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("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

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Editor and Business Manager
JOHN J. ST. JOHN

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., OCT. 18th, 1915

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Muzzle the Press

LAST Wednesday's verdict and charge by the presiding Judge and the attempt to muzzle The Mail and Advocate, as well as the F.P.U., has been the chief topic of conversation in this town and nearby outposts during the past five days.

No Jury in this Country ever gave a verdict exceeding \$600 damages, and that was in the case of the late Mr. A. M. MacKay.

Every Outpost lover of Liberty denounced the verdict of last Spring in favour of Kean, and most people are agreed that a 10 cents verdict in favour of Kean was fully enough to cover that case. Kean would never have brought that case before a Bonavista Bay Jury. They know Kean, and know him well.

Wednesday's verdict of \$1800 all are agreed was intended to soak The Mail and Advocate, and aimed at killing the paper. A score of such verdicts would be necessary to convince the Fishermen that anything but hatred of the growing influence of the Outposts in the every day affairs of the Colony was responsible for the soaking of the Publishing Co.

Read the Judge's charge. Consider the verdict of \$1800 as damages caused to Kean's reputation by our remarks made at a time when Kean was writing letters to the Press abusing Coaker and insulting him about not supporting his wife; at a time when the whole Colony was delirious over the Sealing Disaster massacre—which two Judges of the Supreme Court, sitting as a Commission of Enquiry, brought home to Kean in words that leave him open to arrest and trial on a charge of manslaughter.

A witness had given evidence at the Enquiry, in which he swore he had sent a message to Kean from Kean's son, asking the father to look after the Newfoundland's crew. Kean's operator could not remember anything about those words, although he did receive a message; yet the sending operator swore the receiving operator gave him the usual sign of having received a message which the sending operator swears included the words the Newfoundland's crew.

Kean swore he did not receive a message containing the words "and Newfoundland's crew."

We commented on the difference between Kean's evidence on

this point and the sending operator's. We asked how the thing could be explained. Naturally doubt would arise in any man's mind as to whether one or the other was in error.

Kean launched a libel action against us and claimed we accused him of perjury. We denied that charge.

The result is, Kean has received a verdict of \$1800 from a St. John's Jury.

Why were we soaked for \$1800 to give Kean?

Of course Kean's lawyer, would say it was for damages caused to Kean's reputation by our remarks. Only a fanatic would consider such a reply as proper or justified. But Kean is supposed to have been awarded \$1800 for damages caused to his reputation by our remarks?

The people will of course say in reply: that 10,000 of his fellow-countrymen—including thousands of his own neighbours and those who know him since he was a boy—signed a petition last Spring, asking the Crown to arrest him and bring him to trial for manslaughter; and two Judges of the Supreme Court claimed he was guilty of "Grave Error of Judgment"—mind you, not an error of judgment—but a "Grave Error of Judgment."—and went on in their findings to show they regarded Kean in more ways than one as not being all he might be.

Yet Kean's reputation suffered to a value of \$1800 by a question we asked in our paper 18 months ago; about the difference in the evidence of Barkley and Abram Kean.

No man but one possessing a prejudiced mind will admit that the verdict was fair, and based on the evidence. It may have been based on the charge of the Judge—that we admit—but why should nine sensible men be influenced in such a manner by a Judge's remarks when they considered the relation of that Judge with Kean's conduct in the Sealing Disaster matter and our stand in reference to that Judge's report or findings.

Judge Johnson's charge will not be dropped here. It will be the subject of days debate in the House of Assembly next winter when his salary as a Judge is being voted.

The Union members of Parliament will not tamely submit to treatment that even a brute would resent. When the House of Assembly opens again there will be changes in the Opposition that will enable the Union Party to express its opinion of many public matters and offer open blunt criticism of the conduct of public officials that will surprise a few.

The Union Party in the House of Assembly has sat two years studying men, things and tactics in the House. Their apprenticeship has been served, and when Morris meets Parliament again, he will be faced by one portion of the Opposition that will not fail to bring home to him and the Country all that belong to him and his clique, and a clean, clear cut will be made that will show St. John's that "Baymen" are no longer serfs of St. John's interests or that Outposts intend to be any longer the milch cow for St. John's Graballism.

Coaker will lead his men in the House of Assembly next Winter, responsible only to his Party and himself, and Morris's long term of usurpation will receive its deserts, irrespective of who is pleased or displeased.

When Abram Kean is placed before a Marine Court of Enquiry to answer for his many marine blunders and an effort is made to safeguard the Northern, travelling public who pay Bowring \$100,000 a year for the use of the Prospero, the Union Party and the Fishermen will consider there is some Law and Justice.

