POOR DOCUMENT

MC 2033

A BRIGHT OUTLOOK.

Premier Emmerson Counts St. John City and York County

Safe For the Government—Victory Assured All Along the Line—"Purist" Pinder, the Father of the Crown Land "Scandal"—How the Charge Was Exploded in the Legislature Two Years Ago.

MONCTON, Feb. 14—THE TELEGRAPH correspondent had an interesting chat today with Premier Emmerson, who he found enjoying the best of health and in the best possible spirits. In answer to inquiries Premier Emmerson said:—

I would, indeed, be hard to satisfy if I were not delighted with the government's prospects in the coming campaign. Every day gives me further evidence of the good feelings of the people of the province towards our government, and I am now satisfied that the opposition do not reasonably hope to have as large a following in the next legislature as it has had in the last. Undoubtedly there are two constituencies from which the opposition derived about the whole of their strength that will be against them in the coming contest. Of course I refer to York county and the city of St. John. There is no manner of question but that York county will return the government ticket by a majority of several hundred. After the government convention in the city of St John I had very great hopes that we would win there, but this feeling has passed beyond the stage of hope, and my information is that the master speech of the minister of railways, on Monday night, placed beyond doubt the question that the full government ticket will be returned in the city of St. John. My information from other counties is equally encouraging, and I can truly say that I have no anxiety with respect to any one of the constituencies throughout the whole province.

I had intended reviewing for publication the interview of the Honorable Mr Foster as published in the Sun of Saturday last, but Mr Blair so thoroughly punctured that interview in his speech at St. John that I need not refer to more than one or two points in it. Mr Foster is reported as saying:—

"Take the bridge matter, for instance. Is there any doubt that well up to $100,000 have been expended without competition, by private arrangement made with favored firms and in defiance of the simple, well acknowledged and safe system of tender and contract? There is none."

Mr Foster is about as far astray with respect to the total amount we paid out for bridges built by New Brunswick concerns and erected by days' work as the opposition and their papers are with respect to the prices which we paid for permanent bridges. The total amount which we paid for the bridges, the cost of which has been the subject of criticism, has not been well up to $100,000, but $61,000, or a little more than sixtenths of the amount stated by the ex-minister of finance. Considering Mr Foster's connection with the Harris land job and with the work of repairing the custom house in the city of St John, one might have reasonably expected that he would hesitate before entering upon a discussion of the bridge matter.

Mr Foster in his interview also asks this question: "Is there any doubt that at least 6½ cents per pound has been paid for the steel in these bridges to these firms? There is none." Would it not be well for the ex-minister of finance to inform himself with respect to this matter? In the statement just quoted he betrays a woeful want of information that might have been excused in his young friend Hazen or in his wise-looking friend Stockton, but in the ex minister it is scarcely pardonable. Mr. Phelps Johnson, of the Dominion Bridge Co., is on record in his interview with the Sun as published a few days ago as having stated that the cost of freight, erection, &c, was about 2 3 100 cents per lb, and as the prices paid by the New Brunswick government to the provincial concerns for their steel bridges included these items the amount of 2 3 100 cents per lb would have to be deducted from the 6½ cents per lb in order to be perfectly fair. The great trouble with Mr. Foster and all the other opposition speakers in the province of New Brunswick has been that they have been comparing the prices of bridges furnished by upper province concerts as delivered at the cars at the place of manufacture with the prices paid in New Brunswick for the bridges as manufactured, erected and finished. I think the opposition are fairly well satisfied that their bridge charges are not sufficiently durable to carry them through this campaign. The piers, if I might use the expression, of their structure have been long ago knocked out, and the structure which they had erected has been destroyed.

