

ango' of Sunderland, England, and to ask if any acknowledgment has been made by the Canadian government to the men who at the imminent risk of their lives, during a hurricane, rescued the officers of the schooner 'James W.' The captain of the British steamer is Captain Sam. Wilson, the second officer is Adam Winters; they and the boatswain and three able-bodied seamen manned a boat and rescued the crew of the Canadian schooner. I understand that no acknowledgment was made by the government of Canada of the heroic conduct of these men, although the matter was represented to the Board of Trade in London, and I have no doubt that that board, according to their custom, represented the matter to the government of Canada.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I have to say to my hon. friend that this matter is absolutely new to me. I do not know whether a claim was made or not. If my hon. friend will send me the note which he has in his hand I will be glad to give it immediate attention.

CANADIAN ARRESTED IN UNITED STATES.

Hon. GEORGE E. FOSTER (North Toronto). Mr. Speaker, I desire to call the attention of the First Minister or of the Minister of Justice to a matter which has, I believe, already been brought to the attention of the Secretary of State. A very worthy and respectable young man from the city of Toronto was lately ordered to the south of the United States for his health. He went by the Atlantic coast to the city of New Orleans and then upon advice went up to a little town called Manderville, a health resort in Louisiana. He had no more than arrived there before he was arrested by the authorities and thrown into prison with a lot of not very desirable companions and he was kept there for some three or four or five days, although he was quite ready and willing to give all the proofs of his identity. There appears, however, to have been no care taken to have these examined at the time. He was mistaken, it was said, for a murderer from Colorado for whom the police were looking. A friend of his, the doctor who ordered him south, heard of his arrest and telegraphed to the British ambassador at Washington and has also, I believe, made representations to the Secretary of State here. The young man was in indifferent health when he went away and of course an occurrence like that has not tended to put him in any better state of health. The young man is Mr. R. M. Walton, of Winchester street, Toronto. I would ask the First Minister or Minister of Justice if they would see whether any representations have been made. I think that all the facts of the case, statements of the newspapers, &c., are in the Department of the Secretary of State. I shall, however, read this clipping from one of the New Orleans papers:

Mr. A. A. McLEAN.

R. M. Walton, lately of this city, was arrested at Mandeville yesterday and taken to Covington on the supposition that he was Milton Franklin Andrews who is wanted in Colorado for the murder of his wife, Mrs. Bessie Bouton, on or about October 5th, 1904.

It appears, however, that the officials were over-zealous in the matter, and that Walton is by no means the man wanted. He insisted that it was a case of mistaken identity and when arrested was inclined to give a complete description of his history and his whereabouts. He said that he came from Canada and that he had come from there via New York and steamer line to Mobile, and then to New Orleans, where he had presented letters to parties with whom he became acquainted. Investigation showed that this was true, and that Lukian Payne of Marshall J. Smith & Company, knew him well. Mr. Payne said last night there had evidently been a great mistake made as Walton had excellent letters from the Western and the British American Insurance Companies of Toronto, and he had introduced Walton at the Pickwick Club, where they had lunched.

According to the description given, the man wanted in Colorado did not eat Pickwick Club lunches or any other lunches of that sort, but subsisted on Battle Creek Sanitarium foods and malted milk. He has a scar on his face. Walton has a scar on his face, and occasionally in Mandeville he drank celery tonic, and these two things seemed to be considered sufficient evidence by the officials there to warrant his arrest on the charge of murder, for otherwise the descriptions did not tally at all. Walton is very indignant about the whole matter and threatened yesterday to appeal to the British consul. He will undoubtedly be released today.

There is no necessity of reading other newspaper extracts referring to this case. It is a matter that I think should be looked into as it is a case in which the welfare of a very reputable citizen is involved.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. I do not remember that this matter was ever brought to our attention, and I doubt if it was brought to our attention at all. I have not heard of it, but I shall inquire immediately.

NEW MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR— HON. FRANK OLIVER.

Mr. SPEAKER. I have the honour to inform the House that I have received a notification of a vacancy having occurred in the representation of the electoral district of Edmonton, by the acceptance of an office of emolument under the Crown, to wit: the office of Minister of the Interior, by Frank Oliver, Esq., member for the said electoral district. I have accordingly issued my warrant to the Clerk of the Crown in Chancery to make out a new writ of election for the said electoral district.

Sir WILFRID LAURIER. On Friday last I told my hon. friend (Mr. K. L. Borden) that if he renewed the question he then put to me I would give him an answer. The answer is before him now.