

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B. MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1908.

# CONNECTING the CONTINENTS

BY THOMAS WILSON

## Cable Instrument Room

JUST 50 years ago the first Atlantic cable, after an uneventful start, was laid between Valentia Island, Ireland and Trinity Bay, Newfoundland, and the first official messages were exchanged between Queen Victoria and President Buchanan.

Then the cable was a wonder of the world. To-day the cable is scarcely noted. It is looked upon as though it had always been, for there are in operation in various parts of the world more than 2,000 submarine cables, with an aggregate length of 240,000 miles, over which millions of messages are sent annually.

Of these 13 connect the United States with Europe across the Atlantic, while three span from South America to Africa. From San Francisco cables stretch across the Pacific to the Philippines and to Honolulu, whence other cables lead to Australia and the mainland of Asia. From British Columbia there also stretches across the bottom of the Pacific a cable to Australia, so that, with the connecting telegraph lines one might say that the globe is well gridded.

Laying cables today is but a commonplace bit of work, but in 1858, when the laying of the first cable was accomplished, on July 29, by the United States ship Niagara and Her Majesty's ship Agamemnon, the ocean was one of great repelling in New York and London. It was not until nearly a month later, however, that the 1,600 miles of wire were ready for the transmission of messages.

## THE QUEEN'S MESSAGE.

It was then that the British Queen sent the following:

"The Queen desires to congratulate the President upon the successful completion of this great international work, in which the Queen has taken a great interest. "The Queen is convinced that the President will join her in fervently hoping that the electric cable which now connects Great Britain with the United States will prove an additional link between nations, whose friendship is founded upon their common interest and reciprocal esteem."

"The Queen has much pleasure in thus communicating to him her wishes for the prosperity of the United States."

To this gracious greeting President Buchanan replied:

"The President cordially reciprocates the congratulations of Her Majesty, the Queen, on the success of the great international enterprise accomplished by the science, skill and indomitable energy of the two countries."

"It is a triumph more glorious, because far more useful to mankind than was ever won by conquerors on field of battle."

"May the Atlantic telegraph, under the blessing of Heaven, prove to be a bond of perpetual peace and friendship between the nations, and an instrument destined by Divine Providence to diffuse religion, civilization, liberty and law throughout the world."

"In this view will not all nations in Christendom spontaneously unite in the declaration that it shall be forever neutral, and that its communications shall be held sacred in passing to their place of destination, even in the midst of hostilities."

## THE CABLE IN WAR.

In framing the last paragraph of his message it is apparent that President Buchanan was inclined to believe that the cable would be the only one, and he did well to recommend that it be revered in time of war. In later years, however, the cable became all important in war and during the conflict between this country and Spain the severing of cable communication formed a most important part of the work intrusted to our navy.

It was the severing of the cable at Cardenas that cost Worth Bagley his life, for while this plucky young officer and his men were at work, a squad of Spaniards fired upon them. When Admiral Dewey captured Manila, almost his first act was to cut the cable connected with the United States. His reason, it is said, was that he did not want to be hampered by instructions from Washington. But to return to the first cable. On



Deep Sea Cable

the day following the interchange of messages between the President and the Queen, there was a great demonstration in New York. A salute of 100 guns was fired, flags were hung to the breeze, bells were rung and at night the city was brilliantly illuminated.

## LOSS OF FIRST CABLE

Unfortunately, after but 1400 messages had passed over the cable it broke. It was a sad blow to Mr. Field and his associates, and it was not until 1865 that the project was again taken up. This time the famous steamer Great Eastern was engaged. The first attempt was a failure, but the following year the cable was laid, and by the latter part of July of that year, 1,800 miles of cable once more connected the Old and the New World together. Two months later the Great Eastern recovered and spliced together the cable she lost



Cable Tank on Steamer

the year before, and since then cable communication has never been interrupted. It is notable to recall that, before the cable laid in 1858 became useless, one of the messages reported the collision between the Europa and the Arabia, the news saving fully \$200,000, which would have been spent in extra insurance on the vessels and their cargoes.