I am all the more satisfied that the opposition have lost confidence in the effectiveness of their bridge "scandal," from the fact that they started a new "scandal" yesterday morning. The latest production of the opposition scandal-mongers is what they call a "Crown Land Scandal." In this they charge that certain lumber operators do not pay more than half the stumpage; that they control the surveyor-general and appoint their own scalers. I have read the report of Surveyor General Dunn's statement with respect to this latest scandal, and I am satisfied that those who have read that report must feel that there is not the slightest foundation for the Sun's charge that leading lumbermen of the province are the thieves that it tries to make them appear. The fact that a leading lumberman ships more lumber than he has paid stumpage on is no evidence that he has robbed the province out of any sum for stumpage, because, as Hon Mr Dunn was able to make it appear, these large lumber operators often include in their shipments logs purchased from other operators, who have paid their own stumpage. This attempt to make it appear that the province was being swindled out of large sums of money by the lumber operators of the province is no new charge. During the session of 1897, Mr Pinder, one of the representatives from the County of York, and, by the way, the same gentleman who had made the insinuations with respect to the cost of permanent bridges, made an attack on the Crown Land department of the province, and hinted that the province was being robbed by the lumbermen. Mr. Pinder on that occasion did not confine his attack to the lumbermen of the North Shore. His charge was very general, and included lumber operators of the whole province Mr Pinder on that occasion professed to be surprised that we only received $77,000 stumpage for spruce and pine cut on crown lands, and expressed the opinion that a great many lumber operators did not pay for within two millions of what they cut, and that they were not called upon to pay. I remember distinctly, and the official debates bear out my remembrance, that on that occasion Surveyor General Dunn arose in his place and demanded from the member for York the names of the parties. Did Mr Pinder give him the names of the parties? No, he did not. He contented himself with the declaration that it was the duty of the Surveyor General to ascertain and to know the parties. Later on in the same debate I myself called upon the member for York to give the names of parties who, according to him (Pinder) did not pay all the stumpage dues. He was unable and unwilling to do so; but that did not prevent the same hon. gentleman from making the following statement: "There is the small amount of 77,000,000 reported cut on crown lands out of the large amount of 400,000,000 total cut, leaving some 323,000,000 not cut on crown lands." Of course the impression which Mr Pinder desired to convey was that we received stumpage dues on less than one-quarter the amount of lumber that was cut on crown lands. The surveyor-general, who followed Mr Pinder in that debate, exposed the falsity of Mr Pinder's statements, but when Mr Sivewright addressed the house in the same debate a day or two later he completely demolished the case that had been set up by Mr Pinder on behalf of the opposition. He showed as a matter of fact that the amount exported was not 400 000,000, as stated by Mr. Pinder, but $386,000,000, and he (Mr. Sivewright) proceeded as follows: "If there is deducted from this the 77,000,000 cut upon crown lands there remains 309,000,000 to be accounted for. The amount of lumber that came down from Aroostook and was cut in the St. John mills was about 100,000,000 superficial feet. The amount cut on the New Brunswick Land Co. was 55,000,000 feet. Mr. Gibson's export was 35,000,000, of which a very small portion was cut upon crown lands. Then there was about 40,000,000 cut in Albert and 20,000,000 at Bay Verte, and various quantities upon the lands of the Nova Scotia Land Co. and on the Bay Shore and other localities. All the lumber is thus accounted for, and the statement of the honorable member for York vanished into air. The statement of the honorable member, if sent to the country unexplained or uncontradicted, would leave the inference that the scalers were negligent or corrupt in the performance of their duty. As far as his knowledge went the scalers in the northern part of the province were capable and reliable men, and the charge that they would perjure themselves was without any foundation at all. If there was any crooked work on the part of the scalers there were the estimates of the cruisers to test them by, and whenever there was any wide difference between the two the department asked for an investigation. Then, if it was conceded that the scalers had done their duty the inference would be that the government had done wrong; that they had been conniving in some way at the operations of some of the lumber kings of the province. The old government gave away millions of acres of the choicest lands in Carleton, York and Victoria, whereas this government has exercised a paternal control over the Crown lands and managed them efficiently and well." And I may here mention that this latter opinion of Mr Sivewright's, as expressed in the legislature in 1897, with respect to the excellent management of the crown land department, was very much in line with an opinion volunteered on the floors of the legislature by the present leader of the opposition, Dr Stockton, when he was one of our most enthusiastic friends and defenders. This is what Dr Stockton stated in one of his ablest speeches during the session of 1886: "The management of the public lands under the late surveyor-general was certainly not in the public interest. In one year he sold $17,000 worth of public lands of the province; another year $19,000 worth, and still another year, $13,000 worth of the public lands to meet current expenses of the public service That was decidedly wrong. Had this government followed that course, instead of having the floating debt of $21,000 at the end of the last fiscal year, they would have wiped out entirely the floating debt of $53,501 21 on current account, due on the 31st December, 1884, and had a surplus of $28,000 besides. But the government did not believe in eating up the resources of the country in that way for current expenses, and he thought the people at large would say that they had exercised a wise judgment in this regard. Had the old government been left in power a few years longer no difficulty would have arisen as to the rate of stumpage, as there would have remained no public lands on which any rate of stumpage could be imposed." But to return to Mr Pinder's insinuations in the legislature in 1897. Mr Sivewright drove home the case against Mr Pinder so strongly that the latter gentleman squirmed, and said that there seemed to be a disposition to misrepresent him in this matter. That did not, however, prevent him from at different times during the day repeating his insinuations, but when called upon by Surveyor General Dunn, Provincial Secretary Tweedie and myself to make a definite statement with respect to any of his insinuations he was unable to do so.

