PARLIAMENT.

OTTAWA, Feb. 1.—The topic of interest before the house today was the notorious case of collision between the steamers Canada and Cape Breton in the St. Lawrence and the conduct of the minister of marine in interfering with the course of justice in the court of inquiry into the matter held by Captain Salmon, who resigned in consequence and whose judgment has since been overruled. This was brought under the consideration of the house by a motion of Mr. Ames for all correspondence in connection with the matter and was the cause of a sharp discussion of two hours, in the course of which Mr. Prefontaine came in for some strong censure.

Prior to this, Mr. Martin asked the government if it was its intention to maintain the fruit division on its own basis, and was informed by the minister of agriculture that it was now and would be continued under the direction of the dairy commissioner.

Mr. Foster was informed that the total Canadian importation of merchandise for consumption in the last six months of 1904 was $128,043,650, of which $26,923,454 was from Great Britain and $74,739,987 from the United States. Total exports of home products from Great Britain was $113,-229,216, of which $63,072,205 went to Great Britain and $38,977,738 to the United States.

In answer to Mr. Lefurgey, Mr. Prefontaine said the government had contributed $80,000 toward the Marconi station at Table Head, Glace Bay. The delay in completing the work has been caused by the necessity of changing location and also by the weather.

In presenting his motion, Mr. Ames reviewed the history of the case, showing how the minister of marine, while Capt. Salmon was acting as a judge in an important case involving a large loss of life and property, had hampered him, evidently in favor of the Richelieu and Ontario Navigation Co., the owners of the str. Canada, of which his former law partner, Mr. Archer, was counsel, and had finally ordered Salmon to withhold his judgment until he was instructed to deliver it. The result had been to degrade Canadian marine courts in the eyes of England and the whole world, and, by shaking the confidence of shipping men in the justice of these courts, had tended to raise marine insurance rates. The house, he declared, was entitled to a full explanation.

Mr. Prefontaine, while professing his willingness to bring down the correspondence, endeavored beforehand to explain his action. He contended that Captain Salmon was not holding a court, that he had been instructed only to hold a preliminary investigation under sec. 5 of the shipping casualties act; that under that section Captain Salmon had no business to deliver any judgment, but only to report to the minister, and that he was properly under the control and direction of the minister and not independent as a judge.

Mr. Prefontaine justified his action in interfering as he did by declaring that he had knowledge that Salmon was prejudiced against one party. He also said it was the British custom that the action of such boards of inquiry should be deferred if the case was before the admiralty court, as this was, until the judgment of that court was delivered. He further asserted that he had returned the certificates of the officers of the steamer Canada, taken away by Captain Salmon, because that official had no power under the act to take them away.

At present Captain Salmon was in New York out of a job, and with no prospect of getting one in connection with any marine board.

Mr. Monk was certain that when the correspondence came down it would be seen that Captain Salmon was not holding a preliminary inquiry, but a formal inquiry under sec. 8 of the marine casualties act, which constitutes such an inquiry a court. Under any circumstances the minister's conduct in interfering as he did was most reprehensible. That a case was pending in the admiralty court was no reason for stopping the investigation, as that case was in settlement of private claims and had nothing to do with the public interests.

Mr. Forget of Charlevoix thought Prefontaine had acted properly and with justice. It might be mentioned here that Mr. Forget is president of the Richelieu and Ontario Company, upon which blame was fixed by Captain Salmon's decision.

Mr. Haggart joined in the censure of Mr. Prefontaine, which, he said, was deserved, whether his interference was with a preliminary or formal inquiry. Referring to the minister's sneer that Salmon was now a vagrant in New York, he said that something like this was the usual fate of any official who tried to do his duty rather than work for interest of the grit machine.

After Ames had spoken briefly again his motion passed.

