

Sir Henry Irving's Speeches.

Sir Henry Irving has won a great reputation as an after-dinner speaker, but, according to Harry Furniss, his speeches are carefully prepared and printed in very large block type, easily read at a distance. Herein lies the triumph of the actor. These slips are artfully placed on the table, out of sight of the audience; and while one of the speaker's hands rests artistically on his hip, the other toys with a fruit-knife, and with it pages of the speech are turned over as they are read. So perfectly is this acted, so gracefully does the body sway, and so well-timed are the pauses in the speech, that only those seated in close proximity to Sir Henry are aware he is reading his speech.

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THE MORNING GUARDIAN

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1903.

WINTER FREIGHT RATES.

It is highly gratifying to learn, as was announced in The Guardian of Saturday, that through tickets are now on sale at Charlottetown Railway Station to all points on the mainland as in summer. This is now as it ought to have been all along. But there is another very important matter affecting the trade of this Province during the winter months which should be remedied instant if we are ever to hope that our winter export trade shall increase. This would result if our Island shippers were given a fair chance in competition with outsiders. We do not have a fair chance at present as the following facts, for which we are indebted to Horace Hazard of this city will show.

No one in our Province is better informed on the subject than Mr. Hazard, and none that we know of has taken a more intelligent and patriotic interest in improving our trade conditions.

At present shippers are charged 26 cts per 100 lbs on freight from Charlottetown to Halifax via Georgetown, a distance of 198 miles, equal to 23 shillings 11 pence sterling per ton. Of this amount the P. E. I. Railway gets 7 cts., the S. S. Minto 7 cts., and the I. C. Railway 12 cts per 100 lbs, all three carriers owned by the Dominion Government. The rate on cheese from Halifax to Glasgow via Liverpool, a distance of 3,045 miles is 27 shillings 6 pence sterling per ton, or a fraction under 30 cts per 100 lbs. The total charge therefore on a ton of freight from Charlottetown to Glasgow by the only available winter route is 51 shillings 5 pence per ton, or 50

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cts per 100 lbs. From the foregoing it will readily be seen that shippers pay on freight going by the Government Railways and steamer from Charlottetown to Halifax, 198 miles distant, within 4 cents per 100 lbs of the rate, charged from Halifax to Glasgow via Liverpool, 3,045 miles distant. The winter export trade can never be successfully expanded with any such handicap as is above described. The attention of our public men is directed to the facts in order that may impress upon the Government the necessity of making a reasonable through rate to Halifax for our winter exports. We have so many serious drawbacks in the matter of an interrupted service, infrequent mails and exorbitant telegraph rates that it seems we might reasonably claim a large reduction in the very heavy winter freight rates at present imposed by the Government.

We are glad to learn from an interview published in The Patriot that Mr. McKinnon, M. P. is taking an interest in the Capes Route, and that through representations he has made to the Minister of Marine an engineer has been ordered to visit the locality and examine carefully into the conditions. To make the route feasible a pier on the Island side of the Straits is an imperative necessity.

The Examiner, not very courteously, explains that what it meant in its statement about legislative union and municipal government was that a legislative union might have saved us a vast amount of money and given us better government. We can readily understand why a large Province like Ontario might have preferred a legislative to a federal union, as in such case the larger Provinces would have had everything their own way. But why an Island newspaper, catering to the public of the smallest Province in the Dominion should prefer that system is more than we can understand. The Examiner professes to be a Conservative journal, and yet if it had its way the local affairs of Prince Edward Island would now be wholly controlled by the Liberal Government at Ottawa. The Guardian's plan is very different. We would give the people here full control of their local affairs not only as a Province, but in each County as well under the municipal system. Ottawa control of our mail and steamer service is bad enough in all conscience, but if all our local affairs were under the same distant control as The Examiner would have it things would be infinitely worse.

Coughs, colds, hoarseness, and other throat ailments are quickly relieved by Cresolene tablets, ten cents per box. All druggists.

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For Shippers.—Cheap wrapping papers just received at Weeks & Co's., The People's Store. 31 d and w 31

The Strand, Munsey's Frank Leslie's Monthly, Ladies' Journal, Scribners etc. for February at Taylor's Bookstore Feb. 22.

Gen't's Fur Co'lars.—We have only five of these left, they're yours at 33 1/2 per cent discount, \$7.50, \$11.25, \$11.40 less 33 1/3 per cent discount.—Weeks & Co., The People's Store. 31 d and w 31

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Come in and order that Suit or Overcoat today. We have a very attractive stock to select from and will make you a Suit that will fit well, look well, wear well.  
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Correspondence relating to Cape Breton could be directed to Sydney C. B.

**A Happy New Year to All**  
Although being in very poor health in the past summer and many days unable to attend to the repairing department, I sincerely thank my customers and friends for their very liberal patronage extended to me in the year that is past. I most sincerely wish you a Prosperous and Happy New Year and hope for a still continuance of their patronage which will be better attended to than in the past.  
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