Is Kean supreme to the Law?

Is Abram Kean so superior or so powerful that not only is he to be permitted to escape trial for manslaughter in connection with

the 79 Fishermen that was massacred on March 31st, 1914, and the maiming of 21 others for life; but that he can secure from a Jury of nine St. John's men a verdict of \$1800 as a result of damage to his reputation—and not only be supported by Judge Johnson as a Commissioner, but to have cases against the only man in the Colony that has dared to question his conduct, presided over by a Judge that declared Kean to be a hero in a Sealing Disaster matter, out of which this action grew.

If this is British Law, and if this is what the Supreme Court Bench tolerates, then the only remedy is to fight for Liberty and Freedom all over again, for what we now possess is but a shadow and a delusion.

"Hands off the Supreme Court Judge" cries the only past master of failure Newfoundland has yet produced, but we can assure him he will have greater cause to cry out when the Union members again find their feet in the House of Assembly.

St. John's has now proven its bitterness and hatred for the F.P.U., and the issue to be fought in future will be which will prevail the serfdom of Outport men to St. John's interests or the free will of the people to govern this Colony honestly and equitably, uprooting the devil-stained drawing-rooms of the clique of hoodlums that now and for years have disgraced our Country and enriched themselves by the legalized and illegal robbery of the Outport producers of this Colony.

Pit Props

THE GOVERNMENT has decided to permit the cutting of green timber for pit props from the three mile limit during the coming year. We trust the men employed will be paid at a decent rate for their timber; not less than \$4 per cord should be paid the loggers for rinded wood. A ring exists amongst English buyers of pitprops and they worked their plans the past year well enough to grab at least \$2 per cord that ought to be in the pockets of the people of this Colony.

Pit props are very valuable in Great Britain. They were willing last Fall to pay \$8.50 per cord for pit props stowed on board the steamers. Their agents here soon discovered that a host of men wanted pit prop contracts and one offered to undersell the other until some local men actually offered to cut, place on board and stow pit props rinded for \$5.50 per cord. Some sold rinded timber on the bank at \$3.50 per cord.

Every cord of pit props exported this year was worth \$8.50 to the Colony, and most of it was bought at \$5.50, a loss of \$3 per cord occasioned by the eagerness exhibited by some of our people to make the pit prop buyers across the water rich men.

None of the pit props sold in Newfoundland were sold direct to the mines; timber merchants who resell to the mines purchased the whole output and they reap tremendous profits from the business. They are now protesting against paying the \$1.00 export tax, but not one cord must be exported after Dec. 31st that does not pay \$1.00 per cord tax. It ought to be half the profits made by exporters and instead of \$1.00 being received it should be more like \$3.

Some of those buyers have found Newfoundlanders pretty easy to get over this year, but they have bought their experience and if local contractors like Horwood, Park and Storm and Curran and Martin would get together and form a company to export to England direct, the coming year, they would be able to pay the loggers \$4 per cord and receive decent returns for their outlay, and would be paid for all the wood they put on board and not for the buyers consent to pay for, as has happened in more cases than

one this year. More than one shipper lost 100 cords on the measurement of one steamer load.

The Minister of Finance will have to make sure next year that all wood is packed on the bank in such a way as to be measured before being boomed and compel the exporters to pay the tax on measurements on the bank and not what their well paid agents say is the measurement on board ship.

There must be no weakness in enforcing the export tax and it would only be proper if the Government at once proclaimed their intention of allowing no pit props to be cut at less than \$4 per cord. Anything less is but placing a premium on pauperizing our toil.

Come, men, refuse to accept less for your labor. Demand \$4 per cord for pit props rinded, and if you all hang together the blood suckers from across the water who grabbed piles from your last Winter's toil will have to pay. The less they pay you the more they grab for themselves.

Their profits in pit props this season must exceed \$5 per cord—for they have gained in some cases a clear dollar per cord on the extra turn out of the cargoes across. Yankees are not the only tricksters in trade. There can be found Englishmen with so-called blue blood in their veins that can teach Yankees many a crooked trick in trade.

Take Heed

FOR some time past we have noticed that news matter is being systematically withheld from this paper in some, if not most of the Government Departments.

The sentiment of British fair play and a square deal all round is so ingrained in us, that when we began to notice this small, mean, contemptible, officially practiced ostracism of the Fishermen's paper—The Mail and Advocate—we ascribed it to the petty revenge of officious underlings and biased understrappers; but of late we are constrained to reluctantly recognize that this treatment (at least in some instances) has the sanction of Departmental Heads, some of whom remember with bitterness in their hearts (and with their hearts in their boots fearing the administration of more of a similar medicine) the deserved castigations which their political misdeeds earned for them.