A motion of Mr. Martin asking for a return showing names, salary, expenses, location and qualifications of all commercial agents of Canada was also passed, and several private bills referred to appropriate committees, after which the house went into committee and discussed the estimates of customs department until six o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

The evening session was devoted to routine passing of militia estimates, it being agreed at an request of Sir Frederick Borden that a general discussion of the militia affairs be held over for a day to be stated for the purpose. The discussion chiefly centred on the construction of new militia council and duties of its several members.

When the official who is to have charge of a selection of the drill shed sites was under consideration, instances of gross unfairness in such selection, where political pull was allowed to injure public interests, were brought to the attention of the minister, and Mr. Foster pleaded that under the new regime, these degrading influences should be shaken off and militia affairs conducted with a single eye to the interest of the country.

Sir Frederick expressed hearty sympathy. He admitted that in the past too much attention had been paid to political influences, but declared that his chief reason for creating the militia council was to escape these by placing the management of the militia, including such business as a selection of rifle ranges, camps or drill shed sites, in the hands of an independent body, impervious to any influence save public interest. He declared he was sincere in his desire to establish the militia solid on a non-partisan basis and appealed to Mr. Foster to assist him in his effort.

"It will be a wrench to stand by you," said Foster, "but if you stick to this policy I will do it."

E. B. Osler protested against the defacement of the historic plains of Abraham by the erection of an unsightly water tank over one of the martello towers there. The minister promised to see if there was any remedy possible.

Before the committee rose at 10.30, Sir Frederick announced that he felt the time had come for the establishment of another ammunition factory near Ottawa and that as soon as possible the manufacture of everything from raw material to finished product should be made in Canada. He had been endeavoring in the past to interest capitalists in the matter and thought the present was a good time to renew the efforts, as prospective railway construction would cause a great demand for all explosives.

Among questions which will be asked Friday are three from Mr. Ganong, who wants to know: 1st, What is the present legal limit of the length for lobsters caught in the Bay of Fundy between Point Lepreaux and the United States boundary; what was the limit on October 1st, 1904; if any change, when and on whose recommendation, and when were the local fishery officers notified.

2nd. How many lobster canning licenses were issued in New Brunswick Nov. 1st in 1904, and who got them; who are the applicants for 1905, and who have been granted licenses.

3rd. Is it the intention of the government to acquire the New Brunswick Southern; have there been any negotiations, and if so, who were the parties on both sides, and when did they meet.

OTTAWA, Feb. 3.—Hon. A. G. Blair's resignation from the railway commission together with its causes, was the topic of interest before the house today. Under the sensation of a heated discussion, during which opposition members demanded an explanation from the government, came the charge by Hance J. Logan on behalf of the government that the opposition was in league with "the man who said he persuaded Blair to resign" in a "diabolical plot" to overthrow the government and make Blair minister of railways. He declared that in a few months the government expected to have a certain knowledge respecting the details of the whole affair.

The matter came up when the government's resolution was introduced providing that if a judge of the superior court accepts the chairmanship of the railway commission he shall not be removed except by impeachment and shall be given the same retiring allowance and privileges as those held by a judge. Besides the introduction of a few private bills this was the only business before the house.

In moving the resolution Mr. Fitzpatrick pointed out the immense power of the railway commission with its absolute control of the location, construction and management of every railway in Canada save those owned by the government. It was the most powerful body in Canada save parliament and had more authority than the British railway commission and the board of trade together. To the chairman especially was given great powers and it was important to have a good man with legal and judicial training, with wide knowledge of public affairs and a man who has been in no way associated with great railway corporations. The government, he said, believed they had found an ideal man in Judge Killam. The resolution was not passed in his interest solely, but to widen the field of choice for this important position by making it so that judge of superior courts could accept it without losing the privileges of retiring allowances, which they hold while on the bench.

