

"EXAGGERATED OR WHOLLY UNTRUE"

Dr. Macfarland of Fairville Answers Charges by a Rothery Correspondent in English Paper--The Case of Frank White.

A letter from a lady residing in Rothery appeared recently in Reynolds' newspaper in London warning Englishmen against the way they were treated in Canada and containing other serious charges against the country. Special reference was made to the case of Frank White, who was found dead in Fairville on January 17. It was claimed that he had been held in the inquest, and that the coroner had been bribed to make a hurried inquest. The letter also stated that the coroner had been bribed to make a hurried inquest.

March 28, 1906.
To the Editor of Reynolds' Newspaper:
Dear Sir,--A copy of your issue of March 11 has recently come to hand in which the following head line attracted my attention: "Children in Canada--A Lady's Serious Charge--Girl of Fifteen Shot Herself." After reading the introductory paragraphs which from their tenor appear to be editorial remarks, I came to the line: "A warning from Canada" and for the sake of clearness I will quote what follows in full:

One of our correspondents, a lady residing at Rothery, near St. John, New Brunswick, has written us a letter, which certainly does a very distressing state of affairs. We are unable to give it in full, but those who are thinking of leaving their native land to enjoy the hospitality of the Dominion will be interested in the following extract:
"I came to Canada a year ago, and the conditions are such that I think every Englishman should know what she is coming to. Last month there were two suicides in this town, one an educated young fellow with splendid testimonials as an engineer, who, after being refused work, poisoned himself. As he was an Englishman, very little fuss was made."
The other, a child of fifteen, setting as a drudge, shot herself, and no inquest was held because she was only an English girl. It is about time the people who have thousands a year to support charities, know what is being done with the emigrant orphan children. Only the other day one sweet little girl of eight was allowed to be sent to a convent under the Scott act.
The adoption is all bosh. The children are taken and treated just as slaves, never going to school after they leave. One boy was stabbed all over with a penknife by a brutal farmer. The townsfolk who were brought up in English charitable institutions and turned adrift in this country. The sum of the earth, in the shape of Italian, Syrian, and heathen Chinese, are welcomed, but the English child is wanted. The townsfolk with immorality."

In the second paragraph your correspondent refers to "an educated young fellow with splendid testimonials as an engineer who, after being refused work, poisoned himself. As he was an Englishman, very little fuss was made."
As the coroner who presided over a most careful inquiry into the cause of death of the young man referred to I would ask your permission for space to present the true facts of the case.
On January 5, 1906, I received information that a young man had been found dead on a road about two miles from my office in Fairville in the parish of Lavender in the county of the city and county of St. John. After viewing the body in my capacity as coroner I ordered a jury impaneled. On examination of the body no testimonials or credentials were found but a letter of introduction to a Mr. Frank Pike of Winnipeg (1,000 miles distant), which eventually led to the unfortunate man's friends being communicated with.

On the following day Mr. Alexander Wilson, the proprietor of the Western House hotel in St. John west, telephoned me with reference to the description of the man published in The Daily Telegraph of this city, and from this source he was identified as Frank White who had arrived from England the previous month in the steamer Lake Erie. It appeared that almost immediately after landing Mr. White had repaired to this hotel to seek a lodging, and was then and there engaged by Mr. Wilson as a machinist to go to work in two weeks. In the mean while it was arranged that he should make his home at the hotel in question.
I would pause for a moment to draw particular attention to this fact in refutation of your Rothery correspondent who states in her letter that the young man poisoned himself because he was refused work. In less than ten hours after his arrival this stranger was hired to go to work at his own trade.
The inquest was reopened on January 8 and was resumed subsequently on several dates but I must pass over the evidence adduced, save in one or two of its most

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salient points, Mr. W. C. R. Allan, a druggist of St. John west, testified that he found a bottle of oxalic acid found in one of the pockets. John Bentley, Esq., M. D., of the city of St. John, in describing the result of the post-mortem testified that there were no wounds or marks of external violence, no mark of burning by acid on the lips, mouth or gullet, that the lining of the stomach was perfectly healthy and no evidence by test of any oxalic acid in that organ. He gave as his opinion that the man might have died by freezing to death, having dropped to the ground in a convulsive fit. Finally on January 17 having heard all evidence that could throw any light upon the case the jury returned a verdict that Frank White came to his death by causes unknown, between Dec. 17, 1905, and Jan. 5, 1906, there being no evidence of foul play.

