

The Standard

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SAINT JOHN, THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 16, 1911.

MR. TWEEDDALE'S BOMB.

Mr. Tweeddale sprang a genuine surprise on the House of Assembly yesterday afternoon when he read Mr. Thomas Malcolm's letter addressed to Premier Hazen dated February 25th, 1911. The surprise was not so much due to the fact that Mr. Tweeddale should have read the letter, as that it should have been in the possession of Mr. Tweeddale to read. The original of the letter, which reached Mr. Hazen, is marked "private" on the envelope enclosing it to the Premier. How a copy of it came to be in Mr. Tweeddale's possession was not stated, but when Mr. Tweeddale was about to read it he should have read Mr. Malcolm's letter, the reply of Mr. Hazen. This, however, would not suit the political necessities of Mr. Tweeddale and his party as the letter of Mr. Hazen in a few words exposes the whole object of Mr. Malcolm's inquiry and offer.

The letter read by Mr. Tweeddale was as follows:—
Campbellton, February 25th, 1911.
Dear Sir:—On behalf of the Quebec and New Brunswick Railway Company, the charter of which has been granted by Parliament with power to construct and equip a railway from Quebec to St. John, I hereby offer to enter into a contract to construct the portion from Grand Falls to St. John, the line when so constructed and equipped to be leased to the Government of Canada and operated as part of the Intercolonial system, pursuant to the proposed legislation which the Dominion Government has submitted to Parliament.

The Provincial legislation would, of course, have to be modified so as to conform to the proposed Dominion legislation as to lease, etc.

As I understand it, the bonds would be guaranteed as each ten miles are completed.

I am prepared to give the necessary security for payment of interest on the bonds, during construction of each section, until completed, and its operation as a part of the Intercolonial.

As you know, I have just completed the International Railway and my plant is now available to enable me to commence work at once, and complete the various sections with all possible speed.

If your Government is disposed to enter into a contract with my company, I shall be pleased to meet with you and discuss the details of agreement.

Awaiting a reply, I am,
Yours truly,
(Signed) THOS. MALCOLM.

To this letter Mr. Hazen replied as follows:—
Fredericton, N. B., March 2nd, 1911.

Thos. Malcolm, Esq.,
Campbellton, N. B.
Dear Sir:—I am in receipt of your favor of the 25th ult., marked "private" which has been forwarded to me from St. John.

As soon as the act of last session authorizing the Government of New Brunswick to give aid to the construction of the St. John Valley Railway has been proclaimed and the resolutions, of which notice has been given in the House of Commons at Ottawa, have been discussed and disposed of, I will be very glad to meet you and discuss details of any proposition which you have to make.

I am,
Yours very truly,
J. D. HAZEN.

That Mr. Malcolm was fully aware that the letter was a private communication is shown by the following:—
Campbellton, N. B., March 6th, 1911.

Hon. J. D. Hazen,
Dear Sir:—Please accept my thanks for your favor to my letter of the 25th ult., although I marked it private, it was intended for you to use in council if you wished to do so.

Again thanking you,
I remain,
Yours sincerely,
THOMAS MALCOLM.

Unless the letter from Mr. Malcolm was stolen there never was a more gross violation of a personal obligation than his handing the private letter addressed to Mr. Hazen to a political opponent. It would go to show that Mr. Malcolm is a mere puppet in the hands of a gang of political adventurers and has allowed himself to be used for a most unworthy purpose. If Mr. Malcolm has any sincere desire to construct the St. John Valley Railway under Part 2 of the act of last year, he has gone about his business in a very peculiar manner, and one more likely to secure the defeat than the success of his project.

Mr. Hazen's reply to the letter of Mr. Malcolm is a business-like communication. There is neither equivocation nor evasion about it. He says that just as soon as the resolution now before the Parliament of Canada respecting the Valley Railway is disposed of, he is prepared to meet Mr. Malcolm and discuss with him his plan for the construction of the railway. It must be borne in mind that up to the present day there has been no discussion of the resolution, notice of which was given by Mr. Graham, Minister of Railways, in which it was set forth that under certain conditions the Government of Canada would undertake the operation of the St. John Valley Railway as a part of the Intercolonial system when that railway was constructed.

