

# MR. CLAPP SCORES THE GOVERNMENT

## On the Way the Coastal Service is Carried Out in the District of St. Barbe.

Mr. Clapp—I ask leave to present to the House a petition from the people of Bonne Bay and that section of the coast down towards Labrador. The petition deals with the work of the S. S. "Home," the freight, passenger and mail service. It sets out that the "Home" is too small a boat for the service; that she has not sufficient freight and passenger accommodation, and that the mails are most irregular. This is not the first time that I have brought a similar petition before this House. During the last session of the House by telegram as well as by petition I brought this matter forward but nothing apparently was done. The conduct of the mail service by the "Home" last summer was almost the worst since the steamer started running. The people of Bonne Bay will be termed a law-abiding people; for no other part of the Island would allow such a service to be continued. I have travelled by the "Home" myself and have been in Bonne Bay when she was going through. I have seen freight left upon the wharf there for the simple reason that this boat was unable to take it. Now this has been going on, the freight has been increasing and no means have been taken to remedy these conditions. I am not going to find fault with the Reids, because they are merely minors in the matter. If the Government are not able to take hold of the Reids and see that the work for which they are paid is properly carried out they will go on in the same way. The passenger accommodation is appalling. There is accommodation for some 20 saloon passengers and some 70 steerage, or second class passengers. If you would travel, sir, by that boat, especially when the fishermen are returning from Labrador you would see a spectacle that can only be compared to herring packed in a barrel. Brute beasts would not be treated worse. They are huddled together like sheep. Ask men like Mr. George Whitley—ask the ordinary man who travels by the "Home" when overcrowded. I have had to sleep on a couch in the saloon, as all berths were filled and every seat occupied. This was where we took our meals. Is that fair to passengers? Now, then, take the freight accommodation. Why should the people of Bonne Bay be at a loss through the non-delivery of freight? or why should people who write and send letters be going to read for the information of this House a letter from the Rev. Mr. Richards, who is the Church of England missionary on that part of the coast, and I am sure that when the House reads this letter read it will bear out exactly what I say. This is the letter, a copy of which was published in the Telegram of the 12th of March. It says:—

"With a vehemence and persistence unknown in a hilly country where gust is succeeded by lull and despite the untiring north-east sweeps into the relentless grasp all lighter material, including the snows of the past week, and flings them forth a sacrifice to the raging waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. With discretion not foreign to valour, we stay at home and bathe our shins by the kindly hearth, now and again melting enough frost off the window pane to peer forth and pass comment on the condition of the weather. Yesterday, in the words of Dr. Mosdell, of Bonne Bay, the poor old "Home" sauntering been nine days coming a distance that usually takes two. Not less objects of pity are the captain and his crew than the poor impotent brute of a ship of which they are the victims. With every haven of refuge closed and jeering at her with Arctic insolence.

Where she has spent the past twenty-four hours Heaven only knows! We pray, however, that long before these lines have an opportunity of appearing in print, she shall have reached "the haven where she would be." The most pitiable victims of this mockery of a service, however, are the poor people of these sub-Arctic coasts. Yesterday, had the ship been at all suitable for the service, she could have steamed in through the few hundred yards of lolly ice and laid her side against the hard ice of the harbor of Flower's Cove, permitting us to take our freight in a few minutes with a minimum of labor. Instead boats had to be hauled a long distance then worked out through slob ice, involving much hard labor, and great loss of time. After going to all this trouble we reached the "Home," only to be told that no freight was to be taken out as there was not sufficient time. What irony was here! Freight for which we had been waiting so long, in the hold of the "Home." Empty boats alongside to take it, hungry children in some cases longing for it, and now, tantalus like, it is put to the lips only to be rudely snatched away. A strong protest fetches us a portion of our goods. One poor man received two out of four barrels of flour on board for him. Of three very important packages on board for him the writer received but one. Earlier in the fall, out of five barrels of potatoes shipped to him and paid for, he lost one. He also lost a barrel of potatoes in the fall of 1910. In the fall of 1911, a hundred dollars worth of goods shipped to him, was landed in other ports from ten to fifty miles away. Some of these have not yet turned up. In spite of all this, the pen has never been taken to find fault. Knowing the difficulty of the work to be done, patience seemed commendable. At last it ceases to be a virtue. Our quarrel is not altogether with the poor terror-stricken officers and crew, though they would rejoice us of our much-needed food for the winter. Who could blame them for rushing to reach, if possible, some fit anchorage in the impending hurricane.

