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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

An Independent Journal, aiming to be JUST, IMPARTIAL, RELIABLE, NEWSY, seeking at all times to further the best interests of the people and Province, and recognized therefore as

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

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THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 8, 1905

THE DELEGATION TO OTTAWA.

The delegation appointed at the Provincial Convention in Charlottetown on 10th March last have now completed their mission and a brief outline of the work undertaken and accomplished will now be in order. It is hoped that at an early day a more detailed report shall be given at one or more public meetings to be held here and elsewhere. There are many who will naturally be desirous to learn what the delegation has accomplished and attempted while they were away. Father Burke had preceded the other delegates to Ottawa by about a week with a view to making preliminary arrangements and preparing the way. In that way an appointment was made for the delegates to meet Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues immediately on their arrival on Thursday morning, March 30.

But owing to the loss of a day at Georgetown by the steamer's not making a crossing, Capt. Read and Messrs McQuarrie and McCready were unable to reach Ottawa until Friday morning. A second appointment was in consequence made for the delegates to meet the Premier and his colleagues at noon, but this was conditional upon another delegation getting through in time, as there was to be a Cabinet meeting at one o'clock. The delegates with all the Island Senators and Members were in attendance at the hour appointed but the previous delegation had not completed their interview, and Sir Wilfrid thought it best to postpone the meeting with the Island delegates until Saturday afternoon when a more extended hearing could be given than would be possible on Friday. Accordingly on Saturday afternoon at 5 o'clock the Island delegates with the members and Senators (excepting Senator Ferguson who had been called out of town to fulfil another appointment) were in attendance and were at once admitted to an audience.

The delegates were most cordially received by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. Mr. Fiddling and proceeded to state their case. Each was heard in turn, the speaking extending over an hour, after which Sir Wilfrid Laurier replied at some length. He expressed his regret that the delegates had been detained and so prevented from reaching Ottawa on Thursday morning when he could have had more of his colleagues with him. He spoke most sympathetically of the hard conditions to which the Island has been subjected, and dealt with the points presented by each one of the delegates, who, he said had made a very strong case and one which he and his colleague the Finance Minister would present fully to the full Cabinet for their most earnest consideration with a view to providing a remedy. The delegation then withdrew but before leaving to return they left with Sir Wilfrid a formal memorial setting forth in outline the statements and claims before presented orally, asking for the construction of a powerful ice-breaking steamer to assist in giving us the best connection possible until the tunnel can be completed. A copy of this memorial will appear in The Guardian on Monday.

The delegates while in Ottawa were assisted by each of our representatives in the Commons in every way. Every courtesy and attention was shown them and it was felt by all the delegates that the way for them had been prepared and made easy by the faithful presentation of the Island's case before made by our four members of the Commons. A score of the leading newspapers in Canada printed interviews with the delegates, giving special prominence to the tunnel scheme and many of them published editorial articles endorsing both our claims to the tunnel and the winter steamer asked for. On the return trip two of the delegates, Rev. Father Burke and the writer of this article interviewed prominent members of the Board of Trade at John, and a meeting of that body very heartily and unanimously endorsed the tunnel and steamer project, the President of the Board, Mr. H. B. Schield and other prominent members speaking warmly in its favor after hearing the delegates. Father Burke proceeded to Halifax and there addressed a full meeting of the Board of Trade of that city which with equal unanimity adopted a resolution heartily endorsing the tunnel and winter steamer proposals. The reso-

lutions of both the St. John and Halifax Boards were promptly transmitted to Sir Wilfrid Laurier at Ottawa.

While at Ottawa the delegates interviewed collectively or separately a large number of the members of both Houses and found them most favorable to the tunnel project as the only satisfactory and complete means of carrying out the terms of union. Leading members of the Opposition vied with those supporting the Government to give the delegates good words. "We will give you the tunnel when we get in," said Mr. Borden. Said Sir Mackenzie Bowell, "You ought to have had it long ago." Hon. George E. Foster repeated what he had said in the House that if the tunnel can be built for ten millions it must be built. A very strong impression was created by the definite offer of Contractor M. J. Haney to construct the tunnel within six years for ten millions. Space will not permit quoting the favorable words of other prominent public men. Suffice it to say that the delegates sent by the plain people of Prince Edward Island to those highest in authority in the Dominion were accorded a prominence in official and Parliamentary circles, by the press of the entire country, and by representatives of the trade and commerce of leading Maritime cities such as was never before extended to a delegation from Prince Edward Island since its union with Canada. The delegates were thoroughly in earnest, they felt that they had a just cause and did their utmost and not without success to gain for Prince Edward Island a real remedy for our just grievances.

When it takes three months to get a carload of goods from Pictou to Charlottetown, do we not want the tunnel?

Why should not the people of Prince Edward Island send a delegation to Ottawa if they desire to do so? And why should such a delegation be characterized as "irresponsible" and as "representing nobody?" The people of the Island are not "nobodies."

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The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surface of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials free.

MAXIM GORKY'S TRIAL.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 2.—The trial of Maxim Gorky on the charge of drawing up a proclamation with the object of overthrowing the existing state of affairs in the Empire and disturbing public order, has been postponed until May 16.

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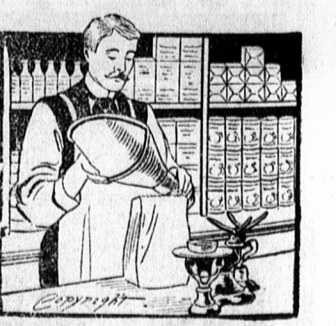
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