Now, in the present Government, so well it is known, that it were superfluous to reiterate our oft repeated assertion corruption and maladministration are predominating features, while nepotism is so rampant that the Government has been designated as a great family party, not happy by any means, but having cohesive force enough to keep it together because of the patronage so liberally bestowed, where wayward and restive tendencies exist.

Some of the perpetrators of this official vengeance and many of their relatives now occupy positions in the Civil Service, while others who, if they had their deserts, would be serving the public in a different capacity from that which they are now doing and in an expiatory manner.

Now to all and sundry who are forwarding or aiding or abetting this mean, low down propaganda of discrimination against the organ of a United Fishermen's Organization, we say that just as sure as the sun will rise to-morrow so sure is it that a Fishermen's Government will come into power two years hence, and then, you useless, pilfering, pirate leaders as well as lackeys will feel the edge of the "axe" of popular indignation, and like the corrupt dignation, and like the corrupt corpus, which put you where neither natural endowments, nor ethical or mental attainments ever intended you, you will walk the official plank and the undeserved punishment you inflicted on others you will get and you will richly deserve it.

The New Loan

FOR the \$500,000,000 loan to the French and English Governments—running five years, bearing 5 per cent interest, sold to the underwriters at 96 and to the investing public at 98, payable in American gold values, and offered in denominations as low as \$100—the American bankers have closed an underwriting contract.

The loan now faces the secondary stage of distribution to American investors.

From every point of view, it is a remarkable undertaking. Until this year, no loan of any European Government was ever offered for public subscription in the United States. The American banks bought \$208,000,000 of the British Government's 2½ per cent Boer War loans of 1900 and 1901, but sold them back to London later, without offering them to the American public.

In 1904 and 1905 \$130,000,000 Japanese War loans were taken by American investing public, and many of those bonds are still owned here. But that was not a European loan; not until this present year were even short-term bonds of such states as France and Switzerland bought by American investors.

Nor are these the only unusual facts about the recent loan. Its total amount is larger than any loan ever offered by the United States Government, since the Civil War; and even with the \$515,000,000 6 per cents which the United States Government authorized in 1862, the sale was spread out over a long series of months.

The American Spanish War loan of 1898 was only for \$200,000,000, though it elicited offers to subscribe which aggregated \$1,500,000,000. No railway or corporation loan for more than \$100,000,000 has ever been placed by public subscription in the United States.—The Nation.

A WARNING

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

DEAR SIR,—I see by the daily papers the following advertisement of the latest law, and signed by J. R. Bennett as Colonial Secretary, viz:

"3. No person shall, by word of mouth or in writing, spread reports likely to create disaffection or alarm among any of His Majesty's forces, or among the civil population."

I presume from the tone of the foregoing, that the executive are unaware that such a thing is taking place in our midst, and I would respectfully ask the Hon. Colonial Secretary if he is aware that the most persistent breakers of this law are employees of both the Government and Municipal Commissioners.

Now that the Government has given these Anti-British citizens' fair warning, it is hoped they will curtail their tongues, if not, your correspondent will, in the interests of Loyalty to the Mother Country, be compelled to publish the names of some of these Traitors.

—BRITISHER.

St. John's, Oct. 15, '15.

Another Toiler
Crosses the Bar

Captain James Blackwood, Well-Known Planter of Brookfield, Dies of Cancer

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

DEAR SIR,—It is with deep regret that I have to record the death of one of our Union members in the person of Captain James Blackwood of Brookfield, who died September 15th, at the age of 43 years. He took great interest in everything that was attached to the F.P.U. and seemed to carry a great influence among his Union brothers.

He had been ill since last spring and while getting his schooner ready for the fishery the past summer he felt himself getting worse and some days could not attend to his work. He had the attendance of two doctors, but nothing seemed to release him of his suffering. He did not feel willing to go to the fishery without consulting another physician and he decided to call to St. Anthony on his way to the Labrador, and after arriving there Dr. Little examined him and told him his case was a serious one and that he would have to undergo an operation; so he had to abandon his voyage to the Labrador and left his schooner in charge of his son.

It was a very heart touching scene when he had to wish his son, daughter and his brothers (for they had called in there to see him) good bye, for he felt that it was the last time that he would meet them on earth.

