

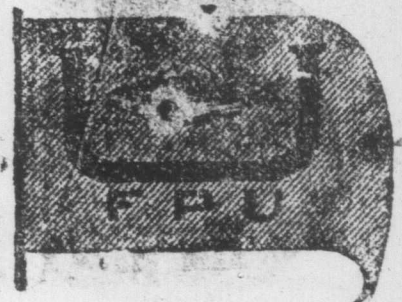
I want to purchase
ONE HOUSE about
\$500.00

—also—

ONE HOUSE about
\$900.00 in suitable
localities

J. J. ROSSITER
Real Estate Agent

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE."



(To Every Man His Own.)

The Mail and Advocate

Issued every day from the office of
publication, 167 Water Street, St.
John's, Newfoundland, Union Pub-
lishing Co. Ltd., Proprietors.

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., JUNE 12, 1915.

Agricultural

THE News yesterday morning published an article on the use of potatoes as an augmentation to flour in the making of bread, and refers to it editorially, directing the attention of housewives and others to the suggestion. Not alone because the addition of potatoes makes a palatable and nutritious article of diet, but also for another reason—"and one that cannot be lightly brushed aside,"—for the increased planting of potatoes, during the present year.

We take the same stand in regard to the use of potatoes, but especially do we support the idea of greater effort in the matter of planting and raising potatoes, and this is exactly what we urged in the early spring.

We urged in our editorial columns, the idea of increased effort, we encouraged and recommended the sowing of seed in every vacant corner, and we copied articles from leading American and Canadian Agricultural Journals, in the hope of stimulating increased interest in the subject. No notice was taken by The News or any other paper for that matter—of our timely remarks and suggestions, yet The News has the courage to say now, that the greater planting is very urgent, and the reason a strong one—"one that cannot be lightly brushed on one side."

The News could afford to brush the idea lightly on one side last spring when we were making an earnest effort to encourage the cultivation of every strip of land, that could be made to yield a vegetable.

As far as The News is concerned, our plea fell on deaf ears, and was "lightly brushed on one side," and ignored. The writer who sent this article to The News seems to be possessed of a sharp, but very discriminating ear, for what Government members say in the House of Assembly, forgetting that what was said there on the subject of increased agricultural effort, was but second-hand goods, and that this paper agitated the idea long before the opening of the House.

Now we are not vain glorious, and neither do we demand public thanks for what we do as a public spirited citizen, and in the line of what we consider a duty but our modesty makes no demand upon us to sit quietly down and allow mediocrities and barren pates to make capital out of our efforts in the public interest.

Our writing on the subject of potato culture and the increased effort that should be made to raise a vegetable on every spot of available ground, was suggested by our idea of a journalist's duty to the public, nothing less.

We understand the paltry attempt of The News to reap political capital from the fact that some cheap politician borrowing our ideas, made a few remarks along the lines suggested in our columns, without even giving us credit for the thought, and we said nothing in return. Now when we see the same paltry effort being repeated, we are moved to speak.

This brings us to the point, that the cultural question of wet potatoes has not yet been solved. The News is rather weak, we should think, when maintaining on the one hand that locally raised potatoes are not fit to eat, and on the other hand advising the raising of greater quantities of those same unpalatable tubers.

The subject like many others of like importance, has been allowed to drop out completely, not benefited by the short discussion, but involved in greater obscurity. The reason why potatoes are wet is still an unknown quantity, as far as the controversy is concerned, and nobody is the wiser. Nobody has spoken with authority on the subject, whilst we have no less than three highly paid officials, whose duty we should consider it to be, is to afford all necessary enlightenment on the dark question.

We have two Agricultural Commissioners receiving about two thousand dollars each a year, and we have another getting about the same, in connection with the Department of Agriculture, and neither one of those gentlemen has spoken.

We know, positively know, why the potatoes are wet, but we cannot speak with the voice of authority, same as officials of the Agricultural Department may, so we have held our tongues, and at the same time enjoyed the illogical efforts of those who did try to solve the question.

Some of those writers approached the idea very closely, but they did not go deep enough. Neither one really understood the subject, or seemed to grasp the basal idea.

Their writing displayed a great deal of that ignorance of the science of their calling, of which we have from time to time spoken. At the same time they have shown commendable effort, and emphasized the great necessity of Government aids to agricultural knowledge, and a scientifically conducted Experimental Farm.

