

## ANOTHER GLARING SCANDAL EXPOSED

### "Fiona" Has Cost Colony the Price of a Dreadnought---\$4,000 for Provisions and \$1,000 for Medicine Paid Out by Morris Last Year

Our exposure of the Placentia Ferry Service scandal proved an eye opener. The public, although they knew that the Morris Government have collected more revenue and squandered more than any other Government since we were blessed, or rather cursed, with Responsible Government, did not think such wholesale legalized robbery was being perpetrated. The Placentia Ferry Service cost \$17,000.00 out of which sum one Michael Sinnott of Placentia got nearly Eight Thousand Dollars for a contract to operate the ferry. Sinnott got the \$8,000.00 all right; but the taxpayers of this Colony not alone had to foot this grab, but had to pay all the expenses of the said contract. Everything was paid for by the Government, and the public to-day are asking what is the contract that Sinnott has and what was he paid nearly Eight Thousand Dollars for?

The next expensive toy of the Government is the Government picnic yacht Fiona. The Fiona has cost enough since she first came through the "gap" to build a dreadnought. Year after year enormous sums of money are paid out on her account. She has been repaired so often that of late years those doing the repairs have been at a loss to know what repairs to do. Some amounts paid out the last year on account of the "Fiona" require some explanation.

On Wednesday we published the statement as tabled by the Minister of Marine and Fisheries and in this statement we find that \$3890.74 was spent for provisions and groceries. Just think of it, fishermen toilers of Newfoundland. Almost \$4000.00 for provisions and groceries. Isn't this a rich one. Needless to say that the grub wasn't pork and molasses. Oh no, the best was none too good for these hard working sailors. The Fiona is generally laid up in St. John's four months of the year and how a crew of twenty men could get through \$4000.00 worth of provisions is hard to fathom.

Out of this \$3890.00 C. F. Bishop of Burin, gets \$665.24; W. E. Beams of St. John's, gets a nice little grab of \$1798.70; C. P. Egan got a flea bite of \$277.62, and Hearn & Co. get \$75.00. Another little bite of \$317.57 goes to Affidavit Duffy.

Duffy figures in almost every Departmental account we have seen yet. So far the only one he has overlooked is the Agricultural Board. Perhaps it is that Duffy doesn't deal in "LIVE STOCK." Duffy is one of the Morris Politicians who is making good and struts through the streets of St. John's with his chest thrown out like a turkey cock on dress parade. He will get all he can while OUR Premier has the keys of the chest.

We are afraid the fishermen will find it hard to swallow the next "Fill," one of \$976.02 paid M. Connors for medicine for the crew of the Fiona. What an awful sick crowd they must be for sure. Almost a thousand dollars for medicine. Many a poor fisherman cannot even get a doctor when needed, and the thousands of fishermen who go down to the Labrador in the summer time and snatch from the seas the harvest that keeps this Country going are denied everything and anything that helps to make the burden of life easier.

Who is the Doctor on board the Fiona? He must be a very busy man. Truly the fishermen of Newfoundland are paying a heavy price for Morris "lease" of the Government chest. Being well looked after as regards food and medicine it would be cruel to have them shabby dressed, and to prevent this Mark Chaplin the Tailor was ordered to measure them for uniforms and Markie's little bill was \$262.40. If so much medicine was used aboard the Fiona we fear it will be some time before Mark gets a chance to take their measure again. In order to have the sick men appear as presentable as possible the Globe Steam Laundry was ordered to have a look in and see if anything there required doing up. They took a look around and sent in their bill for \$103.90.

The Harbor Breton Company gets a snug little haul of \$2032.28 and Henry Elliott, we presume of Harbor Breton, had a look at things and out goes another \$260.10.

Even Bishop, Sons & Co. had a look around to see if there was anything doing. Some wire and rope was needed for which they got the modest sum of \$65.18. They got other grabs too, in fact Bishop, will grab all he can get.

The crew being delicate some fruit and choice vegetables were sent aboard and P. J. Gleeson gets another few dollars.

Breaker & Co. for furnishing some network have \$213.10 to their credit.

The rest of the account is made up for coal and municipal charges for water, supplied the Fiona while in St. John's and a lot of small sundry amounts, one of which is \$89.75 paid F. Dick for expenses. Doesn't say, of course, what expenses. For keeping the clocks in repair Geo. Langmead gets \$23.90.

Isn't it time that the fishermen of Newfoundland whose backs are broken and whose spirits are dampened by excessive taxation arose in their might and ended this kind of thing for ever. No stop in this carnival of boondie, graft and reckless expenditure of public monies can be expected while the Morris clique hold the reins of power. It was an unlucky day for Terra Nova that the people heeded the cries raised by the Graballs in 1908 of "Give Morris a Chance." He has had that chance and look at the mess he has made of the whole country.

This kind of thing will go on for ever unless the fishermen who are the producers of the wealth of this Country rise up in their thousands and send to represent them men "who will say to all and sundry who make the Treasury a den of political thieves and rogues "Thou shalt not."

"Bigs has just called a blackguard." "Just like Bings to go blurring out the truth. He's got no tact at all."