Looking backward now upon the progress of the submarine cable, and observing how the ordinary happenings in the most remote portions of the globe are immediately recorded in our daily papers, we find it difficult to realize that only half a century ago this striking feature in modern journalism, the foreign cable news, was non-existent.

## THE BUDGET SERVICE.

In the early 80's the average ocean mail boat was 15 days en route from Liverpool to New York, but on the seventh day

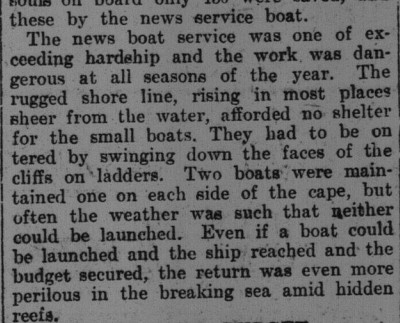


Cable Steamer

the steamer passed close by Cape Race, on the Newfoundland coast. A telegraph line was extended to the cape and from there a small boat was sent out to intercept the liners as they passed. Every liner thus became a news boat and on reaching a point abreast of Cape Race delivered her budget to the small boat. In this way the budgets were put in a specially constructed canister and thrown overboard, to be picked up later.

The contents of the budget were telegraphed from the cape to St. John's then across Newfoundland to Cape Race, thence by a short submarine cable to Cape Breton, and from there by relay to New York. By this method four or five days was saved and it was a service efficiently maintained from about May 1 to December 31.

In the intervening months the service was irregular for the terrific storms and across the ice floes of Cape Race prevented the ships from approaching close enough to even drop their canisters, and even if they did, the small boats could not get to reach them. More than one daring skipper nearly lost his vessel in attempting to deliver his budget in those tempestuous waters. One great liner, nosing her way in, was brought up within a length of the huge shifting cliffs and sure destruction. Another was warn-



Cable Steamer

ed away from the reefs by fishermen shooting guns. The Allen liner Anglo-Saxon was not so fortunate. Early on the morning of April 27, 1868, she was making her way in through a dense fog, when she struck on the reefs at Chance Cove. Of the 400 souls on board only 130 were saved, and those by the ingenuity of the crew.

The news boat service was one of exceeding hardship and the work was dangerous at all seasons of the year. The danger was not only in the most placid weather, when the ship reached and the budget secured, the return was even more perilous in the breaking sea amid hidden reefs.

## THE LAST BUDGET.

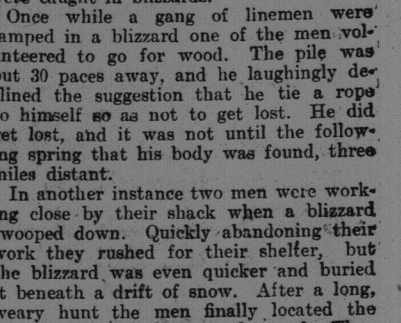
The taking of the last budget delivered off the cape was a Christmas Eve, 1868, and was attended by terrible suffering on the part of the crew. It was a bitter cold day with a gale and a heavy sea. After starting the crew realized their mistake, they dared not turn back. It was a case of reaching the ship in the terrific seas or else perish.

In the awful struggle every man was severely frostbitten, wave after wave broke over the gunwales and they reached the side of the plunging steamer with their boat nearly half full of water. By ropes the crew were hauled on board and then, after being given dry clothing and having their feet alleviated, the steamer made her way into a nearby cove and landed them with a generous supply of Christmas edibles.

As it happened that just after the budget which these men brought ashore had been sent off the short cable between Cape Race and Cape Breton broke and Newfoundland was cut off from all telegraphic intercourse with the world until the next spring, for, owing to ice floes, repairing in winter was impossible. By spring, however, the transatlantic cable was in operation.

## PERILS OF REPAIRMENT.

Not the least dangerous part of the budget service was the maintaining of the



Cable Steamer

telegraph line across Newfoundland, through a country uninhabited and swept by sudden and terrific storms. The land crew faced danger just as often as did the boat crew; in fact, often, and many are the stories told of the narrow escapes of gangs of from five to 10 men who were caught in blizzards.

