

Charges against Messrs. Clarry and Dickson

Despatches in the daily papers of Saturday last state that on Friday serious charges were made in the House of Commons at Ottawa, by Mr. Haughton Lennox, against Mr. L. F. Clarry, of Hastings, and Mr. James Dickson, P.L.S., of Fenelon Falls, who, it is said, were recently employed by the Government to investigate and report upon claims by farmers for damages arising out of the bursting of a Government dam in the vicinity of Hastings. According to Mr. Lennox, Mr. Clarry, a lawyer, who was a Liberal candidate at the last Provincial elections, was appointed agent of the Department of Justice to investigate the claims of those who had suffered damage by the flooding, while Mr. Dickson, a surveyor, was appointed to act as valuator of the damaged lands. The gravamen of the charge made by Mr. Lennox, on his responsibility as a member of Parliament, is that Mr. Clarry, while acting as agent of the Department of Justice, also acted for a number of the claimants, and canvassed others to employ his services in connection with their claims, and that in cases in which he served in the double capacity of arbiter and solicitor compensation was paid to which the claimants were not entitled, while parties who did not secure his services got nothing. The allegation against Mr. Dickson, the valuator, as made by Mr. Lennox, is that in valuing the damaged lands he acted in connivance with Mr. Clarry.

In support of these charges, Mr. Lennox produced a letter said to have been written by Mr. Clarry to a farmer, urging him to influence his brother, who was a claimant, to hang out for twelve or fifteen acres, and also a document alleged to have been sent out by Mr. Clarry soliciting business. Mr. Lennox further stated that Mr. Henry Humphries, a Liberal farmer, had complained of being held up by Mr. Clarry for 15 per cent. commission, with a threat if he did not pay he would get no compensation.

Hon. Mr. Graham declared that it was the first time he had heard of the charges against Messrs. Clarry and Dickson. Complaints made by disappointed claimants were not to be accepted without reservation, and there was nothing within the knowledge of the department to justify any suspicion of wrongdoing on the part of either the agent of the Department of Justice or the surveyor. There had been some disagreement between Messrs. Dickson and Humphries over the valuation of the farmer's property, and a second valuation had been made by another surveyor, whose valuation of the damage done turned out to be higher than that made by Mr. Dickson, which went to show that the latter had not, as alleged, acted with the view of giving undue compensation. He recognized, however, that the charges made were of a serious character, and he would at once institute an investigation. The department had no fear of any investigation.

Mr. Clarry was interviewed at Peterborough, and declared there was no foundation for the charges.

Mr. Clarry said:—"I am not now and never have at any time been engaged by the Government as its solicitor, or in any other capacity, to either adjust or assess damage claims against the Government in connection with the drowned lands, nor did I at any time, either directly or indirectly, induce or attempt to induce Mr. Dickson to make any award either for or against any claimant in connection with those drowned lands. So far as I know Mr. Dickson made his valuations and assessed the damages of the claimants on his own responsibility, and without any consultation with me, directly or indirectly. The Government has, however, in some cases retained me to search the titles of certain claimants to lands in respect of which damages for flooding had previously been awarded, and the offer of settlement of the claimant had previously been accepted by the Government before I was ever instructed by the Government to search the titles of such claimants.

"Long before I had ever searched any titles to drowned lands for the Government, Mr. Henry Humphries retained me as his solicitor to put in his claim against the Government for damages. I did put in his claim, and shortly afterwards he came to my office and said that he did not want his claim pressed farther, as he was going to let the matter drop, and we agreed to cancel my engagement without any charge for my services being made against him.

"Some time later I was asked by the Government to search the title of Mr. Henry Humphries to his lands, which he represented to consist of 200 acres in the township of Ashodel and in respect of which he had been awarded by the late Mr. W. R. Aylesworth, P. L. S., of Bellefleur, \$300. I searched Mr. Humphries' title to the lands in question and reported to the department that Mr. Humphries owned only 133 acres, instead of 200 as represented by him, and that the remaining 67 acres had been sold by him before he signed the offer of settlement. I further reported that Mr. Humphries claimed that the 37 acres sold were not damaged by flooding, and that he would make a statutory declaration to that effect. A few weeks later I was instructed by the department that as a result of a reinspection by Mr. James Dickson, P. L. S., who succeeded the late Mr. Aylesworth as a valuator, part of the 37 acres in question was damaged, and that the amount of the award was reduced to \$240. Mr. Humphries refused to accept this amount, which I reported to the department. This is the cause of Mr. Humphries' complaint, and the foundation of Mr. Lennox's charges, of which I court the fullest investigation.

