employee ever let his political feelings interfere with his service to the road.

Mr. Emmerson said that he had known of a train dispatcher to have taken advantage of his position to hold trains unduly and make them late so that the management of the road might be discredited. He had known of a man to do this and boast about it. Such a condition of affairs had existed on the road within three years.

Mr. Ingram agreed that such a man should be dismissed instantly.

Mr. Emmerson said he would attend to this, though no man need fear the consequences unless he were guilty.

Mr. Ingram intimated the chief reasons for the Intercolonial deficit was found in political management and the placing of political agents in

positions on the road where their services were not required. He had no doubt a number of these gentlemen on the Intercolonial who had been so active in Guysboro were of this character.

Hon. Mr. Emmerson denied that there was a man on the Intercolonial who had been appointed for political purposes. Every man was appointed because he was needed.

Dr. Kendall, of Cape Breton, said that on the Cape Breton end of the line there was not a man drawing salary for the reasons described by Mr. Ingram. When he had been elected he knew of employees of the road who had been offensive partizans. However, their dismissal had not been demanded because it was recognized that in the old regime they had been compelled to be active partizans. Before the 1896 contest a score of men were called before Station Agent McLennan of Sydney and told they were on the political black list and the best thing they could do would be to right themselves as soon as possible. In the 1900 election no such attempt was made by the Liberals. Every man had the right to vote as he pleased.

The Guysboro Election.

Mr. Sinclair of Guysboro, said a good deal had been said about the contest from which he had emerged as the successful candidate. A good deal had been said before in the Conservative press and all sorts of corrupt and questionable methods had been charged against the Liberal workers.

Spite of all that had been said the Liberals of Guysboro had fought a clean and honest fight and had won a creditable victory. They had won this in the face of slander and corruption practiced by the other side. For the first time in the history of Nova Scotia politics there had been men introduced from outside whom he would describe as "professional bribers." He had seen the operation of two of them at the polling place where he had spent the day. These men were strangers, their faces were not familiar to any one. From the headquarters they established there issued a smell of bad whiskey and from there came drunken men. It was stated there had been votes bought by these men who, when the polls closed, disappeared, and no man saw them again. They did not come from any part of Nova Scotia. Where did they come from? Mr. Sinclair asked. The Montreal Star had an agent down there, it was said. Could such a high moral journal as this have anything to do with this business of bribery and corruption?

The Star Editor.

There had been a good deal said of the Conservative investigation into the Guysboro contest and the exposure that was to come. The Truro Sun stated editorially that a representative of the Montreal Star had been at New Glasgow for a week and had found out things which would have their climax when brought up in the House. Mr. Sinclair said he supposed that the climax had now arrived.

The Truro Sun said that B. A. McNab, of the Montreal Star, was the author of the investigation. That meant, Mr. Sinclair said, that he was the author of all the anonymous slanders and libels, and that he had scattered them all over Canada. He thought Mr. McNab's work on this point was about as creditable as that he did before the polling day. The room which Mr. McNab had occupied at the hotel had been the centre of Conservative activity. There the Conservative heeled gathered and from there they took their snowy paths to distant parts of the riding. It was said they took more with them than inspiring words. He did not blame Mr. McNab for being at the hotel. He had a perfect right to be there and perhaps he was busy distributing tracts and prayer books among the Conservative workers he met.

Tupper was an Active Partizan.

With regard to the Intercolonial servants charged with political activity, Mr. Sinclair said he did not believe in that sort of practice. However, he had no knowledge that any of these men had been active in the campaign. However, there was a distinguished precedent for this. Sir Charles Tupper, when high commissioner, and drawing salary therefor, had crossed the Atlantic and campaigned Nova Scotia from end to end. Here was the very king of Canadian civil servants engaged in active partizanship in the Conservative interest.

The leader of the Opposition, Mr. Sinclair said, had charged the Liberals with corrupt practices in the Guysboro contest. He had some documents under his hand which proved that the Conservatives had done some very questionable things in the election.