The opposition may consider it very profitable business to slander the leading lumbermen of the province and charge that our scalers and other officials in charge of the crown land department of the province would perjure themselves, and also that our leading manufacturers are thieves or something worse, but I am somewhat under the impression that the right thinking people of the province will show their disapproval of the methods which depend entirely upon slander.

As I have stated on several occasions the Record Foundry & Machine Co. is composed of gentlemen, many of whom have been opposed to our government and myself politically, and the books of that company are open to all its stockholders for their inspection at any moment. There was a meeting of the company recently, and the following correspondence and resolution will not be uninteresting at the present time:—

Office of Record Foundry and Machine Company, Moncton, N B, Feb 10.

Dear Sir—The shareholders annual meeting was held on the 7th inst at the office of the company. As you were not present we deem it advisable to give you a brief report of the proceedings. The annual statement presented (of which we enclose you a copy) shows a surplus of $17,041.42, from which the directors declared a dividend, No. 17, of 9 per cent, and recommended that the balance of the surplus, amounting to about $10,000, be allowed to remain on rest to provide additional working capital. Their recommendation was approved of by the shareholders. The business of the year has almost been exclusively confined to stoves, furnaces, hollow ware and plows, there being only a small portion of the bridge work finished in the early part of the year, and the weir machine shop having been given up in 1897. It was, therefore, gratifying to the shareholders to know that the extension of the business into the provinces of Quebec and Ontario had proved a success and in view of such it was decided to dispose of the balance of the capital stock, viz, $20,000 to provide additional working capital to carry on the increased business. The treasurer is therefore authorized to dispose of the stock at not less than par, first offering the same to the present shareholders.

If it is your desire to obtain any portion of the same you will kindly let the treasurer, Mr G F Atkinson, know at once the number of shares you want.

In view of the slanderous articles published in the press with reference to this company's connection with the building of steel bridges, the subject was fully discussed by the shareholders at the annual meeting, and after careful examination of the books and statements the enclosed resolution was unanimously passed.

We deem it advisable to refer to this matter and send you a copy of the resolution as the inference has been spread abroad to the public that this company has had an excessive and unjust price for the bridges they have built. Nothing can be more ridiculous. The quality of the work we have furnished fully explains the difference in price from other bridges quoted. You will readily see that it is not unreasonable to have two, three and four times the price in nearly all articles of manufacture. Because sewing machines are similar in appearance it does not follow that they should all be the same price; or, because boots and shoes are similar, that they should all be the same price, or furniture, or clothing, or any other article that we may name. You will readily see how absurd it is to expect that all iron and steel bridges should be the same price per pound.

The company follows a well established system for computing the cost and selling price of every article it makes, and in the manufacture and sale of bridges we have not received within fifteen per cent as much as we do from stoves, furnaces, hollowware and plows. The parties for whom we have done the work received good substantial honest bridges that will last for centuries if protected by paint, and they have paid only an honest price and are satisfied with the work supplied. You can therefore rest assured that the newspaper articles are simply slanderous, to which we do not feel called upon to make any public reply, but take this opportunity of advising you as you are interested. Yours respectfully,

Record Foundry & Machine Co.,
A. E. PETERS, President.

Amid great applause the premier read the following resolution passed at a meeting of the shareholders of the Record Foundry & Machine Co.:—

Copy of resolution moved by A. L. Ogden, seconded by J. C. Patterson and unanimously adopted:—

"Whereas, it has come to our notice through a portion of the press and by political speeches upon public platforms that this company has and is being maligned, slandered and villified in connection with the building of steel bridges by being called a political opportunist manufacturing concern, etc.; and whereas, we have examined the statements prepared by the management and adopted by the directors and have each year had placed before us the books and accounts of this company, which have been and are at all times open to the inspection of the shareholders, and any information we have desired has always been cheerfully given;

"Therefore resolved, That this meeting of the stockholders of the said Record Foundry and Machine Company express its full confidence in the management of the company and denounce as false the slanderous utterances made apparently by enemies of this enterprise and calculated to injure it in the eyes of the public."