W. F. McLean contended that the main purpose of the bill was not to increase the field of choice, but to circumscribe the powers of the commission. He objected to the promotion of judges or to their appointment to political positions, because this placed them under political influences which might not be in the people's interests. He also strongly opposed the proposition to place the chairman of the commission outside the jurisdiction of parliament, by making him only removable from office by impeachment of both houses. This would make him a Czar, and he believed that the railway corporations were back of the proposition, because with the railway commission free from parliamentary control they thought they could get in their influence Wainwright and Drinkwater, the twin railway lobbyists, who had not been hanging around recently for nothing.

McLean took occasion to bring again before the government their duty to explain the peculiar circumstances of Blair's resignation, which he characterized the most shameful thing in Canadian political history. Blair's sudden abandonment of duties and public interests in his care was deserving of punishment and ignominy. Yet the government not only took no action, but persisted in keeping secret their knowledge of the shameful transaction.

W. A. Galliver of Kootenay supported the resolution on the grounds of Judge Killam's eminent qualifications and integrity, and was followed by Dr. Sproule, who echoed McLean's demand for explanation of the Blair affair, and argued against the weakening of independence of the bench by holding out to judges the hope of reward if they pleased the party in power. He also pointed out that if Judge Killam was appointed there would not be one man with any expert knowledge on the railway commission.

Sir Wilfrid opposed the principle that a judge who proved himself fit for a higher position should not be promoted. He quote several precedents of Sir John Macdonald's promotion of judges to higher courts and chief justiceships, and notably his summoning of Judge Thompson from the Nova Scotia bench to a seat in the cabinet. The premier hotly resented what he termed a slur on a most honorable man, in McLean's insinuation that the railway jobby was pushing Killam's appointment. He claimed that under the act which the government proposed to pass, the chairman would be more independent than if he was subject to parliament.

Messrs. Haggart and Barker contended against the resolution as calculated to lessen the independence of the bench and lessen public rspect for it.

FOSTER'S ELOQUENT SPEECH.

Hon. Geo. E. Foster made a strong and eloquent speech, objecting chiefly to the class of legislation involved in the resolution. Whatever privileges and emoluments parliament saw fit to attach to the chairmanship of the railway commission should belong to the position, not to its individual occupant. There was no possible reason why any man who could fulfil the duties of office was not as much entitled to a retiring allowance, and to be kept from under the control of the government, as a judge. He was also opposed to the practice of promoting judges, especially to political positions. He reiterated the demand for an explanation of the sudden resignation, which caused the loss to the country of a man whom the government had appointed under peculiar circumstances, and for whose actions they were responsible. He denounced the government for appointing to such a position for obvious political reasons, a man whom they proved they had no confidence in when they began, negotiated and brought to a culmination the transcontinental railway deal, without even letting him know about it. They showed they considered him unfit to conduct those negotiations, though they properly came under his department, yet they appointed him to so responsible a position as chairman of the railway commission. The office was to them, not a sacred trust, but a plaster to heal party wounds, to shut the mouth of a man whom they feared. They gave him high office though they despised him in their hearts. Mr. Foster referred to Blair's mysterious resignation and to the fact that his subsequent conduct had shown there were no urgent business reasons for it, no reasons why he could not have waited a few weeks, yet there must have been reasons, and what they were, as Blair was the government's servant, it was their duty to find out and make public.

Foster also strongly criticized other appointments to the commission as being for party exigency rather than the public interest.

DEFENDED BLAIR'S APPOINTMENT.

Mr. Logan defended the appointment of Blair on grounds of his knowledge of railway matters and law. Regarding the demands made by the opposition, he thought it was up to them rather than to the government to explain Blair's action after he was appointed. Mr. Blair's resignation is beyond explanation from this side of the house he said. But the honorable gentlemen opposite who formed a partnership with the man who said he persuaded Blair to resign, who became his accomplices in a political crime of which that resignation was a part, ought to make a confession to this house. We can only guess how far certain members of the opposition were involved, but in a few months we expect to have certain knowledge. Mr. Logan repeated the charges made in certain papers that conservatives knew of Blair's intention beforehand, that the Montreal Star authoritatively announced he would take the stump. How did they know these things, he asked. Referring to the subsequent eulogy of Blair in the press and on the platform, Logan said: "It is a fact that will be proved in due time, that the opposition agreed that if the government should be defeated by the aid of the diabolical machinations of men who should have kissed the hand of Sir Wilfrid instead of endeavoring to pierce his side. Blair was to be made the conservative minister of railways."