Where, I would ask, does your correspondent find any evidence that this young man with splendid testimonials after being refused work poisoned himself? Since the inquest closed I have made it a part of my duty as coroner to communicate with Mr. Frank Pike, of Winnipeg, with Mr. Edward K. Sanborn, of Erit Kent, who is a native of this city, and was mentioned by name by the deceased in the course of conversation at the hotel with Mrs. Grace White, a sister of the deceased, residing in London, and with Mr. Evan Pike, of Rochester Terrace, Camden Road, London, and of whom I received replies, which do not lead me to suppose that they, his relatives and friends, think that "as he was an Englishman very little fuss was made." To quote but a line from Mr. Evan Pike's letter, "the writer (father also joins) feels he cannot thank you too much for the kind way in which you have enquired after F. White."

In conclusion I can only say that the other statements contained in the letter of your correspondent are equally exaggerated or wholly untrue. The coroner who investigated the case of the death of the child of fifteen who shot herself informs me that the circumstances were such that no inquest was necessary. The facts were all given the fullest publicity in the St. John press at that time.
All good Englishmen are welcome here and throughout Canada. Unless they come financially independent or nearly so they must make up their minds to work and work hard. The doors of the Dominion are open wide and it is free for all to enter but let me say that none will receive a more hearty welcome from Canadians than our brethren from the old country, among whom are the educated Englishmen whom your correspondent professes to think we despise.
Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for space,
I am yours respectfully,
MATTHEW L. MACFARLAND, M. D.
One of the coroners for the county of the city and county of St. John, Fairville, N. B., Canada.

HILL'S PLANS IN CANADIAN WEST

St. Paul, Minn., April 3.--The report that President James J. Hill of the Great Northern is building through Canada a third trans-continental line with which to enlarge his present system of Pacific railways, was confirmed today in effect by Vice-president Louis W. Hill.

"The report might be called approximately correct," said Mr. Hill, cautiously. "It contains more facts than are usually found in stories of that sort."

Mr. Hill said: "Our line includes only 800 or 900 miles that are still to be constructed west of Winnipeg. We could complete the line within three years."

New York, April 4.--Rumors regarding James J. Hill's projected railroad invasion of Canada are regarded with much interest in financial circles here. It is well understood that anything Mr. Hill undertakes has a pretty good chance of being carried to a successful issue. A special despatch to the Sun from St. Paul today says:

"Vice-President J. W. Hill, of the Great Northern, admitted today that the report that the company would build a trans-continental line across Canada was approximately correct, being based on observations made by parties that have traveled recently through western Canada from the coast, who have noted the different lines under construction in British Columbia and eastward, and have put two and two together."

"Mr. Hill denied that the Great Northern has interests in the Canadian Northern, now being completed from Lake Superior as far west as Edmonton, and also denied that the Canadian Northern will form a part of his company's projected line to the Pacific."

"The only interest we have in the Canadian Northern," said he, "is that we lease our lines from the boundary up to Winnipeg. But we have already secured our own terminals in Winnipeg and we shall soon build a Winnipeg line of our own. Then we shall be entirely independent of the Canadian Northern."

"Mr. Hill agreed that the new trans-continental line would probably be completed some time before the Grand Trunk Pacific is built through to the coast."

"Our line," he said, "includes only 800 or 900 miles that are still to be constructed west of Winnipeg. The Grand trunk Pacific has done nothing yet in that section."

"It has been stated that the Grand Trunk Pacific must take four or five years to finish their line but we could complete ours within two or at any rate within three years."

"President Hill has from 3,000 to 4,000 men now working on the line under construction, and he has several parties surveying the routes of the lines still to be begun. All this is in addition to a number of short lines that are now ready to operate."

"A contractor for the Great Northern who has 1,000 miles of grade to construct, says that the road will be completed to the coast from Winnipeg within eighteen months and believes the line from the east will be finished to Winnipeg before that time. He says he has never before seen such rush orders to complete work regardless of cost."

