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THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE, ST. JOHN'S, NEWFOUNDLAND, MARCH 2, 1915-2.

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## A Letter From "Verb. Sap"

There is no question whatever that in our Colony's public affairs we have arrived at a crisis when there ought to be the fullest and most forcible expression of public opinion in relation to the manner in which the present miserably unpopular government is holding the tremendous trust given into their hands by the public franchise and how they are treating that trust in the glare of the broad daylight.

And if they had any consciousness of right left in them, or in anyone of them—from the great Kaiser down to Mr. Brewer Bennett, C.S., they would invite the fullest revelation, by all the daily papers, of all their acts and intentions in relation to the public service of the Colony. But they won't do it—they are afraid to do it, and therefore so far as possible they try to cover up their wrongs and with a pretence of sincerity, make their abominable pretensions so many avenues for raiding the funds created by the hardworking people of the Colony.

### Only The Mail and Advocate

There is only one daily paper in St. John's to-day to which anyone can approach with his grievances or in defence of right, honestly and fair play, and that paper is the Fishermen's Advocate, and that paper will live "unawed by influence and unbribed by gain,—long after Morris and his crowd of incapables have been driven from power by an outraged and enraged public. God hasten that day is my humble and earnest petition. Repentance—with tears of blood—would not make amends for what they have done against this overburdened Colony.

### The First Move

I think I remember—and the people ought to see this and the object of it—that the first move of the moribund thing called a government, when the special session was called to deal with matters in connection with the great European War, was a move to ask the Legislature to authorize the Government to appoint Commissions to enquire into last Spring's sealing disasters and other matters!!! May the Guardian Angels keep me from swearing on the rogues.

### As Plain as the Daylight

Now was not their intention as plain as the daylight? Do they think the fishermen are fools—real cute weren't they. First the door was opened and then there was the rush for boodle. There was no other object apparent to the mind of any fair thinker in this first move of the special session but boodle! boodle!! boodle!!!

It reminds me of the man who said he had herring for breakfast, herring for dinner, herring for supper—herring all the time. So it may be said of the Government—they have boodle in the morning—boodle at midday and the greatest dish of boodle is in the evening—boodle all the time!

### A Putrid Carcass of a Useless Examination

And here we have this putred and obnoxious carcass being pulled along, as it were, over the crushed bodies of the fishermen week after week and—what do you think Dr. Lloyd is keeping up and pulling with all his might on to the most official end of the rope.

### Bennett's Boy

One would almost think that a gentleman of Mr. Bennett's independence would scorn the idea of taking part in anything of a shady character—or in anything that would bear the construction that he would allow mercenary and selfish considerations to influence him in the discharge of his public duties.

But there is the fact—or the public statement that his boy is now with Timewell in a snug little office in England looking after the interests of the Newfoundland Volunteers. If this is not a disgrace to the Island I do not know what is.

### His Next Appeal to the West End

And yet I have no doubt that Mr. Bennett will come before the West End again, with his wily leader, and say he has done his duty independently and that he is entitled to a new lease of power.

It won't be any good for the Brewer this time, for the whole bunch of Government spendthrifts and grabbals are hated and abhorred as no Government ever was before and the people are only awaiting an opportunity to kick them out.

### Absolutely Necessary

It will be absolutely necessary when the next Government assumes office to appoint a Commission to follow the tracks of some of our public officials and endeavour to discover their crooked ways in using their powers in connection with the supply of institutions under their control. It may not be unwise to begin at the institution where a certain public official was accredited with feeding on the "scraps" of that institution.

We are informed that in the trusty past a great deal of double dealing existed. We will not say any more on this subject, just now we will not say a word to incriminate anyone until the much needed examinations takes place.

"VERB. SAP."

## The Bowring- Kean Outrage

WHAT HR. GRACE  
STANDARD SAYS  
RE KEAN-BOW-  
RING-COAKER

The chief business of the Convention of the Conception Bay Councils of the Fishermen's Protective Union, attended by seventy-five delegates, that was held at Spaniard's Bay on Wednesday last was the consideration of the case of Capt. Abraham Kean. "The decision arrived at as to what steps are to be taken in the matter the Mail and Advocate says, "will for the present be withheld," but as the meeting, we learn from that paper, gave the Pres. a free hand, the adoption or non-adoption of these will be left to his judgment. The opinions we expressed in last issue we have since seen no reason to change. As to the desirability of Captain Kean's remaining at home from the seal fishery this season, we are sure that the great body of the people including many of his best friends and the bulk we think of the most thoughtful and impartial minds in the country are wishful that

it be so settled. They would be pleased were the firm so long and so honorably connected with the business of this country, so noted for their stability and integrity, were Captain Kean to recognize their standpoint and to defer to their wishes in this matter. It is an appeal, and we believe a not unreasonable appeal in its essence.

It is not to dictation but to this appeal of a moderate well-intentioned and not unfriendly public opinion that we think it is up to the Messrs Bowring and Captain Kean to defer out of regard for the best interests of the country, even should their judgment not quite coincide with the method of its presentation or even the judgment that has led to its being made.

This acquiescence in the wishes of the people at large, and desire to act in harmony with the desires of the bone and sinew of the country, could not justly be regarded as a yielding to dictation.

There seems a great call for the good offices of impartial public-spirited citizens to end this matter satisfactorily and amicably.

In the meantime let all signs of acrimony and hostility be suspended. Both sides surely are patriotic enough and sensible enough to drop all minor considerations, and come to a satisfactory agreement.—"Hr. Grace Standard," Feb. 26th.

TO THE PUBLIC—On behalf of the City Poor, kindly keep Thursday Night, April the 8th, free of engagements, when under the patronage of their Excellencies the Governor and Lady Davidson, "St. Thomas' Glee Singers," will render a Concert in the Methodist College Hall. Local talent. Proceeds for the above laudable object. Particulars later.—Feb 27, 31



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