JUDGE LANDRY'S PROMOTION.

Defending the promotion of judges, Logan referred to the promotion of Judge Landry in 1893 from the county court to the supreme court of New Brunswick, which was made by the government of which Haggart and Foster were members.

Haggart said if that was the case he knew nothing of it, he had no recollection of the matter being ever brought before the council of which he was a member. Anyway he said there were some principles of good government which had always been observed in every province of the dominion except New Brunswick.

LIBERAL APPLAUSE.

Logan's speech was received with great government applause in which Laurier joined, when he sat down, it being six o'clock, the speaker left the chair.

GEO. W. FOWLER.

The first speaker after recess was G. W. Fowler of Kings and Albert counties, who gave an impassioned denial to every charge made by Mr. Logan. Referring to his assertions concerning an alleged plot against the government, he denied categorically and emphatically that any member of parliament, any ex-member, any man having the slightest authority to speak for the conservative party, were mixed up in any way with any kind of plot. Blair's stated reason for his resignation was that he wanted to reaffirm his opposition to the iniquitous G. T. P. deal. If there were any other reasons they were undoubtedly known to that distinguished member of the government who had a certain interview with Blair on a certain Sunday and induced him to go no further in that opposition. If the investigation was ever held the two parties to that interview would be compelled to give evidence, and they would do more to clear up the mystery than any others. Considering that the principals of the alleged plot were Montreal promoters and a Montreal lawyer, both liberals, he thought it strange that the opposition should be mentioned in the matter at all. This was not the first time that liberals had conspired against the liberals, nor would it be the last.

AGAINST THE RESOLUTION.

Mr. Boyce, the new member for Sault Ste Marie, spoke strongly against the principle of the resolution.

MR. BENNETT'S SPEECH.

The next speech, that of Bennett of East Simcoe, brought on the storm. He based his demands for the investigation, first on the fact that Logan's declaration that Blair was promised the conservative portfolio, reflected directly on the integrity of R. L. Borden. The government in decency could not let such a charge go uninvestigated. Then he said the government could not afford to be silent on charges involving three of its members.

"Who are they?" the liberals yelled.

"I'm coming to that," said Mr. Bennett, and he proceeded to read from the Montreal Herald references to a conspiracy, part of which was the attempted purchase of Mr. Prefontaine and Mr. Fitzpatrick.

STUTTERED WITH WRATH.

Fitzpatrick, who had been fidgiting in his seat, rose, stuttering with wrath, and characterized any such references as absolutely untrue and without foundation. He defied any member of the opposition to prove them, and amid wild liberal cheers, Prefontaine made a similar statement. Further, he asserted that no such article ever appeared in the Herald. Bennett proceeded to read from that paper of Dec. 5, when Laurier leaped to his feet and asked for definite charges and a cessation of mere gossip.

The Speaker took the hint and ruled that since the charges had been denied by the ministers, Mr. Bennett should make no further references to them. The government benches greeted the ruling with wild applause.

READ OTHER CHARGES.

Shut off from this tack, Mr. Bennett read charges in the Ottawa Events regarding the alleged theft of the Telegraph by David Russell and involving Mr. Blair. These charges, involving a liberal ex-minister, formed another reason why the government should not refuse an investigation. He quoted Emmerson's interview in the Montreal Herald, with its insinuations that Mr. Borden was mixed up with Russell and Greenshields in a conspiracy as another reason, and warned the premier that he would dangerously offend public feeling in Ontario if he refused.