No effort has been made on the part of the Federal Government to pass this resolution, and no one in the Province of New Brunswick has any knowledge as to when it will be taken up. Certainly Mr. Hazen could not be expected to guarantee bonds or enter into a contract for the construction of the St. John Valley Railway while the legislation at Ottawa authorizing its operation by the Intercolonial Railway is in its present condition. It is now many weeks since Mr. Graham had his resolution published in the newspapers, but meanwhile, he has made no effort whatever to crystallize it into an act of Parliament which would hold the Dominion Government responsible for the pledge therein contained.

The policy of blather and bluff, which has been characteristic of the Opposition in the local House regarding the St. John Valley Railway, has played itself out and in the public interest should cease. A few days hence Mr. Hazen will announce his policy in connection with this important project and until then it would be well for the Opposition to cease making public private letters in a vain hope that political advantage will follow. Honorable conduct is hardly to be expected from the Opposition as it is constituted today, but Mr. Tweeddale should at least explain how he came to be in possession of a letter marked private by the writer.

AN OBJECT LESSON.

The United States has mobilized a fourth of its army on the Mexican frontier and sent a portion of its fleet to the Mexican sea front. The mobilization was begun under the professed guise of harmless army manoeuvres for the purpose of demonstrating the capabilities of the War Department. This hypocritical mask could not be long worn, and has now been thrown aside. In its place the profession is made that the movement, whilst having regard to the disturbed state of things in Mexico, is entirely friendly and meant to prevent American aid to the insurgents. A hint is given that American interests in Mexico are liable to loss and damage, and would be better safeguarded if a demonstration in force was made on the border.

Back of all this pretence is the implied threat that the Mexican Government must keep order in Mexico or the United States will interfere. The big power which has already annexed a large part of the former territory of her Southern neighbor, is evidently ready to repeat the operation. The modus vivendi interests by purchase or otherwise get valuable concessions in every available part of the country, later American adventurers raise trouble, co-operate with and direct the insurgents, supply them with means and assist in presenting an aspect of rebellion and lawlessness. Then the concession interests appeal for protection, and then the United States Government mobilizes its troops, and awaits events.

The mobilization itself weakens the Government of Mexico, and encourages lawlessness and revolt within the country. Anything may happen, and in the chapter of accidents may result to the advantage of the United States. Mexico has not much of an army, and only an apology for a navy. She is absolutely at the mercy of her big vaunting avaricious neighbor.

Concurrent testimony from the various states of Latin America shows that the United States in all these is feared and hated. For many years especial pains have been taken to cultivate these states, but each year has added to the dislike in which the United States is held by them and strengthened the suspicions with which it has been regarded. Mexico is by no means an exception. Americans have flooded that country, grasped its rich resources wherever possible, and made no secret of their ultimate aims. To a man they have no doubt that in good time the Stars and Stripes will wave over that old Spanish Province, and most of them take little care to conceal it.

The Diaz regime has been kind to outside investors, and eager to interest them in the development of Mexican resources. The apathy of the native population, and the non-enterprise of the better class, have made such a course all the more necessary. English, German and American capital has gone into Mexican undertakings largely, but propinquity and the influence of the Monroe Doctrine give the whip hand to the United States, and this both to Diaz well understood.

What the man of forty in full plenitude of power was able to guide and guarantee, is not so easy to the Diaz of 75 years of age, now verging upon the inevitable break-up. Meanwhile Uncle Sam is on the border with his army and his navy, waiting to see what will turn up, and ready to take advantage of it.

It is not possible for Canadians to view this object lesson without grave and serious thoughts. The same aggressive and masterful spirit which extended the United States Southward, regardless of the rights of weaker neighbors, has been active towards the North. It has shown itself in 1775, in 1812, in the Fenian outbreaks, in the North West troubles, and in the Fisheries and Boundary Disputes on Atlantic and Pacific.

It is safe to say that had it not been curbed by the power of Britain, its acquisitions Northward would have been in the North. The century old ingrained feeling is as strong as ever that ultimately the Stars and Stripes will float North as far as the Pole. It manifests itself now in the garb of friendly but all embracing commercial and transport affiliation. Its object is the same as when United States generals long ago marched on Quebec and Ontario and as when Sherman made his speech in 1858. It subsists in Taft's impudent suggestion that Canada is now "at the parting of the ways," and in Hill's call for prompt action to head off Empire Federation, in McCall's suggestion of the "entangling web of Reciprocity" and in Champ Clark's elation note, cheered to the echo in the House of Representatives, that "we are now ready to annex Canada."