As I stated in my Moncton speech, Mr Ogden, who moved the above resolution, is the chief business man of Senator Wood, a leading stockholder of the Record foundry, and a gentleman who has always been opposed to me politically,

CAMBRIDGE.

Mr. Mayes McCrea and Miss Eppie Pugsley Married.

CAMBRIDGE, Feb 11—A very pretty wedding took place at the residence of Mr Gilbert Pugsley on Wednesday, Jan. 25, when his daughter, Miss Eppie, was united in marriage to Mr Mayes McCrea, of Shannon. Rev Mr Blakney (Baptist) tied the knot in the presence of over 60 guests. After the ceremony the guests assembled in the dining room, where they partook of a fine tea prepared for the occasion. After they had done ample justice to the good things provided, the remainder of the evening was spent in social games and amusements of different kinds. Both the bride and groom are very popular, as will be seen by the large number of presents the bride received. They are as follows: The groom's present to the bride was a gold brooch set in emeralds; china tea set, Mrs Gilbert Pugsley; $10 cash, Mr Gilbert Pugsley; dinner set, Mrs Jas McCrea; $5 cash, Mr Jas McCrea; tidy, Stella M Colwell; handsome parlor lamp, Mr and Mrs Thos Duncan, Moncton; linen table cover, Fred Vradenburg; linen towels, Mable Straight; handsome fruit dish, Miss Mary McCrea; one dozen napkins, Misses E L and G W McCready; linen towels, Millisa Pugsley; ladies suspenders, Laura Hunt, Boston; butter dish, George C Hendry; social tea set, Master Willie Duncan; silver sugar shell, Gerty McCrea; lamp, Maud McCrea; berry set, John Foster; tray cloth, Ethel McCrea; silver pickle dish, Mr and Mrs R B McCready; pitcher, Master Hugh McCrea; flower vase, Master Johnny McCrea; one dozen silver spoons, George and Fred Pugsley; $2 cash, Wesley Pugsley; fruit dish, Margery E Mott; cup and saucer, Calvin Pugsley; fancy tidy, Ruth McCrea; silver sugar shell and butter knife, Dr H E and Winnie Belyea; pitcher, Garfield McCrea; towels and hand-painted wisk holder, Susie McDonald; china set, G A Wilson; fruit dish, Samuel Pugsley; $1 cash, Geo E Colwell; $1, A B Colwell; $1, Misses McDonald; disk ornaments, Misses Mott. Also, a very pleasant evening was spent at the residence of Mr and Mrs James McCrea of Shannon, on Thursday, Jan 26. A reception was given on that evening for their son Mayes and bride. After partaking of a delicious repast, the company, which numbered over 70, spent the remaining part of the evening listening to speeches by Mr J A Jones and James McCrea; also music. Miss Mary and Mrs R B McCready presided at the organ, accompanied by Thomas Duncan with banjo and cornet music. Games of different kinds were indulged in by the young people. The company left for their homes after 11 o'clock, wishing the young couple a pleasant voyage through life.

The following are the presents received by the bridge and groom at this place: Handsome mantle mirror, Mrs Catherine Earle and family, St John; beautiful parlor lamp, Manfred I Jones; cup and saucer, Hartley Reicker; cake stand, Emma Green; linen table cloth, Mr and Mrs Alex Webster; one pair towels, Mamie and Alex Urquhart; handsome flower vase, Mary McCready; parlor lamp, George B Jones and Richmond Coleman; one pair towels, Mina B Reicker; table cloth, Miles Reicker; lemonade set, Hugh McCrea; parlor lamp, Mr and Mrs G W McDonald; china set, Mina and Charlie Coleman; table cover, Mr and Mrs J H DeLong; stand cover, Mr and Mrs D J Urquhart; lamps, John Lawson; set toilet mats, Mammie McCready; set pitchers, Mr and Mrs John A Jones; set of glass, Horatio Lawson; mantle ornaments, Mr and Mrs John Logue; one dozen napkins, Ellet Coleman; towels, Burpee Jones; towels, Susie Foster.

POLICEMAN PREACHER.

Must Appear Before the Police Court.