Pauper Doles

FATHER WALKER'S communication to the "News," of Monday, deserves to be published broad cast. He is evidently no respecter of persons, and he hits right from the shoulder. It is one of the most caustic cleric productions we have seen for some time. We would say in language with which he is familiar "Macte cirtute esto," or freely translated, "more power to your elbow."

He says "I condemn the manner in which (relief) is given out." "If the money is sent, either it is not spent, or if it is spent it is not earned. This is surely rough on the heeled at Harbor Grace. Why pauperize our toilers? They do not look for doles; they ask for employment such as will enable them to earn an honest dollar. We have had enough of pauperization in this colony; and we should stop the demoralization of the people. Enough money has been squandered, and is still being squandered, to provide public employment on a business basis. Now, it seems some of the fishermen are unable to procure seed potatoes; the bottom is out of the local chest!"

Such outspoken condemnation is rare by clergymen; but this young cleric has the courage of his convictions. Perhaps some of his clerical brethren will raise their hands in unctuous horror at this fulmination against abuses. But the good Father has presumably no alliances which would debar him, from becoming the spokesman of honesty. He is evidently not in the same class as the venerable gentleman of the cloth who, some years ago, made a demand on the then Colonial Secretary for Poor Relief—a pauper's dole, and in the application insisted that "unless the poor people got relief at once they would be obliged to draw on their accounts in the Savings Bank!"

If we are not mistaken, the great Bishop Mullock wrote some caustic letters regarding the distribution of relief the time that he coined the famous phrase "locust-like officials." Frowse tells us that then Premier (Mr Kent) tried honestly to curtail and regulate expenditure, and that he (Kent) declared that he was attacked by a miserable faction who sought his political destruction; a set of frozen serpents which having been warmed into life had stung the breast which gave it vitality.

"That Mr. Nowlan brought in a resolution that any regulations made on the subject of poor relief should not ignore the just influences of the representatives of the people."

"The influences of the Representatives" sounds like present-day methods. Doles are given out to boost the men who have a place in the Assembly which they use for their own political ends. Gentlemen, you have duties to the people which you seem to ignore. You rule away our revenues with a lavishness that almost sounds like prodigality!

Monstrous

"Justice! What crimes are committed in thy Name?" (With apologies to The Daily Star.)

IF ever the term LOCUST-LIKE OFFICIALS had a concrete expression, we find it to-day in the Magistrate's Court of this city. Never before did such a condition of affairs exist in any community; it would not be tolerated anywhere else.

Our notice of this matter is based upon an announcement in The Daily News which informs us that Mr. Hutchings, Deputy Minister of Justice is assisting Messrs. Knight and Morris to attend to the business of the Court!

There are now FIVE gentlemen—legal and illegal—attached to the District Court of St. John's! Is not this a parlor condition of affairs? Can such iniquities be condoned?

Is there any palliation of such crimes against the tax-payers of the country?

Just a few days ago a War Tax was imposed on every package and parcel way-billed to an outport, or elsewhere, the object being to recoup the Exchequer for the expenses of the War operations. Were there more economy in the administration of Justice, and in other Departments; were the offices of certain functionaries not overmanned, there would be no necessity for increasing the burdens of the poor in the outports. We say the burdens of the poor in the outports, because they are charged additional for the contents of the parcel in order to recoup the city senders.

The Revelation

THE scripture-quoting scribe and "Mills of the gods" poetaster has at last revealed the raison d'être of The Daily Star; it is an anti-confederate organ established presumably to perpetuate the infamies of the '69 campaign. It discusses some Canadian Agent. Now the only gentleman to whom, as far as we are aware, this appellation applies is Mr. Nicholson, the courteous Trade Commissioner of the Dominion.

But he is notably remarkable for minding his own business, and is the most reticent official with whom we have ever come in contact. Nobody has ever heard this gentleman discuss local affairs. This is my busy day" seems to be his device. So the singer of the glories of '69 would need to be more explicit.

We are not going to discuss the question of Confederation; as, at the moment, it is not a live issue. But wont many claim that the best and incontrovertible argument in favour of it, is the antagonism of the "Street" to the measure. The "Street" has from time immemorial antagonized every movement of possible amelioration for our fishermen. Why? But we are not discussing the issue just now. The infamies of the '69 campaign are the blackest in our political annals.