E. M. MacDonald's Affidavit.

He read an affidavit from E. M. MacDonald, M. P. P., of Pictou, in which that gentleman swore that on nomination day there appeared at Guysboro a man whom I afterwards discovered to be Mr. Prieur, of Mont-

real who was closeted that evening at Grant's Hotel with Messrs. Chas. E. Tanner, the Tory organizer, and E. Gregory. On arriving at Charles Cove I found he had been there at the house of Charles Richards on the previous Thursday evening and that he was accompanied by a man whom the people in that locality called Twiger, which was evidently an assumed name. I found that he had not addressed any meetings, but had been seading for people in that vicinity and interviewing them privately during the week he had been there and that his conduct had been exceedingly mysterious and wholly different from that of a man who was looking for votes on the ground of principle. On Tuesday afternoon I called at the house where he was but he declined to see me and in response to a message I sent into his room, inviting him to come to my meeting, the answer was that he was no speaker and did not take any part in meetings. The next day he appeared at Larrys River poll and had his headquarters in the house of a man named Michael Peltine. His companion, Twiger, appeared as the agent of Giffin, under the name of Switzer. Giffin, the Conservative candidate, was also in and about the house during the day, and from which drunken men emanated throughout the day. That Prieur was not engaged in discussing politics with the electors was evident and one man, William Petipas, told me he had received money from him to vote for Giffin, and that he had taken an oath to vote that way.

Conservatives Spent \$57,000.

Mr. Sinclair read another affidavit made by D. P. Floyd, who declared he had been told after the Guysboro election by a Conservative worker named Francois Lemarchamp, who told him the Conservatives had spent \$57,000 in the Guysboro election.

Mr. Emmerson, in reply to Mr. Haggart said that so long as there was party government in Canada the management of the government railway would take their recommendations from friends of the government, but it was for the management to ascertain the fitness of the men and the number required.

No Jobs for Conservatives.

Mr. Fielding said that this was a perfectly proper practice to pursue. Their predecessors followed this system.

Mr. Haggart said that when he was at the head of the Intercolonial he never knew what the politics of the men were.

Mr. Fielding replied that the statement would be taken as a joke along the line of the I. C. R., where it was well known that no Liberals were appointed during the Conservative regime.

Mr. Emmerson said that after the election in 1878 no less than 400 employees at the Moncton shops were dismissed for no other reason than that they voted for Sir Albert Smith. From that moment down till 1896 no Liberals were appointed. The discussion extended to appoint ments to the bench; to the senate, and the Welland canal, after which Mr. Lefurgey said that it was a terrible doctrine of Mr. Emmerson to lay down that no Conservative should apply.

Mr. Logan read a letter from Sir Charles Tupper in 1882, saying that a young man named Ryan, in the office at Moncton, was dismissed because he opposed the government of the day.

Mr. Haggart replied that Sir Charles Tupper promised to restore the man if he (Tupper) had made a mistake. He protested against the government making the bold announcement that no one was to be appointed to a day's work on a railway unless he was a supporter of the government.

HEROIC BRITISH SOLDIERS.

Handful of Them Drove 7,000 Thibetans from Their Stronghold.

Gyangtse, Thibet, July 7.—The Jong, or fort, held by 7,000 Thibetans, was captured by a mere handful of British and Indian soldiers.

The excitement of the long day culminated in the scaling of a breach in the walls by Lieut. Grant, who was followed by a mixed company of Gurkhas and Fusiliers. They climbed the cleft in the rock in the face of a hail of fire and a fusillade of stones which were hurled on their heads by the frantic Thibetans. Lieut. Grant was the first man over the breach.

At dusk the battle was over, and though fitful bursts of musketry were still to be heard, the British held the Jong.

Lieut. Gordon, who was leading a party of Sikhs, was killed. The housetops were full of Thibetans who pelleted the right column with bullets for hours.

The British ten pounders made a breach in the wall between the towers on the face of the cliff, the wall falling down in great masses. Shortly afterwards an explosion occurred in a powder magazine of the Thibetans, by which many must have been killed.