Logan interjected, "You'll get all the investigation you want," and then Bennett took occasion to warn Sir Wilfrid that if the matter was brought before a committee of privileges and elections, he should change its chairman, as the present chairman, Mr. Logan, had been mixed up with a peculiar attempt to vote improperly in a recent election in Ottawa, and was hardly fit for the position.

The premier and ministers made no response to any of these demands.

Alex. Johnston of Cape Breton quoted copiously from conservative newspapers comment on Blair's resignation, and claimed that these showed that the conservatives had inside knowledge not in the possession of the government. He was called to order several times by the opposition, but the Speaker refused to interfere.

Other speakers omitted a reference to the Blair incident, and confined themselves to a resolution, and the house, which had been very disorderly, quieted down.

At 10 o'clock the house went into committee to discuss the resolution by sections. Before the Speaker left the chair Mr. Logan took occasion to explain his action in attempting to vote in the recent election, claiming he acted in good faith and in the belief that he was entitled to vote.

STRONG OPPOSITION.

The opposition, led by Foster and Dr. Stockton, whose trenchant scholarly arguments made a great impression, resisted strongly the passage of the resolution through the committee largely on the grounds of the class of legislation given in Foster's speech reported above, but the government, through Mr. Fitzpatrick, admitted that some criticisms were well founded, refused to accept any suggested amendmetns and forced the resolution through as presented.

One section placing the judges in admiralty under the same privileges as the supreme court judges Fitzpatrick announced that the government had decided to drop.

Just before the commitee rose Foster quietly asked if the government still persisted in refusing to give any information regarding Blair's resignation.

Mr. Fitzpatrick replied that not one member of the government had a particle of information beyond the bald telegram sent by Mr. Blair on October 18 announcing his resignation which came to the government as unexpectedly as a bolt from the blue. Since then no member of the government has received any explanation from Mr. Blair of his action.

The committee rose at eleven, after which the bill was introduced and read the first time.

On Monday Mr. Monk will move for a copy of Blair's resignation sent to the government and for all correspondence thereon.

What frayed your linen?
Not Sunlight Soap—
No, indeed!
SUNLIGHT SOAP REDUCES EXPENSE
Ask for the Octagon Bar

ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM
will positively cure deep-seated
COUGHS, COLDS, CROUP.
A 25c. Bottle for a Simple Cold.
A 50c. Bottle for a Heavy Cold.
A $1.00 Bottle for a Deep-seated Cough.
Sold by all Druggists.

DODD'S KIDNEY PILLS
FOR ALL KIDNEY DISEASES
CURES RHEUMATISM
BRIGHT'S DISEASE BACKACHE
DIABETES

RECORD OF A COW CENSUS.

Seventy-two Farmers Tested Milk Samples.

Average of 811 Pounds of Milk Per Month—Flow of Milk Depends Upon Individuality of the Animals.

(Ottawa Free Press).

At the Eastern Ontario Dairymen's convention, C. F. Whitley, of the dairy commissioner's branch, Ottawa, gave a very interesting account of a cow census which he conducted in the vicinity of Cowansville, Que., during the summer of 1904. Under his supervision, seventy-two farmers kept daily records of their cows and three times a month took samples for testing from the milk of each individual cow in their dairies. In this way reasonably accurate figures were obtained.

For the month of June the general average of all the herds tested was 653 lbs. of milk, yielding 25 lbs. of fat. In one case twenty-two cows had a yield for the month of 17,845 lbs. of milk and 722.5 lbs of fat, an average per cow of 811 lbs. of milk and 32.4 lbs. of fat. In another herd of eleven cows, every animal was below the general average, the range being as low as 280 lbs. to 305 lbs. of milk per cow, and this herd consisted of Guernsey, Ayrshire and Holstein grades and natives. In contrast to this, another herd of twelve cows of similar breeding yielded from 830 to 1,115 lbs. per cow, so that every cow in the herd was above the average. This shows that the flow of milk depends upon the individuality of the cows even more than upon their breeding.