Once while a gang of 11 men were camped in a blizzard one of the men volunteered to go for wood. The pile was but 20 paces away, and he laughingly declined the suggestion that he tie a rope to himself so as not to get lost. He did get lost, and it was not until the following spring that his body was found, three miles distant.

In another instance two men were working close by their shack when a blizzard swooped down. Quickly abandoning their work they rushed for their shelter, but the blizzard was even quicker and buried it beneath a drift of snow. After a long, weary hunt the men finally located the structure by tramping on the roof. They only got in by climbing down the chimney.

The laying of a cable today is beset by danger, for despite having fine appliances especially designed and machinery to handle the heavy strings of steel, copper and gutta serena, it is work of the most arduous kind. In the early days it was impossible to tell where a cable had broken but nowadays there is a delicate instrument that will record almost the exact distance from it to the severed part. References to the chart gives the longitude and latitude and a steamer is quickly dispatched to the place.

With a grapple on a stout line the steamer sweeps to and fro until one end is picked up. This is buoyed and then the other end is sought. Both ends are then brought together and quickly spliced so that when the cable is once more lowered it is just as good as it ever was and stronger by reason of the splicing and additional wrapping. As cables frequently span from heights on the ocean bottom, from hill to hill as it were, they are subjected to a great deal of tension and occasionally are broken by being struck by a sinking vessel.

As a general rule it is the natural corrosion and the tension that causes a cable to break; but no matter what the cause, it is speedily remedied, and it is not at all likely that there will ever be a necessity for again establishing the budget service at Cape Race.

## ALL THE LATEST NEWS, VIEWS AND COMMENT ON SPORTS

### MATTHEWSON AND WALSH ARE THE LEADING PITCHERS

It is apparently a matter of choice whether the palm for the major league pitching record should be awarded to the Mathewson of the New York Nationals, or to Walsh of the Chicago Americans. There were no hit games pitched during the season, divided among the pitchers as follows: American League—Young, Boston, and Rhoades of Cleveland, and Smith of Chicago. National League—Wittes of New York, and one-hit games were: Young, Joe, White of Chicago, Waddell of St. Louis, and Lake of New York, in the American League; Mathewson of Brooklyn, McIntyre and Pastors of Philadelphia, and Raymond of St. Louis. The individual strike-out record for a single game goes to Waddell, who made it twice during the season, with a 10 and 17. Walsh sent 15 men back to the bench in a late-season game, which he lost, while the best National League record was made by Rucker of Brooklyn, a 14. He is also credited with a 12, an are Mathewson and Overall.

### U. N. B. WINS FROM THE ALGONQUINS

Fredericton, Oct. 26.—In a fast and interesting game Saturday the U. N. B. football team defeated the St. John Algonquins by a score of 10 to 0. The visitors were short five of the regular team, but in spite of this the U. N. B. since their game here Thursday with Chatham was wonderful. They put up a fast, snappy game, the half line getting in some nice combination. For the visitors Dr. Bonnell and Fleming were probably the most noticeable in the half line. The visitors' halves, however, did not mark their opponents as sharply as they might have done. In the forward line Captain Finley, McKinnon and Roberts were the most prominent. The first half of the game was fairly even, though the college team scored two tries. The first ten minutes was on their 25-yard line. Kinghorn made the first touchdown on a pass from Capt. Dever, a pretty combination. Dever carried the ball well down for the second try, but lost it, the pigskin going was carried over

### MONCTON, 13, MT. ALLISON, 0

Moncton, N. B., Oct. 25 (Special).—By the big score of thirteen to nothing the Moncton football team defeated Mount Allison here yesterday afternoon. The locals played all round the college boys, their passing and running being of a brilliant kind. A better all round game than Moncton put up yesterday has seldom been seen on the local gridiron. Moncton made one try in the first half, which was converted and two tries in the second half, one of which was converted. Fawcett, one of the strongest halves on the Mount Allison team, in tackling Lightner, of the Moncton team in the second half, had his collar bone fractured and retired from the game. The unfortunate accident took place in the second half.

### INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL

Two football matches in the intermediate league were played on Saturday. The Victoria defeated the Miramichi 3 to 0, the try being made by Crosby. In the other match, Currie's won from Carleton 3 to 0.