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**THE TRAIL OF THE LOVELORN.**  
A great detective story in two parts.  
**MISS TOMBOY AND FRECKLES.**  
A Vitagraph comedy with Lillian Walker.  
**THE RANGER'S ROMANCE.**  
A very thrilling Western drama.  
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A strong social drama by the S. and A. players.  
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The old gardener was discharged to give place to a younger man; his boy was nicknamed "The Ragamuffin," but Ragamuffin opened all their eyes, saving both his father's honor and the rich man's money.  
"BRONCHO BILLY GUNMAN"—A Western drama with G. M. Anderson.  
"THE RETURN OF JACK BELLOW"—Thrown overboard and left to drown by his rival, Jack returns as if from the dead, featuring Robert T. Thornby.  
"MIKE, THE AVENGER"—The humorous story of a human dynamo.  
"THE RUBE'S DUCK" and "OUTWITTING DAD"—Two very funny comedies.  
M. J. Delmonico sings "Don't Blame it all on Broadway" and "Play in the Game of Love." Illustrated.  
The usual Extra Pictures at the Big Saturday Matinee. Send the Children, the Crescent will take good care of them.

## WEST ENDER REPLIES TO MANLINESS AND SHOWS UP MORRIS' ABILITY

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir.—A writer in this morning's "News" signing himself "Manliness" takes your humble servant to task what he thinks fit to call gutter journalism. It is evident from the tone of this writer's letter that I trust on "someone's" corns and I say Mr. Editor that it is time for that "someone" to see himself as others see him.

If "Manliness" objects to what he calls abuse against our beloved Sir Tax I would ask him where was his voice when the now bosom friend of Sir Tax Morris—one P. T. McGrath—lost many a night's rest showing Morris up, in what McGrath then called, his true colors.

There are unfortunately for this country to-day too many willing tools like Manliness tugging on to Morris' coat tails, not for their devotion to him, but for what they can get out of him. They are as thick around him as flies around a molasses puncheon in the good old summer time.

"Manliness" would have us believe that Sir Tax Morris is a man of ability. The writer of that article in the News evidently has got so far into Morris that he has got a little of latter's gall, and that added to what he possesses himself makes him a dangerous buzzard.

Where, we ask, did Morris ever show any ability in the management of this country's affairs? Did he show any when he said he built four branch railways for four million of dollars without increasing taxation? Did he show any ability as a statesman when he ignored the very fundamental principles of our constitution by railroading Dummy Squires and Sid Blandford through the back door of the dumping chamber in direct defiance of the strongly expressed wishes of the electors of Trinity and Bonavista? Did he show any ability, again as a statesman by taking off 400,000.00 of taxation just previous to the 1913 election and clapping on \$700,000.00 when his government was returned to power? Did he show any ability as a statesman when he was at

torney General for the Colony under the Bond Government? Every contract made by that Government with the Reids was drafted by Morris. Patsy told us in 1913 that Morris was the brains of the Bond Government, and if he possessed the ability that "Manliness" would like us to think he had, how is that the Reids won every arbitration against the Colony when Sir Tax Morris was the Colony's legal representative? Does "Manliness" forget the statement made by one of the arbitrators in the famous telegraph arbitration? If he does, we suggest his asking Sir Tax, and if the latter is not forgetful like Donald he ought to be able to give Manliness that enlightenment he so evidently needs.

If the Editor of the News would turn up some of his back files he would be able to give Manliness some good illustrations of how he regarded Sir Tax Morris as a man of ability not many years since. Morris possesses ability all right, but it is not that brand of ability that a man should have holding the position Sir Tax does. He has the ability, and the gall too, of that cheap class of self-styled patriots who only aim in political life is to feather their own nest at their country's expense. No better illustration of this class of ability has ever, or will be seen in Terra Nova than the same Ned Morris.

Morris must certainly possess some marvelous ability to be able to live in a mansion, and not live cheaply either, although he says himself he draws no official salary from the Colony. How does he do it? It is certainly "ability" that thousands in this colony envy. Won't our beloved Premier leave us the receipt when he goes? For this receipt we will gladly pay him one thousand dollars. Our grandmothers did not possess this receipt in their day, but they did possess one that Sir Tax Morris with all his so-called ability paid a thousand dollars for. "Manliness" says "the point I wish to make in dealing with this letter is that if such writings are received and published by Editors, it will have the effect of keeping brilliant young men from entering politics, a loss to this country that we can ill afford."

Evidently "Manliness" is going to take Sir Tax's mantle when he lets it fall. Perhaps this is the younger man that Sir Tax referred to in his letter to the News which was published in that paper as a New Years message from the Premier.

Sir Tax Morris' ability as a political trickster of the deepest dye is too well known for me to elaborate on it at the present writing. I am watching a little game of the Premier's just now and when the time is ripe I shall show Manliness and his pap fed friends how a certain section of the country is to be again coddled by this trickster of undesired ability.

No sane man would be bold enough to-day to accuse Morris of being either a first-class lawyer or statesman after the deplorable mess he has made of this colony during the unhappy years he has had control of the Government. If Morris was possessed of Manliness and less Bluff and Deceit it would indeed be better for himself and the country in general.

Now if Manliness wants any further illustrations of Sir Tax's ability he will be accommodated with enough to make a Who's Who appear like a pony primer.

I am leaving town in a day or two Mr. Editor on a short business visit and on my return I shall take up where I left off last week, and I can assure Manliness that if he is determined to act as interpreter for Sir Tax Morris he will have a busy time.

Yours truly,  
WEST ENDER.  
St. John's, May 26th, 1915.

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