Rather would we take to task the "Fowers that be," who are responsible for the farcial service imposed upon the Straits of Belle Isle. It is an axiom of medicine that if any body or part of it is to retain good health, there must be a vigorous flow of good blood into every part. Let this flow cease in any limb and the result is death in such limb. A good, healthy system is as careful that a small vein shall receive its due, as that of the leg or arm shall receive theirs. So far as the Body Politic of Newfoundland is concerned, if it does not mind it will be guilty of wantonly destroying the vitality of what, if rightly treated, is to become the right hand of the Colony—the British Columbia of Newfoundland. A congestion of commerce is poured by the main avenues of traffic, open all the year round, into the larger centres of the Colony. In the straits where we have but one means only of procuring our supplies, and where several thousand people are cut off from the outside world five or six months of the year,

we are supplied with a service that is a standing insult to the people and little short of a disgrace to the country. If the coast has to be content with a steamship service—and a service that depends upon navigation can never solve the problem in connection with the development of the North of Newfoundland—it must be one that does not grin in our faces with all the insolence of impotency as the present does. May we ask the question, if there is in this self-governing Colony of ours, where noble men lightly pass laws which hinder a poor man from procuring for his children, by his hard honest toil, a pound of fresh meat or a barrel of herring, unless it be done how and at what time they please,—who even go so far as to invade by their undigestible legislation, the right of a man to preserve his venison by tinning, saying in effect, "you must let that quart-er of venison rot in it if you do you pay a fine or go to prison,"—may we ask, sir, considering the capacity of our legislators, for detail, if there is any authority before whose bar

### Fresh New Groceries for Easter.

#### New Zealand Table Butter.

Moir's & Lowney's Confectionery.	New Walnuts, Brazil, etc.
Moir's Fresh Cakes.	Malaga Table Raisins.
New Bananas.	Shelled Walnuts.
California Oranges, 40c. doz.	Turkey Figs.
Valencia Oranges, 15c. doz.	Messina Lemons.
Table Apples.	Fresh Country Eggs.

Table Jellies, Creams and Custards, in endless variety.

3 lbs. "HOMESTEAD" TEA for \$1.00. This Tea was formerly retailed by us for 50c. lb., and known as "English Breakfast."

New Finnan Haddie.

New Marrowfat Green Peas.

Selected Boneless Jowls.

New York Corned Beef.

Family Mess (Ribs) Pork.

SINCLAIR'S FIDELITY HAMS  
LUNHAM'S IRISH BACON.

## C. P. Eagan,

DUCKWORTH STREET and QUEEN'S ROAD.