Prowse tells us: "The awful tales that were told about taxation, about RAMMING THE NEW BORN BABES DOWN CANADIAN CANNON, 'bleaching their bones on the desert sands of Canada' had a tremendous effect on our simple out-harbor people! There still lingers amongst them a traditional remembrance of the sufferings their forefathers endured from the French Canadian and Indian raids made in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and this partly accounts for their dread of Canada; Irish national feeling, their hatred of the Union, brought about by fraud and bribery, was also appealed to."

But such buncombe would not be tolerated nowadays. The serfdom of the fishermen in the outports is passed, thank God, for ever. No more nail bag costumes and hob-nailed shoes for our toilers of the sea.

Glorious '69! Was it not somewhere about this period that flour sold at \$12.00 per barrel, and fishermen were paid \$1.60 (eight shillings) per quintal for Labrador fish? Was it not at this glorious period, too, that the "big" houses in Twillingate, Fogo, and Harbor Breton controlled not only the bodies but the souls of the toilers? What about that West-of-England baronetcy that is founded on fish-bones and seal skins?

What about the gentleman of the "Street" who, going out the Narrows with a fortune of ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS, waved his hand and said: "Good bye Newfoundland folks!"

Either our historians are using the truth with penurious frugality or the story of Glorious '69 is marred by serious blots upon its pages.

THE PLACENTIA FERRY SERVICE

\$17,000 Spent on This Ferry -- A Shining Example of "Get Rich Quick."

Mr. Michael Sinnott, the so-called Contractor of the Placentia Ferry Service, was seen in his glory on June 1st through the columns of The News. Mr. Sinnott made a desperate attempt to explain away the actual conditions relating to this awful swindle of SEVENTEEN THOUSAND dollars for a Ferry Service on Placentia Gut. Mr. Sinnott says: "Our statements are false and misleading and that he has no doubt but we were given our information by some parties in Placentia."

Nay, nay, Michael, our information was tabled by the Government in reply to a question asked by the Opposition during the past session of the Legislature, and if the facts as tabled by the Government and published by us as we got them are not correct, Brother Sinnott should make enquiries at the Department of Public Works and learn the reasons, if there are any, of how and why the Government has made him appear a dangerous rival in the game of get rich quick, to the other members and supporters of the famous "Pic Nic" Party.

Mr. Sinnott says, "since taking over this contract in 1912 I have paid all expenses in connection with same, including wages, fuel, repairs to engines and boats, etc." This is Mr. Sinnott's statement over his signature in The News on June 1st, 1915. Now what do the Government say in their statement as tabled in the House of Assembly during the session just closed. We quote the figures for 1912-13, 1913-14 and 1914-15 which cover the period since Mr. Sinnott took over the contract.

Placentia Ferry Account 1912-1913	
P. Bonia, sheet iron, nails bolt,	\$ 38
Chronicle Pub. Co., printing ferry rules,	7.25
Thos. Collins, sticks for ferry wharf,	10.00
Heap & Co., Nipper for Carburetter,	1.75
Kelly James, repairs and materials,	16.83
P. J. Kecke, work on wharf,	2.00
A. McLachlan, expenses inspecting ferry,	8.00
W. F. O'Reilly, services in connection with ferry,	25.00
T. A. Pippy, pinion and exhaust pipe,	0.30
Michael Sinnott, building wharf at Jersey Side,	100.00
Michael Sinnott, contract payment, 13 months from June 1912,	2,141.66
Mrs. Siteman, ferry ballast,	5.00
Mrs. Siteman, rent of ferry wharf,	24.17
Alfred Sparrow, cartage on oil,	2.20
T. Whalen, 2 days work	2.80
Total	\$3,356.30

Placentia Ferry Account 1913-1914	
John Barron & Co., one 10 h.p. Mianus Engine	400.00
Cash paid Customs duty Freight to Placentia,	72.10
Reid Nid. Co., greenheart (60 ft.) screws and carpenters time,	3.30
M. Sinnott, hire of temporary engine,	25.95
Installing new engine,	90.00
Contract payment, 12 months,	29.75
Expenses to St. John's and return,	2,900.00
Mrs. B. Siteman, hire of ferry wharf,	10.00
Total	\$3,541.60

Placentia Ferry Account to Date April 20, 1915--1914-1915	
James Kelly, repairs to Ferry wharves,	\$ 100.00
Mrs. B. Siteman, hire of ferry wharf,	10.00
Michael Sinnott, contract payment for 9 months	2,175.00
Total	\$2,285.00

Panoramic

The Harbor and Narrows present a most interesting spectacle as viewed from Harvey Road last evening at 7 p.m. We counted no less than 35 schooners beating in the harbor, making a genuine moving picture show hard to beat. May we ex-

In face of these figures tabled by the Government how can Mr. Sinnott claim to have paid all the expenses in connection with the Ferry since he took it over in 1912?