HERDS OF MIXED GRADES.

In the month of July a herd of twenty-seven cows, Jersey, Ayrshire, Holstein and Shorthorn grades, gave 13,-760 lbs of milk and 473.7 lbs. of fat, an average of 309 lbs. of milk and 17.5 lbs. of fat per cow. This was typical of several herds consisting of mixed grades. The average record per cow is poor, noticeably below the average of the whole 1,120 cows for July. The best showing was made by a Holstein grade, whose record is more than double that of the poorest cow. This dairy had five more cows than that first mentioned, and yet produced 4,000 lbs. less milk in the month. Another July record showed that one herd of six cows gave 2,515 lbs. of milk, while another dairy of twelve cows gave 8,020 lbs.; twice as many cows gave over three times as much milk. In September one lot of twenty-three cows gave 8,120 lbs. of milk, and another lot of twenty-three yielded 11,200 lbs. These records emphasize the need of knowing definitely the production of each individual cow.

The average production per cow must be improved by weeding out the poor ones. Figuring goes well with farming. With forethought and figures, the production of butter in the average farm herd can be increased at least 40 lbs. per year in five years. It has been done scores of times. It is safe to say that almost every farmer milking twenty cows has three on which he loses money. Until he keeps records he cannot tell which they are. It will pay him to find out.

81 POUNDS PER COW.

The wide variation in the total yields of butter by individual animals in the same herd is even more apparent in the records for even longer periods. For four months the cows in one herd of fourteen varied from 46 to 114 lbs., the best cow yielding nearly three times as much as the poorest. The average for the herd was 81 lbs per cow, while the general average of all the cows tested for four months was 98 lbs. Would not this man be better off if he disposed of at least four cows? Another herd varied from 51 to 127 lbs per cow, with an average below the census average. It is probable that both men think they have pretty good cows.

For a period of five months, one dairy made the creditable showing of 190 lbs. of butter per cow, more than double the average of some other herds and well above the census average of 115 lbs. per cow for five months. Indeed, every one of the twelve cows in this herd exceeded the general average ranging from 147 to 254 lbs.

These figures are encouraging. This man's record can be, and should be, equalled in a thousand farms in the next five years. Such results are obtained by using the scales and Babcock tester to detect the robber cow and get rid of her. Then by the use of a good dairy-bred sire, and aiming at a standard of say 6,000 lbs of milk and 250 lbs of butter per cow annually, a good herd can speedily be graded up. There are hundreds of dairy farmers who have thus raised the butter production of their herds in a few years from 150 to 175 lbs. to 300 lbs per annum.

POPULARITY OF BAREFOOT SANDAL.

(Shoe Retailer.)

Contrary to all expectations, the barefoot sandal is here to stay, and thousands of pairs are daily being made up for next season. It was the general opinion last season when so many of them were worn, that the sale must have reached its climax, but more than twice as many have been already sold than were produced all last season. The barefoot sandal is here to stay. Not only are they being made for the little ones, but many adults are buying them for house slippers, because of their wearing qualities. A salesman, just returned from his western trip, says out west there is as much demand for sandals as east and south. While the barefoot sandal was originally intended to be worn at the seashore and summer resorts, the salesman remarked that there were hundreds of children out west who never saw the seashore that were barefoot sandals, being to them the ideal comfort and health shoe.

MRS. ROGERS IS REPRIEVED.

Governor Bell Grants Until June 2nd.

To Allow Arguments for a New Trial to Be Heard---Unjust Mercy.

MONTPELIER, Vt., Feb. 2.—Gov. Bell Thursday granted a reprieve for Mrs. Mary M. Rogers, who was condemned to be hanged at Windsor Friday, for the murder of her husband, until June 2.