The doctor told him that he had that fatal disease cancer and it had gone too far, he could not do anything for him, and pronounced his days but few. His friends were informed of his condition; his mother and wife went to St. Anthony to see him, after they arrived there they found he had not very good attendance in regard to the food course, but time and space will not allow me to describe the details of that now.

After having a little better nourishment he slightly improved and was able to return home by return Prospero. He lived about a month and a half, and during that time he was a great sufferer. He had letters written to all his brothers that were at the Labrador and some other friends.

He was buried on the 18th of September, by Rev. E. Moore; his funeral was largely attended. Mr. Moore said in his remarks that he had visited quite a lot of sick people who knew their end was near, but he could not remember of visiting any that was so much interested in other souls as our departed brother was.

He leaves a wife and nine children, mother, father, seven brothers, three sisters and a large circle of friends. He shall be missed because his seat is empty, but earth's loss is Heaven's gain.

—A FRIEND.

Brookfield, Oct. 11, '15.

You can't convince the owner of a small automobile that a big one is worth the money it costs.

Another Complaint
Re Postal Affairs

(Editor Mail and Advocate)

DEAR SIR,—Allow me space in your most valuable paper to let the public know the way in which mail matters are handled.

On Sept. 13th, Mr. Garland sent me two parcels of books, which I did not receive until Oct. 6th.

Now, I cannot see why a parcel has to be three weeks coming from St. John's to Famish Cove when there is a daily train running; and I think it is high time for the Government, if we have any Government, to see if some means can be taken to put a stop to such things, for if they intend to let the Postal officials do as they please, it would be better to hand this branch of the Civil Service over to some persons who know how to treat such things properly.

With many thanks for allowing me space, and hoping to see Mr. W. F. Coaker in charge of Government matters ere long.

—A True Coakerite's Son.
Famish Cove, Oct. 12, '15.

Salvage Notes

THE Salvage fishery fleet has arrived home once more.

The Labrador vessels did very poorly, the highest voyage being 250 quintals, and some less than 100 quintals.

The boats and schooners which were hand-lining on the French Shore did very well and but for the scarcity of bait would have all done better.

The shore fishery here was just fair.

The greatest subject of discussion at present is Prohibition. We have done our bit to retain our liberties and freedom, let us do our bit to rid our country of its greatest enemy.

The Rev. Mr. Leggo, Rector of Badger's Quay Parish, paid us a visit recently and was a guest at the Rectory here. We understand that the Rev. gentleman was to preach on the War the night of his leaving but as the Dundee appeared during the service he had to leave to the disappointment of a large congregation.

Our friend and operator Mr. W. J. Dewey has three weeks leave, and is succeeded for the time being by Miss Blackmore of Port Blandford.—Cor.

Salvage, Oct. 9, '15.

THE WHOLE TRUTH.

The reputation of children for telling the truth about their elders was enhanced in Massachusetts recently when Governor Walsh, attending the dedication of a public building addressed a number of pupils in the elementary grades. By way of making his youthful audience an object lesson in various terms of patriotic services, the Governor pointed to his military aide, who was in a soldier's uniform, and asked: "Who is this man?"

"He is a soldier?"

"What does he do?"

"Fights for his country?"

"Who am I?"

"The Governor."

"What do I do?"

"Nothing," chorused the children, who, incredible as it may seem, had not been coached beforehand.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.

Bay-de-Verde
Branch.

Commencing Monday
October the 11th, and
until further notice.
Schedule will be as
follows:—

LEAVE 3.15 p.m.	CARBONAR	ARRIVE 1.00 p.m.
4.07 p.m.	FRESHWATER	12.28 p.m.
4.15 p.m.	VICTORIA	12.30 p.m.
4.22 p.m.	SALMON COVE	12.33 p.m.
4.37 p.m.	PERRY'S COVE	12.08 p.m.
4.54 p.m.	BROAD COVE	11.51 p.m.
5.02 p.m.	ADAMS COVE	11.43 a.m.
5.08 p.m.	WESTERN BAY	11.37 a.m.
5.24 p.m.	OCHRE PIT COVE	11.21 a.m.
5.37 p.m.	NORTHERN BAY	11.08 a.m.
5.43 p.m.	BURNT POINT	11.02 a.m.
6.00 p.m.	ISLAND COVE	10.45 a.m.
6.13 p.m.	CAPLIN COVE	10.32 a.m.
6.28 p.m.	OLD PERLICAN	10.17 a.m.
6.33 p.m.	BAY DE VERDE	9.50 a.m.
ARRIVE 7.30 p.m.	GRATE'S COVE	LEAVE 9.15 a.m.