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### "Defender's" Tribute To Hon. M. P. Cashin

(To the Editor)  
Dear Sir,—I have been reading for some time past, in a section of the press, a series of low attacks against the acting Prime Minister, Hon. M. P. Cashin. The spiteful and depraved nature of these outbursts stamps their authors as characters not worthy of the name of decent citizens, for no decent citizen would degrade his character so contemptuously as to single out for an object of vile attack a gentleman of such unblemished reputation as the Hon. M. P. Cashin.

During my lifetime I have been little influenced by the violent emotions of party strife, hence I can look on all combatants impartially, and discern what is fair on the one side or foul on the other, but never yet have I seen such an unjustifiable and miserable stream of venom as that sought to be turned against the noble hearted Cashin.

However the putrid stream will certainly flow back again upon those who are directing its course, for the character of M. P. Cashin can never be defiled here or anywhere else, now or at any other time, nor by those who are attempting it or any other person. I say this because he stands in a class of a superlative degree whether we judge him politically or commercially, morally or socially. By his own natural genius and ability, aided by his own unassuming genial and gentlemanly disposition he has attained to a degree of superiority which exceeds beyond the limits of description, the characters of those traducers who are manoeuvring against him.

I have been an observer of Mr. Cashin's career for many long years, yet, except for the low petty and contemptible scribbles now being directed against him, I have never heard aught but the noblest expressions of our language spoken in his favor.

The records of the Cashin family, in all the attributes of honor and of reputation, can never be defiled by envious, jealous, narrow-minded politicians who have been kicked like a football from one district to another without finding a goal, nor by wretched scribbles in a sheet of obscure nature whose so-called manager has scarcely intelligence enough to know his back from his brains.

I know that the generous hearted Mr. Cashin disregards whatever his small-minded critics may write or say against him and would rather that their criticisms pass unnoticed, but his legion of friends are not going to permit him to be vilely assailed by innocent people might be wrongly impressed. They will counter stroke in such a manner that their assailant's will never know what struck them. Because of my veneration for the name of Cashin the writer is one who will take a hand in delivering these counter strokes. We all know that the rat if unmolested will gnaw and gnaw until he eventually gouges out a hole large enough to put his snout through, but that he will make a swift exit to his underground retreat when he is hit upon the snout, and that the harder and oftener we hit him the less we will see of the pest. Let Mr. Cashin's enemies then take a needful warning in time, otherwise the rats they will receive may push them into oblivion quicker than they may desire. Obvious is assuredly in store for any man silly enough to imagine he can influence an intelligent public into choosing a politician of meanly calibre in preference to a statesman of such superlative superiority as the Hon. M. P. Cashin.

When the years of the future will unfold our political happenings I feel sure that the name of M. P. Cashin will be there disclosed still higher on our roll of fame. His uninterrupted series of political victories, bound to have a long continuance, prove that his constituents are devoted to him and when we add to this magnificent record his own sterling character together with the esteem entertained towards him by his fellow countrymen generally, no honor is too high for him to reach which is in the people's power to bestow. On the other hand the future will disclose that those who are now assailing him will be relegated to the pit of obscurity which they are, assuredly, now digging for themselves.

Yours truly,

June 28th, 1918.

Barrels of Ale Stolen

On Friday afternoon, June 21st, Inspector Tracey and Sergt. Palmer located five barrels of ale at Kempt Road, Halifax. They went after a team to haul the beer away and when they returned they found only one barrel left, the other three having disappeared, and Halifax appears on the map as a dry town.

## RANDOM COMMENTS

By: "PRO PATRIA"

### THE SQUIRES LIBEL CASE

It is not contempt which makes intelligent outport people stop and think about the verdict in the above case. We would not question the justice of rendering that verdict. But as far as we can read and understand, the interrogations in the Advocate were convincingly supported by the evidence of Miss Dawe. If the Advocate had contended that Miss Dawe received, but refused to accept a cheque considerably in excess of her salary, this was also borne out in her evidence. Then by what reasoning was the verdict arrived at which put a maximum valuation of two hundred and fifty dollars on the Hon (?) R. A. Squires' reputation? It may not be customary, but it should be absolutely necessary for the public to know by what line of reasoning the jury decided on that verdict. It seems to us that there was more than real cause for action in the Coaker vs. Reid libel, which was for some reason ruled out of court.