"In respect to the Graham charge I beg to state that Mr. Graham's brother, who was a client of mine, asked me if I

would present his brother's claim to the Government for drowned lands. I told him I would, and gave him a retainer to have signed, and advised him the course to pursue. He did not accept my service, nor did he pay me anything, nor have I been asked by the Government to act on its behalf in connection with the Graham case."

Mr. Dickson states that Mr. Clarry's remarks, as printed above, cover the ground, and that there is nothing in the charges made by Mr. Lennox.

Preservation of Game.

The Ontario Legislature has not yet seen fit to face the inevitable and prohibit the sale or export of game. The professional and cold-storage interests are still too strong, and there are many who do not think that such a serious necessity has yet arisen. The changes of the present session limit each deer hunter to one instead of two, and shorten the season for duck by one month, fixing it from September 15 to December 15. The open season for grouse or partridge was formerly three months, but is fixed at from October 15 to November 15. The open season for swan and geese commences at the same time as that for duck, but instead of running to April 30 it has been shortened to April 15. Fifteen days have been cut from the open season for quail, wild turkey, and squirrels, and it will run from November 15 to December 15. The open season for hares and rabbits will commence on October 1, as formerly, but will close on December 15, instead of December 31. Mink are now included in the protected list, the open season being fixed at from December 1 to May 1, the same as that for muskrats. The absolute protection of beaver and otter, and of capercaillie, a big game bird introduced in northern Ontario, has been extended to 1915. A license has been established for non-residents hunting and trapping fur-bearing animals, the fee being fixed at \$10 for the season. There are also provisions against any abuse of the right to destroy cottontail rabbits when injurious. All animals so destroyed must be turned over to the nearest officer for distribution among charitable institutions. These changes are in the direction of shortening open seasons, and will generally be approved. The benefit of closing duck-shooting during the latter half of December may be questioned. Shooting is then confined to the open water of the lower lakes, and the duck are spared for the American shooters rather than for the northern breeding grounds.

A change of importance to sportsmen has been made in regard to decoys in the open water. The law prohibits the setting out of decoys or the placing of hides or blinds more than two hundred yards from a shore or natural bed of rushes. The owners of the game preserves have been in the habit of placing their warning notices so far out from shore that they secured not only the land and the rushes, but the water as well. The ordinary shooter was kept from the open water by the law, and the preserve owner claimed the two-hundred-yard strip supposed to be open to the public. The point has often been discussed, and there is a strong sentiment in favor of the rights of the public as opposed to those of private preserve owners. The amendment restores a right that never should have been taken away, by providing two hundred yards of free shooting beyond a shore or rush bed, and also beyond the water bounding private property. Though the preserves extend out into open water, the public still have rights in a two-hundred-yard strip. This is a wise recognition of public rights, for if the impression gets abroad that game is protected for the preserve owners we will soon have little or no protection. A clause requiring the removal of decoys during prohibited hours will make it more strenuous for many sportsmen. It is no doubt intended to allow time for setting decoys in the morning before the opening hour for shooting, but the act makes no such provision. The changes made are a recognition of the need of greater restrictions, and it is well that the need has been recognized in time.—Globe.

The Meat Boycott.

A Prose Poem by Walt Mason.

O butcher, spare that steer! Touch not a single horn! We've sworn, for half a year, to live on beans and corn; to live on oatmeal cake, and prunes, and succotash; no more for us the steak, no more the corn-beef hash! O butcher, if you've tears, prepare to shed them now! We look upon your steers, we contemplate your cow; for stews and roasts we yearn, the grub of yesterday, and then in anguish turn, and eat a bale of hay. This life seems gray and drear, as some December dawn; the cabbage wagon's here, and we must all climb on. O butcher, spare that mule—thy weapon be accurst! We're making it a rule to eat no wienerwurst; no food our lips shall pass, that's gained by shedding blood; by day we live on grass, by night we chew the cud. We dietary wrecks eat grass upon our knees, while taller ruddies bite branches from the trees. So, butcher, spare that crow that fell into your snare; spring chicken does not go upon our bill of fare. We long for good lean meat, but longing will not wash; for us the gaudy beef, for us the pallid squash.