### Another Fatality.

**WOMAN BURNED TO DEATH.**  
On Saturday we recorded one of the worst accidents that occurred in the city for some time, and to-day it is our unpleasant duty to note another fatal ending as the result of a burning accident, the victim being Miss Annie Kelly, aged thirty years, who lived with her sister, Mrs. Fleming, on Boggan Street. At 7.15 Miss Kelly had just finished her tea and was sitting before the fire in the bedroom. Suddenly and owing to a high wind prevailing a flaw or gust of fire came through the bars of the grate of the stove and ignited her dress. Her entire clothing were quickly enveloped in flames. Her screams did not at first attract anybody as it was thought she wanted something, and one of Mrs. Fleming's children was sent to her call. The latter seeing the condition of his aunt promptly ran into the adjoining room where his father and mother were taking their tea and shouted fire! fire! Mr. and Mrs. Fleming hastily came to Miss Kelly's aid. They found her in a mass of flames and without delay tore from her body the burning clothes. Meanwhile the Fleming children, numbering six, escaped from the house and gave an alarm. They visited the houses of their uncles, Messrs. Matthew and Michael Kelly, close by, who were out. Neighbours gathered around and soon an alarm of fire was sent in from boxes 26, bringing the Central and West End firemen to the scene but their services were not required as the fire was extinguished. Soon after Dr. Randall arrived and on examining Miss Kelly, who was badly burned about the head and lower limbs, ordered her to Hospital where she was taken a half an hour later in the ambulance and where all possible was done by the doctors and nurses to alleviate her pain, as she suffered extreme agony. The victim only lived five hours and at 12.15 she died at the Institution mentioned. The body was sent to the late home of the deceased to-day and prepared for burial. Much sympathy will be expressed for the bereaved family.

- 1.—The ship must be able to carry twice as much freight as the s.s. Home, and have accommodation for about four times as many steerage passengers.
- 2.—She must draw very little more water than the Home, and her superior carrying capacity must be in breadth, not so much in length.
- 3.—She must steam ten knots at all times quite easily.
- 4.—She must be as powerful to withstand Arctic ice as any sailing ship in the fleet.

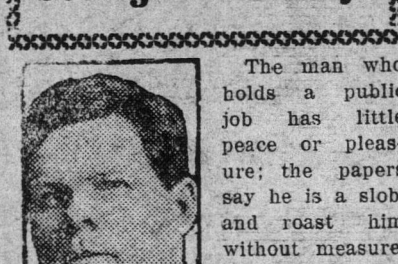
It is a little short of disgusting to see an egg-shell of a boat turn her tail to a few inches of ice and carry off your goods to—  
**Dump Them out Somewhere for Another Seven Months.**  
In fact, at the end of that time you may think yourself lucky if after paying a second freight on it you get it at all. Again in the spring, so long as there is an excuse for a pan of ice in the Straits, the boats that ought to be causing new life to pulsate around our shores, are loitering away their own time, and causing us to waste our precious time, by making short trips from Bay of Islands, taking care that so long as a pan of ice can be sighted they will make the most of it as justification for being, in plain English, can only be termed laziness. Perhaps the boats are all to blame. In fact, the boats are all to blame. The Belle Isle from May 1st to Dec. 31st. Then there will be no excuse.  
5.—A fifth qualification for a satisfactory service, is a purser who is in all respects a man—not an ass, or what is worse, a man who makes an ass of himself. I have no doubt our pursers could be all right. I am sure some of them are because they prove it. But they who would be all right make themselves all wrong by a too frequent and untent use of something stronger than tea.

J. T. RICHARDS.  
Now, Mr. Speaker, I consider that a very strong and powerful letter, coming as it does from a missionary on that part of the coast. Mr. Richards is not a man to complain unless necessity calls for it. The merchant coming as it does from a man to complain; the fisherman is not a man to complain; but they see before them, I may be, a "Titanic Disaster" on a small scale. I have spoken to the captain and he agreed that the boat is most inadequate for the work. If the Government of the day does not look into the matter, and if disaster follows, I for my part will have done my duty. As I have already said, this is not the first time this matter has come before the House. It concerns the fisherman, the travelling public and the business man, and if all this is blocked, what is going to become of the great north-west coast of which the Rt. Hon. the Premier spoke so glowingly of the other day. Now it behooves the Government of the day to step into the breach. This is the last opportunity I will have in opposition to bring this matter before the House, but I shall leave this side of the House having done my duty to the district. I trust, Mr. Speaker, that this matter will not be dropped, and that steps, if not already taken, will be taken, and the public and the people of Bonne Bay and that part of the coast should demand it. It is unfair to them and their mode of living, and to their families. It is unfair to every man who travels that coast or travels by the "Home" that he should not be properly looked after. It is unfair to the man who ships his goods. It is unfair to all. Now, as I have said, this petition is signed by all the merchants of Bonne Bay, in fact by every man on that coast, and if this matter is not taken up I have relieved myself of my duty towards the District. I trust that if steps have not already been taken that the Government will at once start to work and order that the "Home" be taken off and a larger steamer put on, which will meet the requirements of that part of the coast. I would ask that this petition be received and referred to the Department of the Colonial Secretary.