In a statement the governor says the reprieve is granted in order that opportunity may be given for a new trial. The statement of Governor Bell is as follows:

"I grant a reprieve to Mrs. Mary M. Rogers until Friday, June 2, 1905. I do this expressly and only on the ground that she claims through her attorney that she has not had a fair trial and that the evidence presented against her was false.

"I do not in any way pass upon the question as to whether such is the fact. I leave that question entirely with the tion as to whether such is the fact. I leave that question entirely with the court, to which she now has full recourse.

"I fix the date at June 2, since that will enable her to bring her case, with all the new evidence she claims to have before the supreme court at its May term and the decision of that court upon her application must be final, as far as executive power is concerned.

"No consideration is given in granting this reprieve to the complaints made by outsiders that he laws of Vermont are cruel and barbarous. I believe that the laws of Vermont are just and merciful and express the will and wish of the people of the state and the best judgment of the enlightened and law-abiding people of the commonwealth.

"I shall not by any act of mine attempt to thwart the expressed will of the people or to undertake to change the policy of our law in regard to capital punishment."

The news that a reprieve had been granted by Governor Bell, was first known here through the announcements on the newspaper bulletin boards. In a moment word of the governor's action was carried along the streets and groups of interested citizens gathered to talk about the case.

Comment generally seemed to be in approval of Gov. Bell's action.

GREAT JOY AT THE STATE PRISON

WINSOR, Vt., Feb. 2. — At the state prison here the news that a four months' reprieve had been granted Mrs. Rogers was received with joy by the prison officials. None of them would discuss the matter, but expressions of relief that the execution had been postponed were heard on all sides.

The news that a reprieve had been granted was carried to the prison by a representative of the Associated Press. A moment after his admission to the office of Supt. Oakes that officer was called to the telephone and when he returned to his office he said that he had been talking with Gov. Bell and that the latter had notified him that a stay of execution had been ordered.

Supt. Oakes would make no comments upon the reprieve, although a number of prison officials expressed satisfaction when they were informed of the governor's action. Supt. Oakes said that he had received strict instructions from Gov. Bell not to talk concerning the case of Mrs. Rogers and he would not say whether the woman had been notified of the postponement of the execution.

About one o'clock High Sheriff Henry H. Peck arrived in the prison in answer to a message from Governor Bell asking the sheriff to talk with ihm over the long distance telephone. Sheriff Peck was notified of the reprieve by the Associated Press representative, but he hesitated to believe the news until Supt. Oakes confirmed the report.

Sheriff Peck was so overcome that he could hardly speak. He said that the action of the governor was most welcome to him as he himself had given up all hope of a reprieve for Mrs. Rogers.

UNJUST MERCY.

(New York World.)

Two women, Mary Rogers and Kate Edwards are soon to be hanged for the murder of their husbands — one in Vermont and the other in Pennsylvania.

There is a widespread sentiment against their execution. Great numbers of persons have signed petitions asking that the sentences be commuted to life imprisonment. The petitions in both cases have been denied.

The governors are quite right and the people who signed the petitions are quite wrong. The question as to whether capital punishment is right or not does not enter into the matter. That is an open and a very complicated question which has nothing to do with the case. The point is that since capital punishment, wisely or unwisely, is the lawful punishment for deliberate murder, there is no earthly reason why there should be any discrimination in sex.

Apparently the only argument for clemency which the signers of the petitions can present is that murderesses are weaker, gentler and more delicate than murderers. As a fact appealing to the emotions this is strong; as an argument appealing to justice it is feeble. The cold truth cannot be blinked that it is no less objectionable to meet death at the hands of one's weak, gentle and delicate wife than at the hands of some powerful and ferocious masculine enemy.

Furthermore, the signers of the petitions should remember that this very weakness, gentleness and delicacy of women make a crime of violence like murder more unnatural, and if it were possible even more wicked, on their part than it would be be on the part of men brought up in sonstant contact with the violence of life.

It may be brutal but it is just that if hanging is the penalty for murder then Mary Rogers and Kate Edwards, being women, should hang as surely as if they were men.