### THE VERDICT

"Good name, in man, and woman, dear, my Lord, is the immediate jewel of their souls." The verdict rendered is, of course, a complete victory for the Advocate and subject of ridicule for the people. Just think of it, but don't tell your horse as he might laugh. The Hon. R. A. Squires' reputation has been estimated to be worth just "Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars," instead of about \$20,000. When one takes into consideration the fact that every man who begins life with two arms and an intellect, starts with a capital worth hundreds of thousands of dollars, it seems to us a piece of conscious irony to value, the Hon. (?) R. A. Squires' reputation at just "Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars." If he has been putting that natural investment to the honest test in such a petty estimate of his worth to value, this very interesting case has put the fishermen wise as to just how much the name of Squires is worth, even among his friends?

The "Calchas" Supply and Demand theory is exploded at last, for the verdict is proof of a limited supply of "Reputation," and the fishermen's blunt sentiments are a proof of the limited demand for that particular brand of reputation. The brand is too cheap and shoddy. It is too unreliable. It will not wash, nor wear well. Cheap reputation—cheap man. CITY AGAINST F. P. U.

We cannot believe that the city, as a majority, are antagonistic to the F. P. U. and its President, and seeks to destroy them both, but we are assured that strong forces are stubbornly arrayed against them. The reasons are evident. These men see their chances of plunder vanishing "like the basest fabric of a vision." Their rule of despotism and ruin is being contested by the people. It is the arrogance of caste striking at equal rights. It is a criticism which gives birth to passionate thoughts in their mad race for spoils, which is full of vengeance and destruction towards the "Big F. P. U." Slippery writers are making a flagrant exposure of the insincerity which conceals hatred by professions of kindness. They are making frenzied appeals to passion for unworthy purposes. Like the hunter who creeps warily, and fears to frighten what he would capture, so they come with honeyed words and stealthy tread. They are trying to beat down all that stands in the way of ruining the destiny of a united people and popular Government. They glory in sectional hate, and the betrayal of patriotic sentiments, selfish greed, and grasping avarice, is bound to stifle patriotism. But victims of political and commercial hydropobia will bark their defiance of all who oppose them, and the people must take up the challenge, and extract their poisonous fangs.

### THE VAGRANT STAR

It is said that writers of poetry possess an eye for the beautiful in nature and in man, and that they are usually of a melancholy, and emotional nature. We will not the trials and vicissitudes of the "Vagrant Star" excite these passions within the breast of any sympathizer, barring, of course, the beautiful and sublime in nature and man. The muse has inspired (not perspired) us to write the following parody with apologies to the originator the "Twinkling Star."

Twinkle! Twinkle! little "Star,"  
First for party, last for war,—  
To oppose the people's right  
You're a hero in the fight!  
So your twinkling little "Star,"  
Spreads corruption near and far.

Twinkle! Twinkle! little "Star,"  
Win your laurels; wear your "Bar,"—

'Tis a bar the people make  
That the tyrants leave must take;  
Though your twinkling little "Star,"  
Paints them better than they are.

Twinkle! Twinkle! little "Star,"  
Headless of the battles scar,  
Reckless of the Empire's fate,  
Wage your grim campaign of hate;  
Thus your twinkling little "Stars,"  
Wear the feathers and the tar.

Twinkle! Twinkle! little "Star,"  
Once eclipsed,—but here you are  
Shedding lustre on a name  
Born in honor, grown in fame,—  
Thus your twinkling little "Stars,"  
Advertise a fame that mars.

### Not Downhearted

Six Wild Boys Tell of Their Work  
For Those Safe at Home.

(To the Editor)

Dear Sir,—Will you please allow us a little space in your paper to relate a little of our experiences in travelling from Devonport to Malta, Gough, France and Italy.

We sailed from Southampton on the S. S. ———, escaped the Hun boats and landed safely in France. After four days' rest we started on our journey, and the order was "fall in!" "form fours!" and "quick march!" for the train which was to take us further south. On arriving at the station we were not a little surprised to find that we had to travel in cattle cars. Were we downhearted? No! Did we go in? Yes! Did we stay in? Yes! For the next ten days merrily we rolled along, till we got to our destination. We should like to be able to tell you some of our doings, but we are under orders. We are serving our King and fighting for dear old Newfoundland, and what matters it where we are helping in the great cause of freedom and justice. We hope the girls we left behind us will not forget to write us a word of cheer sometimes. I tell you it does a world of good to the sailor's heart to get a line from home.

There are six of us in this little bunch and our friends will be glad

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Malta, April 30th., 1918.

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