For the year 1912-1913 Sinnott was paid \$2141.66 for 13 months contract from June 1912. Apart from this payment to Sinnott the Government paid out for the same year \$1214.64 on account of expenses incurred in operating the Ferry. If Mr. Sinnott paid as he says he did all the expenses in connection with the Ferry since 1912 what did the Government pay out this \$1214.64 for?

Will Mr. Sinnott please explain. At the same time he might as well explain what he means when he says "all those expenses are paid for by me out of the contract price? which may be readily ascertained of the Department of Public Works."

Mr. Sinnott says, "that the firm of James Murphy & Sons also bid on this contract, and that their figures were hundreds of dollars in excess of his." What contract did Murphy & Sons bid for?

If the Government have paid, and we think we have clearly proven this to be the case—all the expenses in connection with the Ferry—how in the name of common sense can Mr. Sinnott or any one else call this a contract service?

In connection with an amount (\$384.44) paid out in 1911-1912 to Mr. Sinnott for material operating Ferry, Mr. Sinnott says he never received the amount. If this is correct Mr. Sinnott should make the Department of Public Works, which he says will be only too glad to furnish all the necessary information on the matter—make an explanation as to why they have placed his name on the Public accounts for receiving money which he has not. He also says this denial applies to other similar amounts which I know nothing off. Strange condition of things indeed. Who is right in this matter, Mr. Sinnott or the Department of Public Works? Will some one answer?

Now as regards the contract itself. There seems to be no fixed price for this Ferry Service. In July 1913 Mr. Sinnott was paid \$2141.66 for 13 months contract from June 1912. In 1931-1914 he was paid \$2900.00 for twelve months contract. Why the difference? What is the explanation of Mr. Sinnott getting nearly Eight Hundred Dollars more in 1913-1914 than he got in 1912-1913? For twelve months he got \$2900.00 whilst for 13 months he got only \$2141.66, and up to 20th April, 1915, he has received \$2175.00 for NINE MONTHS CONTRACT. This is some contract sure. It would put an Oxford graduate to the mat in quick time were the letter to wrestle with this giant.

The Ferry Service on Placentia Gut has cost the huge sum of over SEVENTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS. Not bad for one town.

Mr. Sinnott is supposed to have a contract or something resembling a contract but WHAT THAT CONTRACT IS NO ONE KNOWS—WE DOUBT IT IF MR. SINNOTT KNOWS HIMSELF WHAT THIS CONTRACT REALLY MEANS. When a man gets a contract to run or operate any public service and when he gets a stated sum paid him as contractor why in Heaven's name should the Government pay all the expenses in connection with the said service as they have done in the case of the Placentia Ferry Service.

May we suggest to Mr. Sinnott that he get another contract and let this new one be to find out what the original contract he holds really is and what it is supposed to cover.

We will refer to this Placentia Ferry Service again.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

Expenditure Voted the Past Session by the Government—Every Elector Interested—Every Cent of All This \$4,072,000 Comes Out of the Pockets of the People

(d) Sparsely Populated Localities	
Roman Catholic	\$16,315.62
Church of England	15,800.90
Methodist	13,676.28
Salvation Army	2,037.62
Presbyterian	377.59
Congregational	203.59
Other denominations	88.94
Total	\$48,500.00

(e) Superior Schools	
Roman Catholic	\$4,859.09
Church of England	4,705.79
Methodist	4,073.04
Salvation Army	606.84
Presbyterian	112.29
Congregational	60.64
Other Denominations	26.44
Total	\$14,444.13

(f) Pupil Teachers	
Roman Catholic	\$4,056.85
Church of England	3,909.56
Methodist	3,383.81
Salvation Army	504.15
Presbyterian	93.29
Congregations	50.38
Other denominations	22.02
Total	\$12,000.00