Any day and on any pretext a United States president, if it were not that Canada is a part of the Empire, might mobilize on our frontier and send her fleet to our sea boards. Mexico's present plight, bids us to deep thought and careful action. Our strength is to be found in avoiding the "entangling web" and keeping close knit the bonds of Empire.

Current Comment

(Banffshire Herald.)
Lord Roberts, going round the hospital wards after one of the engagements during the Boer war, as well as on his regular visits, had always a kind word for the patients. Upon this particular occasion he saw one patient who was severely wounded, and asked the poor fellow, "Can I do anything for you, my man?" The answer came feebly, "No, sir." "Can I pray for you?" Lord Roberts asked. "Yes, sir," the soldier replied. Going down upon his knees, his lordship prayed "O Lord separate this man's sins from his soul before his soul is separated from his body. Amen." At its conclusion there was not a dry eye in the hospital ward. This pathetic story, which has not been published before, is that was there at the time, and is sent us by our valued contributor, H. J. Oldham, Manchester.

(Montreal Gazette.)
It is semi-officially intimated from Ottawa that the failure of the United States Congress to ratify the reciprocity agreement at its late session cannot make any difference in the Canadian Government's course: as were Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues to show any hesitation it would be interpreted by the United States executive as a failure to carry out one of its terms. The Canadian ministry in this matter appears to be like the hunter who caught the bear by the tail. It dare not let go, and it does not know where by hanging on it will be taken to.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)
Once described by Sir Wilfrid as the ablest man in Canada, Mr. Sifton is now referred to by the right hon. gentleman as a wolf. Mr. German, also highly commended in times past, is united with Mr. Sifton as of the wolf type. It looks as if Sir Wilfrid had a pretty bad case.

THE COURTS.

Estate of Geo. H. Oulton.
The Hon. Mr. Oulton, mail clerk, left no will. In the Probate Court yesterday his widow, his son, Arthur, of Somerville, Mass., and his daughter, Florence Louise Oulton, of St. John, and E. M. Stone, of Scranton, Pa., petitioned in favor of the appointment of Andrew Jack, private banker, as administrator. Mr. Jack was accordingly sworn in administration not to issue until after the lapse of fourteen days from Mr. Oulton's death. Real estate in Charlotte street is valued at \$4,000, subject to mortgage of \$2,800; personal estate \$1,700, including leasehold and a life policy for \$800. McRae, Sinclair & MacRae, are proctors.

Estate of John H. Case.
In the probate court Wednesday, the will of John H. Case, grocer, was proved. He gives \$400 to his executor to be paid to the use of his nephew, John H. Case, son of his brother, E. W. Case, to be paid to him on his attaining the age of twenty-one years, and with power to use it for his benefit in the meantime if they deem it best to do so. He also gives him his gold watch; to his sister, Mrs. G. H. Hallett and Rebecca Freeze, \$100 each; to his sister, Matilda Jane White and Augusta A. Blain, \$50 each. He authorizes his executor to sell to his clerk, Harry Alexander, his stock in trade for \$600, not to include the horses, wagons, etc., or the book debts; the balance to his sister-in-law, Miss Annie Miller, and he nominates James Christie and his sister Augusta A. Blain as executors, and they were sworn in before the expiration of fourteen days from his death, there being no special reason set forth in the petition therefor. There is no real estate; personal estate \$4,200. Amon A. Wilson, K. C., is proctor.

Estate of Thomas Lawless.
In the matter of the estate of Thomas Lawless, late of Little Beach, Parish of St. John, farmer, it was announced that he died intestate and unmarried on February 4. Both parents predeceased him. He had three sisters, who also predeceased him, and a brother who has not been heard of for forty years. There are nephews and nieces, of whom one, Patrick McInerney, of St. John, carpenter, applied for administration. A citation was issued returnable on Monday, April 17 next, at 11 a. m. Real estate is \$100; personal estate \$50. J. McMillan True-man, is proctor.

