

"SCRUTINY" REPLIES TO "JUSTICE"

Takss Him to Task for Some Remarks in His Last Letter—Tells of Plot Among Certain People to Defeat a Union Candidate at the Recent Road Board Election.

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Sir,—A comet hit me a day or two ago. 'Twas not Halley's of the firmament but one of a literary compilation designed and compounded in the knowledge laboratory of Conception Hr. by the worthy Professor, who, contrary to his usual practice, signed himself "Justice".

The embryo of this shaft of ire first had being when I wrote your most valuable paper about a fortnight ago and directed a search light on the manoeuvres of a certain government official and his gang of pals just prior to the recent election for the constitution of our country council. I told you in effect how our unionist friend, Mr. Patrick Mahoney, blacksmith, an ideal type of unionist, well-proportioned in general ability, common sense, and sympathies of honest square dealing, and consequently the embodiment of an ideal country councillor, was advised by a visitor to his forge to become more active if he intended placing himself in nomination for a seat at the Council Board for a goodly number of individuals with rum a-plenty was meeting that night at a certain house to formulate the adoption of schemes to side-track him in the election and eventually produce his defeat.

I told you how, Mr. Mahoney, from an obscure corner, kept an eye throughout the night on the location named by his visitor and discovered the truth of his informant's words when, at a late hour, our local Guy Fawkes and his followers emerged from the dwelling showing by their appearance that "Old Tom" was there up in his usual jollity. And that was some meeting, Mr. Editor, since I did not tell you before. Twelve, all told, of the most conspicuous giants of terrorism mustered at that dwelling with a massive proportion of law in the centre of the bunch.

It was late next evening when some of the bunch got home, as their legs would not keep straight. But, Mr. Editor, they brought home the shekels in the form of five dollar bills which was a proportional part of the road grant provided on hand for distribution on that special occasion. Now, you will agree there must have been some wealthy guy in the bunch

found friend on many past occasions. What did he know of that occasion when a man from Holyrood came here to establish the F. P. U. for the first time? Did Mr. "Justice" find no semblance in the tactics and their originator on that occasion and those now complained of? And there are many other occasions of such conduct, many of which Mr. "Justice" denounced in our hearing; and the one under question now is exactly of the same delimitations. From all that you knew, Mr. "Justice" we feel sure your conscience pricked you deeply in placing all the honour and credit where you did for the good conduct of the election.

Mr. Mahoney said to you shortly after the election that he believed the Convener of the meeting must have heard of the messages which each of you had sent to St. John's, and you answered, "Sure, didn't I tell him."

Now you claim 'twas after the meeting you told him, whereas Mr. Mahoney's remark had reference to the likelihood of such occurring before the election, and was an intention to fair play.

The irrelevant story of the trial to recover the money collected for the fish case amuses us thoroughly. We are told that Mr. O'Toole heaped mountains of praise on "Justice," and wonderfully commended his honesty and integrity. "Justice" in turn bewails the fact that all of us did not turn out en masse to hear his "Honor" expressing the magnitude of perfection he was as he stood before the bar.

Wonder if I had been there would I have shared the Magistrate's love too. And you, Mr. Main contemporary—the victim of that blessed agricultural ram—do you not, like Whang the miller, deplore your ill-luck is not being present in that great occasion. You may recover damages. I was going to invite others, but we are such a blooming crowd that the good things of his "Honour" would be small when divided up and it were better to let Mr. "Justice" bag it all. Impaled on the horns of that cow is a likely position for me, hints "Justice." Well, Sir, you approved of what I have had to say about her up to this time, and last summer you upbraided the officer in the case telling him he could not at all speak as he did in giving evidence about "the cow's ear out tied to the fence."

However, should I thereon become perched, Mr. "Justice," I think I shall do better with steering her to a more righteous habitation than the legal fraternity at Conception did.

Now, I suppose, Mr. Editor, living in town as you do you have heard or know Mr. Jim Rent and his mare. The

to influence the government to send the road goat at that time—the 16th Dec.—when King Frost held control of terra firma which they had never done before; and the manner of distribution lacked strength too. The sops ranged from three to eight dollars, but Mr. Mahoney nor his friends got none.

With this evidence a-plenty (like "Old Tom" on the occasion) I told you how Mr. Mahoney officiated himself next day with certain authorities in St. John's to know his latitude during the election in case he saw a secretary appointed (as pre-arranged) or any other manoeuvre adopted that may deem a part of the plotters' scheme and thus likely to be detrimental to his election.

It is then the conviction of our "friend" and many others that his aliveness was made known to the convener of the meeting by "Justice" with the result that the meeting was conducted "open and above board...." and had the Minister of Justice himself presided it could not have been done better." as "Justice" wrote in your paper shortly after, and for which he gave Magistrate O'Toole great honour and credit over his own signature. Now, we have no objection to his doing such a thing if the Magistrate deserved it; in fact it would be a pleasure, and a real one, to us to know that he had acquired such a new brand of goods in his emporium. But if the activity of Mr. Mahoney, in which he paid his own money, was a controlling factor against any intrigue, and it looks significant in that way. I say that he alone is entitled to the honour and credit.

In answering us "Justice" forsakes his real name which he attached to his first letter and denies our charge under that non-de-plume. This is not approved as they used to say at the Round Table.