NEW YORK, Feb 14—The Rev William Nesbitt, the "policeman preacher," will appear before the police board next week, on the serious charge of being absent from patrol while preaching in Grace Methodist Episcopal church, in the White Plains road, Wakefield, on Sunday evening, January 22. Captain John B Herlihy, of the Wakefield police station, filed charges yesterday against Roundsman Nesbitt for neglect of duty. It is the first time in the history of the New York police board that charges have been preferred against a police officer for preaching the gospel.

President York, who has received the charge, said that the roundsman had no business to preach the gospel while on duty. He acknowledged having received unfriendly letters from persons who first called attention to the fact that Nesbitt was a preacher. These letters were not in the form of charges, but had hastened the trial of the clergyman in uniform. It will be held on Thursday, February 16. Attached to the complaint are the names of Sergeant John McDermott and Policeman John O'Brien and George D. Grimshaw, as witnesses.

"I believe that a man can preach the Gospel more by precept and example than by any form of sermon and prayer," said the Rev Mr Nesbitt, as he stood by his horse in Wakefield last evening, ready to swing into the saddle for a long patrol tour across the country through the sleet and snow. "I never broach the subject of religion to the men under me, as it is in violation of the rules. I never try to force my belief down any one's throat. I have been holding a strict reign of discipline over the men Someone has taken offence and circulated false reports about me by sending anonymous letters to the police board."

Roundsman Nesbitt explained to me that he led the evangelistic services in Grace Methodist Episcopal church in Wakefield on Sunday evening, January 15. The church people had begged him to preach for them. He told them it would be impossible. On that Sunday evening his beat led by the door of the little church. He was unable to resist the temptation to enter. He tethered his horse and went in. There for 10 minutes he addressed the flock, telling them that by the will of God he believed it his duty to continue on his round. A short prayer was offered and the policeman preacher left the church for his post.

THE DIGBY FIRE.

Some of the Best Business Houses Swept Away.

DIGBY, Feb 14—An unusually high wind had sprung out of the northeast last night about 9 o'clock. At 10 o'clock R G Monroe, passing along Water street detected smoke and located it as issuing from the Letteney block, on the east side of the street. He immediately gave the alarm, and the firemen quickly responded, but they were unable to prevent the destruction of a large amount of property.

Business men are unable at the time of writing to give more than an approximate idea of the insurance and losses, but a conservative estimate places them as follows:—

Water street, east side, going north:

Henry Titus building, $600; insurance $400.

T S Pattilo & Co. stock fancy goods, $1,500; insurance $800.

E Turnbull, building, $3,000; insurance, $1,500; stock $3,000; insurance, $1,500.

E Burnham & Son, brick block, $6,000; insurance, $3,000; stock, $2,500; insurance, $1,800.

George Bishop, building, $400, no insurance.

J A McNeill, tailor, loss $300, no insurance.

George Trohon, barber, $100, no insurance.

Mrs Adelaide Saunders, store and dwelling, $800, no insurance.

Gaptil & Young, stock of dry goods, $1,500, no insurance.

G I Letteney, building, $4,000; stock, $15,000; insurance about $8,000.

J W Snow, building, $800; insurance, $500.

W Webber, stock, $1,500; no insurance.

G F Stone, shop, $2,000; stock, $4,000; insurance, $4,000

Jas Dillon, two buildings, $1,000; stock, $400; no insurance.

Water street; west side:—

W H McMullin, building, $800; no insurance.

Edmund Jenner, drugs, $3,000; insurance $800.

Miss Jane Wright, $1,500, building and stock; insurance, $300.

Estate E B Nichols, building, $1,000.

Jones & Nichols, barristers, library, $1,000; insurance $500.

H L Dennison, library, $600; no insurance.

H A P Smith, sheriff, furniture, $200; no insurance.

E Biden, building, $1,000; insurance $600.

O H Warne, stock of confectionery, $1,500; insurance $800.

Miss Braman, building, $125; no insurance.

S Edgar Wilson, building, $1,000; stock, $500; insurance $500.

R G Monroe, law library, $2,500; no insurance.

John Post, building, $800; insurance $600.

Fred Robinson, furniture, restaurant, $500; no insurance.

Chas E Young, stock of confectionery, $500; no insurance.

R E Feltus, building, $700.

Chas Lindstram, jeweller, $2,000.

Dr Morgan, dentist, $300; no insurance.

J Russell, building and harness, $750; no insurance.

J E Young, shoemaker, stock, $100; no insurance.

Miss Forsythe and Mrs Joseph Merritt, Waverly house, $3,000.