A letter was read from Japanese consuls general at Ottawa saying that as a result of contributions of this kind Japan would be favorably disposed towards Canada.

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PROMISES MANY REFORMS IN GRAND FALLS

Mayor McCluskey Will Stop Sunday Liquor Selling, Also Peddlers, and Shake Things Up Generally.

Grand Falls, April 4.--At the nomination proceedings in the town building on Friday, J. F. McCluskey, who was elected mayor by acclamation, read the following inaugural address before a large number of electors and announced his programme for the ensuing year: "Mr. Chairman and Electors: I feel it my duty to sincerely thank you for the honor you have conferred on me by electing me by acclamation for your mayor for the ensuing year. It is an honor I feel that I do not deserve, and you should have selected a more capable man to serve you. However, since you have done me that honor, I trust that your confidence in me will

not be misplaced, and I am confident that with the able assistance rendered by the council you have returned, we will be enabled to give you fair and honest administration."

"The first and most important matter that I bring to your notice is regarding the Grand Falls Power Company, which we expect will develop the vast power here. Now, I feel that we have been for some years 'foiled' as it were by the power company, and we have all been on the doubting side regarding the sincerity of the last chartered company and their bona fide intention of beginning operations. I am confident, however, that the present company mean business, and I feel that it is the duty of your mayor and council to urge this company on the advisability of making a start without delay, and I promise to use my best endeavors to have this company make a start and begin operations."

"One of the most important measures for the consideration of our town is water and sewerage. It is to be hoped, too, such matters will be acted upon in the near future, when the property holders will have the right to vote on these two important questions. I have always, since the incorporation of our town, advocated

those measures. We have hitherto luckily escaped that unfortunate disaster--fire, which cannot tell or forecast the time when the fire bell may visit us and sweep away our property. Now, I think it is due time for us to take action and place ourselves in such a position as to reasonably protect our property."

"I desire also to direct your attention to the number of peddlers coming into our town and disposing of their wares and escaping by paying a very small license fee. It is no protection for the merchants doing business in the town, and you will find that in incorporated towns throughout New Brunswick the councils have adopted by-laws which, by their terms, virtually prohibit peddlers from entering therein, and I shall assuredly urge the adoption of similar laws."

"Now there is another matter which should be changed. It frequently happens that when a person is arrested and fined for some misdemeanor, he is allowed to go provided he pays the costs, the fine being allowed to stand over him for good behavior. Now, gentlemen, I will not countenance that. The town of Grand Falls is not so rich that it should be shut off from those revenues. Looking over the statement of the town for 1905, I do not

find that any money was paid for license for theatrical shows held here that year. I contend that all shows or performances coming into the town should have a fair tax placed on them, since you all know that they take away more money than they leave in the community."

"There is another matter which requires attention and ferreting out, and that is the non-observance of the Lord's day. It strikes me that something should be forth with done in the matter of stopping the sale of intoxicating liquor on Sundays on that day. All gambling or gaming devices in connection with barrooms must also be removed, otherwise the guilty party to forfeit his license. To my mind, liquor can be sold about as honorably as any other line of goods by confining it to regular hours, observing Sunday and avoiding gambling."

Before the town was incorporated, we raised sufficient funds by various entertainments to construct sidewalks throughout the village. Since incorporation the town has taken charge of the sidewalks, constructed new walks and kept in repair the old ones. Now, instead of con-

tinually expending money to keep those plank sidewalks in repair, why not have something permanent and lasting? I shall, therefore, urge your council to put down concrete sidewalks, and then if there is only fifty yards of concrete laid each season it will be permanent and prove economical."

"This is no last suggestion, and I think it is an important one. We should have a watchman to look after our town and property by night, so I shall urge, upon your council, the desirability of having a night watchman. I think I have excellent reasons for urging the appointment of a night watchman or policeman since, as you all know, I have within the past twelve years been the victim of two robberies. Now, I will close by again thanking you for the honor conferred upon me."

Rev. A. D. Paul, of Praeger Isle (Me.), is visiting Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Wilson in town.
Mrs. Wm. McCluskey is critically ill and but slight hopes are entertained of her recovery.
Warnock Bros. have about completed their operations for the opening of the maple honey season. Several thousand trees have been tapped, and a new, large evaporator installed in their sugar.