(g) Augmentation	
Roman Catholic	\$29,435.43
Church of England	28,506.79
Methodist	24,673.67
Presbyterian	680.25
Salvation Army	3,676.12
Congregational	367.21
Other denominations	160.43
Total	\$87,560.00

(h) Colleges	
Roman Catholic	\$5,366.29
Church of England	5,196.99
Methodist	4,498.18
Salvation Army	670.18
Presbyterian	124.01
Congregational	66.97
Other Denominations	29.31
Total	\$15,951.93

(i) Inspection	
Roman Catholic Superintendent	\$1,620.00
Roman Catholic Superintendent, Harbor Grace	1,620.00
Church of England Superintendent	1,620.00
Church of England Assistant	700.00
Methodist Superintendent	1,620.00
Methodist Assistant	700.00
Total	\$7,880.00

(b) Additional:	
Roman Catholic	\$ 505.36
Church of England	997.30
Methodist	551.24
Salvation Army	427.77
Presbyterian	79.18
Congregational	42.74
Other Denominations	18.86
Total	\$2,622.45

(j) Industrial Education	
Roman Catholic	\$1,603.81
Church of England	1,555.20
Methodist	1,344.37
Salvation Army	200.28
Presbyterian	37.05
Congregational	20.00
Other Denominations	8.90
Total	\$4,767.61

(k) Council of Higher Education	
Amount of Grant	\$10,000.00

(m) Erection, Remodelling, etc. School Buildings.	
Roman Catholic	\$1,681.95
Church of England	1,628.30
Methodist	1,409.30
Salvation Army	210.06
Presbyterian	38.85
Congregations	21.00
Other Denominations	9.34
Total	\$4,988.70

(n) Retiring Allowances to Teachers.	
Roman Catholic	\$336.40
Church of England	325.75
Methodist	281.98
Salvation Army	42.01
Presbyterian	7.77
Congregational	4.20
Other Denominations	1.80
Total	\$1,000.00

Summary	
Relief of the Poor, proper	\$139,412.00

In aid of Charitable Societies.	
Lunatic Asylum—Salaries and Maintenance	16,472.00
General Hospital—Salaries and Maintenance	52,230.00
Poor Asylum—Salaries & Maintenance	76,730.00
Public Health—St. John's & outports	19,950.00
Lazaretto, St. John's	44,480.00
Fever Hospital	9,930.00
Total	\$424,384.00

(a) Relief of the Poor Department	
Salaries:—	
(a) Commissioner	\$1,500.00
2. St. John's Offices:—	
Inspector and Accountant	\$800.00
Cashier	700.00
Book-keeper	600.00
Total	\$3,600.00

3. Outport Offices:—	
Relieving Officers:—	
Kelligrews	\$40.00
Harbor Main	40.00
Conception Harbor	40.00
Brigus	100.00
Clarke's Beach	40.00
Port de Grave	40.00
North River	50.00
Bay Roberts	100.00
Harbor Grace	375.00
Spaniard's Bay	75.00
Carbonear	300.00
Freshwater, Bay de Verde	
Broad Cove	
Western Bay	
Gull Island	200.00
Lower Island Cove	
Bay de Verde	
Grate's Cove	
Old Perlican	60.00
Hunt's Harbor	20.00
Winterton	20.00
Heart's Content	20.00
Heart's Delight	20.00
New Harbor	30.00
Trinity	60.00
Britannia Cove	24.00
Fox Harbour	16.00
Catalina	60.00
Bonavista	80.00
Elliston	30.00
King's Cove	60.00
Open Hall	60.00
Salvage	40.00
St. Brndan's	20.00
Westville	60.00
James' Cove	40.00
Greenspond	60.00
Musgrave Harbor	20.00
Fogo	40.00
Twillingate	120.00
Exploits	40.00
Grand Falls and Bishop's Falls	25.00
St. Anthony	40.00
LaSalle	40.00
Conche	20.00
Westport	20.00
Labrador	30.00
Blanc Sablon	20.00
Flower's Cove	20.00
Donne Bay	40.00
Bay of Islands	60.00
St. George's	40.00
Channel	40.00
Rose Blanche	40.00
LaPolle	40.00
Burgeo	40.00