EVA CUTHBERT, ENTERTAINER.
Picton Gazette.

The honors of the evening, however justly belong to Miss Cuthbert. Her clever dancing, humorous songs, and pleasing manner won the admiration of all. She is alone in her class as an entertainer. Her voice together with her elegantly appropriate costumes can not fail to please.

Farm and Garden

FIGHTING POTATO CANKER.

Canada Sends Warning Dreaded European Scourge Has Crossed Sea.

The serious potato blight known as "black scab," "wart disease" and "potato canker," which has ravaged the potato fields of Europe for thirteen years, has appeared on the American continent, in Newfoundland. Farmers in the United States are warned to look out for it and to make every effort to stamp it out at the first sign of its appearance. The extraordinary rapidity with which the potato canker has spread over nearly the whole of Europe and the virulence of the disease combine to make the Canadian department of agriculture fearful lest the infected seed, imported from across the sea to Newfoundland, should find its way southward and give the canker a foothold on lower Canadian and American soil.

This disease, wherever it is permitted to establish itself, makes the successful cultivation of potatoes extremely difficult. There is said to be no hope of saving a crop that is once attacked. Moreover, when a crop is destroyed by this blight the ground re-



POTATO BLIGHT.

mains infected, so that for at least six years it is impossible to grow a crop of potatoes.

Where the disease is prevalent practically no healthy tubers will develop. The tubers, when lifted, show signs of various degrees of injury. Some appear on casual examination to be sound. But the "eyes" of the tubers should be carefully examined. Those are the places where the disease is first noticeable. The eyes of affected tubers show an abnormal development of the dormant shoot. A careful untrained observer can easily recognize the presence of the disease in this stage. At the same time it is in this condition that the disease is most likely to escape detection and to be spread by means of infected tubers used for seed. In the earlier stages of the disease the eyes will be found to be slightly protruding in the form of a single or compound group of small nodules varying from the size of a pin's head to that of a pea.

When a grower finds his crop attacked he may hesitate to destroy potatoes which appear sound or but little affected, although total destruction would be the best means of preventing the spread of the disease, yet those tubers may be collected, boiled and fed to pigs. Under no circumstances should unboiled or decayed potatoes be given as food, not only because the feeding value is sure to be reduced, but mainly because the spores are still capable of germinating after passing through the body of an animal. In removing the potatoes from the field the greatest precaution



BADLY DISEASED TUBERS.

should be taken to clean thoroughly and disinfect one's boots and the farm carts and implements used.

The process of disinfecting may be carried out on boards laid on the field, so that no reinfestation takes place afterward. The grower should then proceed to dig a hole in the field and collect all refuse from the vines and all diseased tubers. The potato straw should

be destroyed by fire, but the tubers, being too wet to burn, may be dealt with as follows: The hole that has been dug must be big enough to hold all the tubers collected. It should then be covered with a layer six inches deep of unslaked lime, then a portion of the tubers may be thrown in and covered by another layer of unslaked lime, and so on till the hole is filled. The last layer should be formed, of course, by the lime. In this manner the tubers are put out of harm's way. Under no circumstances should seed potatoes from a diseased crop be used.

Dairy Profits.

Profits in dairying do not depend so much upon the number of cows kept, but upon the kind. This fact is being realized more and more as the dairy industry increases. One way to increase the acreage of a farm is to increase the fertility of the soil of the farm. Similarly one way to increase a dairy herd is to increase the cow's producing power.

An Aged Hen.

At Hazelhurst, Mass., there was buried with appropriate ceremonies by Mrs. Miles Cannon and her children their favorite hen, Polly, seventeen years old. She was believed to be the oldest hen in the world. According to Polly's owner, she laid more than 3,000 eggs and raised thirty-five broods of chickens.

