

CAPT. WATKINS' PROTEST.

Capt. Frederick Watkins, commander of the American liner "City of Paris," when she went ashore on the Manacles, and who has arrived in this country to protest against the action of the New York Board of United States Inspectors of steam vessels in suspending him for two years, makes some rather caustic remarks anent the occurrence. The captain is quoted as saying in an interview:

"My principal reason in coming here is to fight the decision of the United States inspectors of steam vessels. By its confounded impudence, the London Board of Trade put its nose in my affairs. It sent a communication to Ambassador Choate asking if there was going to be an investigation, and stating that if there was not, the London Board of Trade would hold one. Ambassador Choate wrote to the secretary of the treasury, and he in turn communicated with the Board of Steamboat Inspectors. Some of my friends wrote to the supervising inspector-general, Dumont, of the United States steamboat inspection service, asking him not to be too severe. My friends seemed to think two months' suspension sufficient, but General Dumont replied, 'Watkins is more than seventy years old.' What's the difference? Dumont himself is seventy-five years old, and he was never a sailor. The man knew I was not seventy, for when you apply for a license, it is necessary to file your age. Under my English license, what the Board of Trade should have done was to write to me asking if an investigation was to be held. The Board of Trade could have investigated the question of taking away my English license. Now I'm going to fight the matter right to the end. The accident, as I already stated, was the result of a mistake on my part. In my report, I told how the ship got out of her course, but the inspectors, in their findings, seem to have reckoned the matter not according to what I wrote, but according to the way they think it must have happened."

LORD FARRER.

The announcement of the death of Lord Farrer, which took place on Wednesday last at the ripe age of 80 years, has been received with wide-spread feelings of regret, for although he was an ardent controversialist and an ever-ready champion of Free-trade principles, he was so transparently sincere and so unfailingly good natured that he was almost as popular with his opponents as with those who shared his views. Springing from a legal stock, Lord Farrer was called to the Bar, and practiced for a short time with success, until he accepted the post of Assistant-Secretary to the Board of Trade, subsequently becoming permanent secretary of the board. It is related of his lordship that he spoke of the Government service as a "capital career for one who prefers power to fame," and it is not too much to say that during his long period of official service, extending to nearly forty years, he completely dominated the work of the department, and exercised much more real power than his successive official chiefs. Lord Farrer was throughout his life a strong individualist, and consistently deprecated the interference of the State in business concerns, which his practical mind convinced him were best conducted by men of training and experience; yet it fell to his lot in his official capacity to assist in the introduction of legislation affecting such important industries as the mercantile marine, railways, and electric lighting, while he took an important part in the reform of the bankruptcy laws, and in the improvement of our commercial relations with foreign countries, and in all these matters he did not allow his personal predilections to in-

terfere with a loyal desire to render the most effective aid he possibly could to the bringing about of the results aimed at by the Government of the day. Since his retirement from the public service, Lord Farrer has written largely, and with conspicuous ability and lucidity upon economic subjects of various kinds, being one of the most sturdy upholders of the Cobdenite creed, and an unsparing critic of "Fair Trade," bi-metallism and other economic heresies. Lord Farrer was a well-known figure in the city, where he acted as chairman of the Guardian Investment Trust Company, and as a director of the Law Debenture Corporation, as well as presiding over the committee formed for the protection of the holders of certain Argentine municipal securities. He was a many-sided man, whose striking personality, varied abilities, and amiable characteristics will be greatly missed and long remembered.—Economist.

—A company in Pennsylvania is manufacturing a very staple article for hardware merchants in the form of a wire hammock. It is made of galvanized special steel wire, with a chain attached at each end for suspending to walls or posts. It is said it will not rust when left out in the weather; and that it is comfortable, strong, neat, durable, germ proof, and will stand hard wear and tear. It has proven a very salable specialty during the summer.

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No. 1 Cal	6	3½
Corn	3	5½
Peas	5	6
Lard	27	6
Pork	57	6
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—The other night, while it was pitch dark, the ship called the "Ino," entered the Tyne from Hamburg, and, as usual, the custom house launch ran alongside. "Hoy," shouted the officer, "what ship is that?" "Ino," came the reply. "I know jolly well you know," retorted the officer, "but I want to know."—Newcastle Chronicle.

—According to a cable despatch from Kingston, dated Sunday last, the Island of Jamaica is flooded as the result of three days of continuous rainstorms, and that city was covered with water to the depth of six inches. Business has been practically suspended, and railway traffic blocked on both sections. It is feared that extensive damage has been done in the country districts. Some damage has been sustained in Kingston, and a few fatalities are reported.

—A gentleman, who has just come to Yarmouth from Sydney, told a Times man an incident, which shows how Sydney people are preparing to reap the benefits of their boom. An old woman, who keeps a small drinking establishment in a little coop, on a bit of land 50 x 100 feet, was offered \$500 for her property recently. She refused, and shortly after treated an offer of \$600 in a similar way. "No," said she to the man who proffered the cash, "I don't want to sell me land. They tell me in two years' time it'll be worth \$1,500, and I guess I'll live that long."—Yarmouth Times.

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