Miss Woodman, Waverly, furniture, $1500; insurance $500.

T C Shreve, $4,000, building, insurance $2,000; law library, $2,000, insurance $500.

H B Short, boots and shoes, $5,000; insurance $3,000.

Mrs John Bacon, building and furniture, $1200; insurance $800.

R G Monroe, fixtures, $500; no insurance.

C Jamieson, furniture, $500; no insurance.

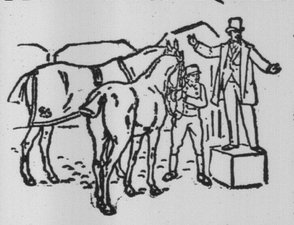
Estate G Stailing & Son, stables, $1500; no insurance.

Jonathan Letteney, wharf property, $300.

Stormy Passage.

NEW YORK, Feb 14—The Anchor line steamer Anchoria arrived to day from Glasgow and Moville after a severe passage across the Atlantic. John Smith, a seaman, was dashed to the deck by a huge wave and so badly injured that he died shortly afterwards.

Are You Raising Horses for Sale?



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WHITE'S COVE.

Welcome Home of Percy McLean and Bride.

WHITE'S COVE, Feb 11—On Wednesday January 18th, a very enjoyable evening was spent at the home of Mr and Mrs Alex McLean, of Robertson's Point, the occasion being to welcome home their son Mr Percy McLean, who was married on the same day to Miss Clo. Farris, of Waterborough, Queens county. About fifty guests were present and all enjoyed the supper prepared. The stillness outside was agreeably broken by the small boys who rendered a very pleasing serenade with guns, cow bells, horns and accompanying voices, etc, etc. The bride received numerous and handsome presents. Among others were: One dozen silver spoons and pair of pillows, Mrs Alex McLean; silver pickle dish, Miss Mabel McLean; lamp, A L Gunter; walnut cabinet holder, Mr and Mrs Dean; mirror, Mr Alex McLean; silver cake basket, Mr and Mrs L P Farris; bisque ornament and salt and pepper shakers, Mr and Mrs H E White; fancy tea pot, Mrs C W White; angel pillow, Mrs Chas Farris; carving cloth, Marjory Farris; cake plate, Martha Farris; glass set, (four pieces) Mr and Mrs S Farris; dinner set, B McLean toilet mats, Miss Amy Fanjoy; pickle dish, Roy Dean; glass fruit dish, Mr and Mrs Chas Robertson; butter dish, Judson Farris; fan tidy, Miss May Douglas; butter dish, Fred Dean; cash, Mr and Mrs Chas Springer; cash, Mr and Mrs J Dykeman; Bible, Mr Butler; picture and easel, Mrs Butler; epergne, N S Springer; cup and saucer, Mrs T Farris; cup and saucer, Mr and Mrs Stewart; fancy tea pot and jardiniere, Mrs Alex McIntyre; cup, saucer and plate, Mrs B Robertson.

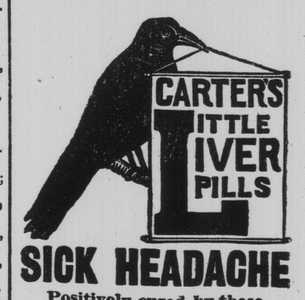
"Happy is the bride that the sun shines on" is an ancient saying, and should it prove true in this particular case the pathway of this amiable couple will, indeed, be bright. Dame rumor says they will reside among us. Their many friends hove hope this may be true, and add best wishes for their future success and happiness.

STILL IN SIGHT.

Steamer Gaspesia Fast in the Ice, But Has Changed Her Position.

HALIFAX, Feb 14—The storm which raged here all Monday moderated about 1 o'clock this morning, but before daylight the wind was howling again and more snow was falling; and it continued more or less during the day. About midday the wind, which had abated somewhat grew strong again, having swung around to the north, and it became a perfect blizzard. All railroad traffic in the lower provinces in every direction is seriously impeded.

A special from Meat Cove, C B, says that at dark last evening the Gaspesia was still in sight in the ice off Etan Du Nord, Magdalen Islands, but had changed her position from the morning three miles to westward, having drifted that much during the day. A strong east northeast wind was blowing this morning and a heavy snow storm was raging, so that observers could not see any distance and the Gaspesia was not sighted. When last seen yesterday the Gaspesia was showing three flag signals, likely indicating something about the condition of the ice, as three flags refer to "general communications." Signals of distress would be made with two flags.



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