WEDDINGS.

Allen-Craig.
The wedding of George C. Allen, general business agent of the Intercolonial Railway, Moncton, to Miss Jessie Craig, took place yesterday afternoon at 5 o'clock in St. Andrew's church, Rev. Dr. Lang officiating. The bride, who wore a travelling costume of brown broadcloth, was attended by little Miss Helen Hammon, sister of the groom. Mr. and Mrs. Allen left by the Pacific express for a visit to Upper Canadian cities and Niagara Falls, and on their return will reside in Moncton. Miss Craig, who formerly belonged to Wallace, N. S., has been engaged as a trained nurse in this city for the past several years. She has many friends, who will greatly miss her. Among the out-of-town guests were Mrs. John Craig, of Wallace, N. S., stepmother of the bride.

FUNERALS.

Mrs. Catherine O'Brien.
From her late residence, 315 Brussels street, the funeral of Mrs. Catherine O'Brien, widow of Thomas O'Brien, took place yesterday afternoon at 2.30. The remains were conveyed to the Cathedral, where the funeral services were conducted by Rev. Michael O'Brien. Interment took place in the new Catholic cemetery.

Mrs. Annie Wilson.
The funeral of Mrs. Annie Elizabeth Wilson, wife of Matthew W. Wilson, took place yesterday afternoon at 2.30 from her late residence, 21 Golding street. The burial services were performed by Ven. Archdeacon Raymond and the body was interred in Fernhill.

Thomas Duffin.
From the home for incurables the funeral of Thomas Duffin took place yesterday afternoon at 2.30. The funeral services were performed by Rev. Chas. R. Flanders, D. D., and interment took place in Cedar Hill cemetery. A delegation from the Masonic lodge conducted burial services at the grave.

Mrs. Jessie Fraser.
The remains of Mrs. Jessie, widow of Duncan Fraser, were taken through the city yesterday for interment at her former home, Blanchard's Road, Pictou county, N. S. Mrs. Fraser, who was a daughter of the late Wm. McIntosh, died at her home in Providence, R. I., aged 72 years.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Eliza W. Nice.
At the advanced age of 57 years, Mrs. Eliza W. widow of David Nice, of Carleton, died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Jas. Walker, South street, at an early hour yesterday morning. The deceased, who was before her marriage a Miss Leach, was a native of Carleton, and had lived there all her life. She is survived by four daughters, Mrs. James Walker, South Bay; Mrs. Emily Appleby, Carleton; Mrs. Edith Raynes, Halifax; and Mrs. W. H. Bull, Sarnateo, Cal., and one son, John E. Nice, of Oregon, who is at present in the city on a visit. Two sisters, both older than Mrs. Nice, also survive. They are Mrs. Janet Carr, of Detroit, who is 93 years old, and Mrs. Mary Whipple, of Vancouver, who is 87. Announcement of funeral arrangements will be made later.

Mrs. Eliza Hunter.
Mrs. Eliza Hunter died at an advanced age at the General Public Hospital at 11 o'clock on Tuesday night. The deceased was the widow of Malcolm Hunter, who formerly carried on a blacksmith business here. She is survived by two brothers, Mr. Carson, of St. John, and Hugh of Oak Point, and two sisters, Mrs. Andrew McLellan of City Road, and Mrs. James Paisley of Pictou. An operation was performed Tuesday afternoon in the hope of saving her life, but this proved fruitless.

ADJOURNED TO MARCH 22ND.
The Public Utilities Commission met yesterday to commence the hearing into the matter of the New Brunswick Telephone Company, but adjourned until Wednesday, 22nd inst., at 10 a. m. The chairman, D. McLeod, announced that a telegram from Dr. Bellevue, of Shediac, had been received stating that O. M.

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Melanson was too ill to come to St. John for a few days.

The chairman informed Mr. Barnhill that he had been looking over the summary of the telephone company's accounts and as certain items were not quite clear, asked that further information be secured before the next meeting, to which request Mr. Barnhill acceded.

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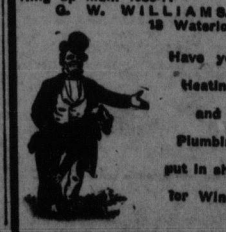
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