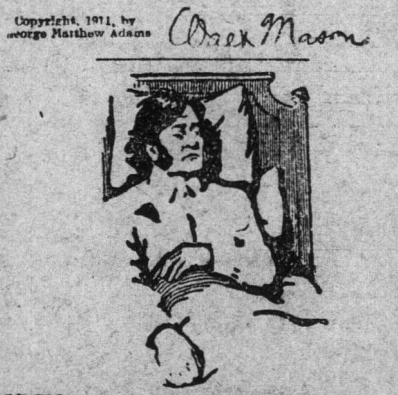
Mr. Kent thought that this important petition of Mr. Clapp's and the letter which he read bearing on the matter showed a condition of affairs which should be promptly dealt with. It showed the service was absolutely inadequate to the needs of this important district, and considering the history of the place and the embargo placed on its development for over a century by the French Shore Treaty, and now that it was beginning to find its place in the sun, every effort should be made to enable the people along the coast to work out as quickly as possible their destiny which was evidently intended they should fill. The service of the Home on that coast was utterly and absolutely inadequate and no proper remedy had so far been applied. Session after session Mr. Clapp has brought the matter before the House by petition or in some other manner, and it should be very encouraging now that after all his efforts he finds the Government preparing to take the matter up and that when the service opens in the spring an adequate service would be provided.

**ACTED STRANGELY**—About seven o'clock last evening two undesirable characters who give the police authorities any amount of trouble were seen loitering around a certain Water Street store and acting in a strange manner. They fled on the approach of two citizens. It was evident they were after something.

### Seeing the Country.



The man who holds a public job has little peace or pleasure; the papers say he is a slob, and roast him without measure. And then the uplift magazines get on his trail and hound him, until he leaves for other scenes, his record wrapped around him. So let me raise my garden sass, remote from public clamor, and saw my wood and mow my grass, and nail things with a hammer. Oh, let me cultivate the soil, as laurels wreaths demanding, for there's a peace in humble toil that passeth understanding. When I am dead no marble shaft will make my fame eternal, as shafts will stand o'er Old Bill Taft and Woodrow and the Colonel; I'll mildly play my lowly game, with never noise or bustle; I cannot hope for lasting fame, like that of Pastor Russell. But when our little journey's done, perhaps folks will be saying: "He did as much as any one, by sticking to his saying." I gather up the eggs and pack the butter down in fixkins, and I'm as happy in my shack as Aldrich, Clark or Perkins. No enemy with voice or pen is climbing on my record; I sympathize with public men whose lives are here and checked.



**IS YOUR COUGH GOING FROM BAD TO WORSE.**  
If you catch a cold (which very often develops into a cough) everyone can tell you how to cure it! If one tried half the things his friends recommended he would be a physical wreck!  
Fortunately it isn't necessary to experiment with ginger tea and such things, get a bottle of Stafford's Phosphate Cough and Cold Cure, take according to directions and you will be relieved in a few hours.  
Phosphate is not like most things put up for this purpose. There isn't a particle of Quinine in it. It relieves the inflamed congested condition of the mucous membranes of the nose and throat, and soon rids the system of the poison that causes colds.  
Don't wait until you get that horrible, hacking cough which you are not able to get rid of. No treatment having been found successful up to the present time. Try Phosphate Cough Cure at once.  
Price 25 cents a bottle. Postage 5 cents extra.  
For sale at  
**STAFFORD'S DRUG STORE,**  
Theatre Hill.  
**STAFFORD'S PHARMACY,**  
Duckworth Street,  
and all Outport merchants.  
Feb 10/13

# ROSSLEY THEATRE

ST. JOHN'S LEADING VAUDEVILLE HOUSE.