Dairy Products of France.

France possesses 50,000,000 head of cattle, worth \$300,000,000, and the industries of raising them and their products, such as milk, cheese and butter, maintain about half the population of France.

A Mechanical Answer.

The well-to-do patron of the place had been attentive to the cashier for some time, and now, business being slack for a few moments, he deemed the time propitious to speak.

"If you will be mine," he urged as he leaned over the desk, "every comfort that you may desire will be yours. True, I am no longer young, but I have money, and I can provide for you as few young men could, and surely the material side of the marriage question is worthy of some consideration."

She said nothing, but gently touched the cash register, and the words "No Sale" sprang into view.

With a sigh he left.—Chicago Post.

Self laudation abounds among the unpolished, but nothing can stamp a man more sharply as ill bred.—Boston.

MILLBROOK PEOPLE STUNG.

The gold watch fakirs struck town on Thursday night last and stung some of our people in good shape, and the funny part of it is that it is usually the close fluted ones who are bitten. It would not be right to give the names as the bitten ones have had it rubbed in so well already, but the young will learn from this first experience perhaps and the old folks, well let them take all they got. The operators were up to their game and the ones who has assurance enough to try a hand at it must count on the usual result with fakirs.—Millbrook Reporter

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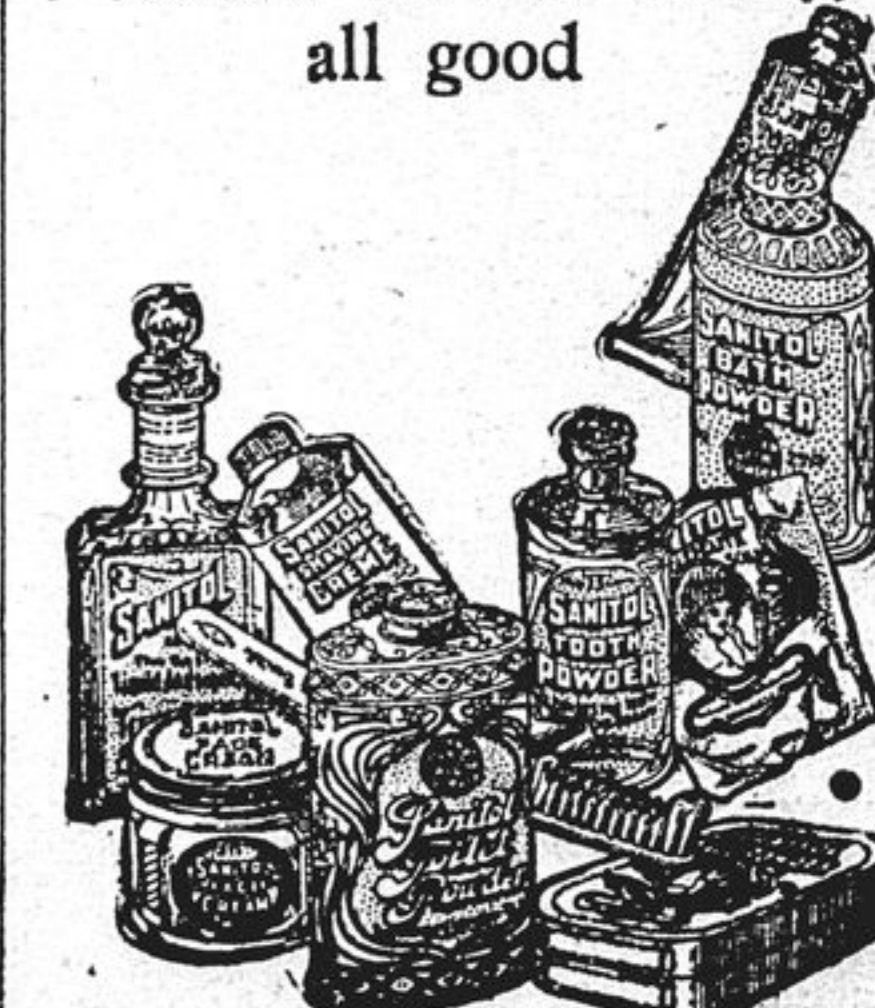
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