If he did not speak to Mr. O'Toole or any other principal for such a time before the election, he certainly knew of all that was going on; and, again, he knew better, if he is not abnormally dull of apprehension, that such tactics were beautifully in harmony with those of his new-

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WAR MESSAGES

LATEST!

Dutchman Sees Double
LONDON, Mar. 9.—Morning papers publish from their correspondents in Holland such details as are available there regarding the recent activity of the German fleet in the North Sea. According to these accounts the fleet included about 50 craft of all descriptions, from the most modern dreadnought down to the old-fashioned torpedo boat. The fleet was escorted by two Zeppelins, which served as scouts, to prevent a surprise attack by hostile vessels. One trawler sighted this fleet 165 miles due west of the mouth of the Elbe; another saw it 35 miles north-west of Ymuiden. All the German ships were painted war grey, and were invisible at a short distance. Heavy clouds of smoke frequently hid them completely.

ly under my punctures from Mr. Justice, but I assure him and his new-found pal if they prick me still further the vomitings of both combined will outrival in volume that of Jim Rent's mare.

SCRUTINY.
Conception Hr., March 5, 1916.

One Dutch trawler is quoted as having made the following report:—"During the recent air-raid on England, a Zeppelin was seen scouting in advance of three cruisers and a fleet of destroyers, which were believed to have the intention of making a dash for British waters. The Zeppelin, however, made certain discoveries regarding the watchfulness of the British Fleet, and the German squadron hastily withdrew."

PARIS, March 10.—The situation at Verdun is regarded as being much better from a French view point as the public is greatly cheered by reports of the successful resistance on the part of the defenders of the fortress. Notwithstanding the enormous expenditure in ammunition and the unstinted sacrifice of life, the Germans have failed to bend, much less break the blue line.

The inference drawn by the general public is that the German wave has advanced as far as is in its power without a further waisting on a large scale, which the German General Staff hesitates to make, with four army corps already put out of action in a struggle of 18 days.

Germans Ttalk Stiff to Portuguese
BERLIN, Mar. 9.—The German Government considers itself from this time at war with the Portuguese Government, is the conclusion of the declaration sent by the German Minister at Lisbon to the Portuguese Government.

The Overseas News Agency announces that the German declaration emphasizes the fact that this step is made necessary by recent illegal seizures of German ships in Portuguese ports. Germany is therefore obliged to give up her former attitude of forbearance which she had maintained because of Portugal's awkward situation.

London, March 10.—The British torpedo destroyer Couquette and torpedo boat No. 11 have been sunk by striking mines was officially announced this afternoon.

The announcement says the number of casualties in connection with the sinking of the warships was 45.

LONDON, Mar. 10.—After having been defeated in a recent widely advertised by-election in the Mile End district of London for a seat in the House of Commons, Pemberton Billing, who resigned from the Royal Naval Air Service to stand for Parliament on the issue of better protection against Zeppelins, has been elected a member for East Hertfordshire by a majority of 1,031 over the Coalition candidate Brodie Henderson.

Billing made the denunciation of Great Britain's alleged inefficiency in the air service the basis of both his campaigns.

Germany And Portugal Near Breaking Point
LONDON, Mar. 9.—German residents in Oporto and throughout Portugal, have been advised by their Consuls to proceed to Spain immediately according to a despatch from Lisbon.

It is supposed, says the correspondent, that diplomats will leave this week, as a rupture between Germany and Portugal is considered inevitable.

PARIS, March 10.—An official note has been issued categorically denying the statement in the German official communication of March 9th, that "The village and armored forts of Vaux were captured in glorious night attack by Posen Reserve regiments under the leadership of General Von Curetsky Corntz."

The announcement adds that the violent bombardment continues, on both banks of the Meuse, but that there has been no infantry attack by the Germans.

Germans Estimate French Losses at Verdun Total 80,000
BERLIN, Mar. 9.—Major Moraht, military expert of the Vossische Zeitung, estimates that French losses in the fighting around Verdun, total between 70,000 and 80,000.

Major Moraht says that more than 1,000 French soldiers have been made prisoners.

French Repulse Attacks On Betincourt Village
PARIS, Mar. 9.—On the Verdun sector, west of the Meuse, the French have repulsed repeated attacks on the Village of Betancourt, according to a semi-official statement made here today.

Turks May Soon Seek Peace
LONDON, Mar. 9.—The Foreign Office has received no official advice that Turkey is seeking peace. However, the impression prevails from what is known of conditions in Turkey, that there is a strong probability of an early move in that direction.

More Bluff
ROME, Mar. 9.—Two of the most powerful of Austrian dreadnoughts are being prepared in a Dalmatian port, the Tribune says, with the intention of repeating the exploit of the former German vessels, Goeben and Breslau, and forcing the Allies' blockade of the Adriatic, in order to reach the Dardanelles and bring assistance to Turkey in the Black Sea.

Republican Senator Withdraws Resolution
WASHINGTON, Mar. 9.—Senator McCumber, republican, of North Dakota, to-day withdrew a resolution to warn American citizens of armed ships, stating that he thought Americans had been effectively warned, and that the "agency of his resolution might embarrass diplomatic negotiations."

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