THE HIGHWAY ACT

Will Lose the Government Many Votes.

It Has Not Yet Been Tested in Albert County and Does Not Work in Kent or Westmorland.

MONCTON, Feb. 3.—There is nothing but complaint in this section of the province in regard to the new highway act. The general impression is that the act, besides imposing a hardship upon the people in compelling them to pay in cash a tax that they formerly "worked out" on the roads, will result in no improvement. Indeed, the general feeling is that the money tax as it stands at present will not be nearly sufficient to do the necessary work, and that it is but the entering wedge for a larger tax that will be squandered on favorites of the party in power. To accentuate the feeling of distrust and hostility the powers that be have failed to provide the machinery for putting the new order of things into effect. In many districts, both in Westmorland and Kent, the "superintendents" who take the place of the commissioners have not yet been appointed, or have failed to perform their duties. In Moncton parish it is said W. A. Sullivan has been selected as one of the "superintendents," but unless within the last day or two he has not been in evidence in some parts of his district. The roads have of course been broken, as a matter of necessity. Where the old commissioners declined to act the people have turned out themselves. As to the feeling towards the act it is one of almost universal hostility. As one prominent liberal farmer in Moncton parish said to the Sun correspondent, the New Brunswick government must go the way of the Ontario government. A well informed gentleman from Kent, when interviewed by the Sun correspondent, said he did not think it would be possible to secure the election of a supporter of the government in his county, just now at least.

HOPEWELL HILL, Feb. 3.—The new highway act has not yet been tested in this section. Superintendents under the new act have not yet been appointed, and the old road officers are still acting. After the recent storm the old surveyors, although feeling their authority might be questionable, summoned the residents for road breaking, and in the interests of good roads the men turned out en masse and cleared the road, as under the old regime. Just how the new act in regard to road breaking will fill the bill is yet to be shown.

VERDICT AGAINST D. A. R.

Interesting Decision Handed Down by U. S. District Judge.

BOSTON, Feb. 2.—Liability of a vessel on its owner for an injury to a seaman is not limited absolutely by the termination of the voyage. Under a decision handed down by Judge Lowell today of the United States district court. This was in the case of John J. McCarron v. the Dominion Atlantic Railway Co. This was a libel for damages for injuries sustained by the libellant, March 30, 1898, on the str. Prince Edward, owned by the defendant, through the alleged carelessness of the engineer, who started the reversing machinery without giving due notice to him. The voyage was over at the time.

AN IMAGINATIVE MIND.

(Eastport Cor. Bangor News.)

Now that the annual January term of court is over at Machias it has been supposed by some that the lid would be lifted in this city and some of the former places opened for business, but such is not the case. It has been a hard hunt for some weeks past to secure a drink of liquor and even to secure a bottle required more than the ordinary amount of time and considerable difficulty, as there are now no wide open places, or in fact any places open for the sale of "booze," as was the case a few months ago. Of course it is far better to have everything so very quiet about the island city, and as a result there have been very few cases of drunkenness and no arrests for intoxication, for there are no regular places to get filled up and a long time between drinks for even the old time drunks. It is probable that this dry time will be kept up during the entire winter and spring, which now seems probable from the decision of the residents who at one time had been identified with the liquor selling business, but are now on the wise side and do not care to take any chance of a jail sentence, not only at Machias, but at the Bangor workhouse, as that would be rather too strenuous for them, and it is better to keep out of the business than serve time during the coming few months. Well, it is only a short trip across the harbor to Welchpool village, Campobello Island, N. B., where the barrooms are run wide open, as is the custom on Canadian soil, and then it is somewhat of a novelty to drink down the dominion brands of alcoholic beverage, and with such a variety to select from it is to be expected that a number of the island city residents who want an occasional drink make the two mile trip over Passamaqueddy bay and get the best liquor, so the dry times here are not seriously felt at the present time.

CASTORIA.
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.
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