## Great Easter Pantomime

# HIGH JINKS.

### 32 People in Caste 32.

Different to any production given yet.

**EVERYTHING NEW.**  
Catchy Songs and Dainty Dances.  
Pretty Costumes.  
Corgeous Mechanical Effects.

Something never attempted in St. John's before.

## Six Beautiful Butterfly Dancers

In elegant costumes, and your own city children.

The Star Orchestra, ever popular. Leader, Prof. Ryall. Matinee 2.30, 10 and 20 cts. Children 5 cts. Night 6.30, 20 and 30 cts. For seats be in time.

## AMERICAN WHITE EMBROIDERED DRESSES.

Sizes 32, 34, 36, 38, 40.

These Dresses are beautifully trimmed with Lace and Insertion, Dutch and Low Necks, ¾ sleeves. They are worth from \$7.50 to \$10.00, and we are selling them for

# \$6.00 to \$7.50.

## P. F. COLLINS,

299 and 301 Water Street.

## HARDWARE DEPT. SPRING AND PAINT. HARDWARE DEPT.

The sealers are gone—Spring is opening upon us; now is the time to think about a general clean up. The doors and windows need a coat of paint, skirtings and stairs need varnishing, in fact you require a tin of paint or varnish to get the real Spring feeling.

[We carry a full stock of Brandram & Henderson's Liquid Paints, etc., in all sizes. Use Brandram & Henderson's Paints and Varnish, they give you just the finish you want—and satisfaction.]

Varnish Stain.	Furniture Varnish.	Hat Enamel.
Oil Stain.	Carriage Varnish.	Black Japan.
Floor Varnish.	Damag Varnish.	White & Orange Shellac.
Copal Varnish.	Enamel Paint.	Oil Finishes.

**MARBLEINE FRESCOTA for Walls,**  
**PAINT BRUSHES of every description.**

## BOWRING BROTHERS, Ltd.

## JOB PRINTING Executed.

TY  
omise.  
is to  
omise.  
ap  
reserves  
makes  
is the  
ey, and  
make  
nger is  
mise.  
SOAP  
ANTEED  
E.  
ers Ltd.,  
England.  
es of praise in the  
ney away while  
ensure a fine big  
ple will fall in  
if you wait till  
if you'll miss this  
ment of esteem,  
uried three days  
made public. We  
kindness in this  
is an open market  
who want to be  
getting rid of some  
ore. In order to  
our rich men to  
rucker would sug-  
ernment offer to  
uch men in the  
se a grand oppor-  
n out to their  
ars to come, as the  
se enough while  
to enjoy life, and  
made their own  
le as they beheld  
ighbors enjoying the  
which they by their  
cash in their way.  
SHANAHAN.  
y Ends  
Misery.  
cures Heartburn,  
and Indigestion in  
minutes.  
et stomach, indig-  
est, dyspepsia; when  
erments into gases  
; your head aches  
and miserable, that's  
the magic in Pape's  
akes such misery  
tes.  
is in a continuous  
get it regulated,  
ake, try Diapepsin.  
Have a bad stom-  
ext meal a favor-  
ll not take any dis-  
fear. "It's be-  
psin "really does"  
of-order stomachs  
illions of sales at-  
cent case of Pape's  
ny drug store. It is  
stomach relief and  
acts almost like ma-  
gic, harmless and  
on which truly be-  
Exhibition.  
ent week, probably  
it, an exhibition of  
ressed at the B. I.  
eat Messrs. I  
wer, who are match-  
dinner tournament.  
is the limit num-  
our has been de-  
wo gentlemen. Both  
we and, no doubt,  
illiards will be the  
niment cures  
umbago, Neural-  
s and pains. For  
-Feb 11/13  
LATE  
er Eggs,  
h to 30c. each.  
AS  
RANGES  
ORANGES  
S  
ntry EGGS.  
Road.