The Miramiches were leading in the league before the game, but the Victoria, last year's champions, are now tie with them.

## OF TRACK, FIELD AND ARENA AT HOME AND ABROAD

### HOLMER RAN GREAT RACE

Great Halifax Runner Finished Second to Longboat in Montreal Star's Fifteen Mile Race

Montreal, Oct. 25.—Longboat won the fifteen mile road race here Saturday, Holmer of Halifax, was second, thirty seconds behind the Indian and Woods, of Montreal, third. Shrub, the English professional, wanted to run in the race to show that he could defeat the Indian, but changed his plan when Longboat's manager threatened violence. During an argument before the race, Shrub was hit by the Indian, manager of the race, by Tom Flanagan, manager of the race.

### MISS HARLEY WON A CHAMPIONSHIP

Washington, Oct. 24.—The Woman's National Golf Club championship was today won by Miss Katherine C. Harley, of the Fall River (Mass.) Golf Club in the final tournament match at the Chevy Chase Golf Links. In a sensational period, Miss Harley defeated Mrs. T. U. Polhemus, of the Richmond County Club, of Brooklyn (N. Y.), by the score of 6 up and 5 down.

### KILLED BY BROTHER WHILE OUT HUNTING

Andover, Mass., Oct. 24.—Gerald Robinson, a boy twelve years old, was accidentally shot and killed today by his brother, Charles, aged thirteen, while in the woods in West Andover. According to Charles they were sitting on a stone wall cracking nuts when Charles saw a bird flying towards them, and picked up his rifle to fire at it. In his haste the weapon was discharged prematurely and its bullet, of 22 caliber, entered his brother's head through the nose. The wounded boy lived only a few minutes.

### A RIFLE MATCH

The St. John City Rifle Club held their weekly open match on Saturday afternoon on the local rifle range. There was a fair attendance, but the fog and smoke set in so thickly when the 600 yards range was being fired that some of the members could not finish their scores. As more than half of the present had completed their scores, however, the match was continued. The following were the winners: Major J. H. McRobbie, first, 92 points; Sergt. J. G. Sullivan, second, 88 points. The club will hold a match next Saturday afternoon if the weather is favorable.

### ANDREW GRESH CAME IN FROM THE COUNTRY ON SATURDAY

Andrew Gresh came in from the country on Saturday morning. He was arrested and given the police a trial before he was landed in the jail yard on a charge of drunkenness. He was committed to the jail on a charge of drunkenness and assaulting James Rodgers. The sum of \$28 was deposited for his release.

## NOVA SCOTIA CURLERS WILL SEND RINK TO SCOTLAND

(Halifax Herald.) It is almost a certainty that Nova Scotia will have a representation in the Canadian curlers party which will go to Scotland on invitation of the Royal Caledonian Curling Club, the probability being that a team of four with a spare man will go from Nova Scotia. The invitation to the Nova Scotia branch of the Royal Caledonian was directed to Prof. W. C. Murray, the secretary, and arrived here just after he had left here for the West. It was forwarded to him at St. John's, and from there he directed it back to Mr. Craig of Yarmouth, the president. But it happened that Mr. Craig had gone to Denver, Colorado, and the letter was forwarded there to him. He sent it to the secretary of the Halifax Curling Club, and on the contents being made known the Nova Scotia branch with a request that they send in the names of members who would be able to make the trip.

## AEROPLANES FOR ALL IN TEN YEARS

Prediction That Flying Machines Will Soon be in General Use.

"In less than ten years aeroplanes will cost no more than \$500," is the prediction of a famous English balloonist, who has just returned from Le Mans, where he made an ascent in Wilbur Wright's aeroplane. Mr. Butler thus continues his glimpse into the future:

## POLITICIAN IS FINED FOR ABUSIVE LANGUAGE

Toronto, Oct. 25 (Special).—For using abusive language to F. M. Field, M.P., Samuel Clarke, M.L.A., was fined \$5 by the police magistrate of Cobourg, Saturday. Field has also entered suit for damages.

## Cares Toothache Instantly.

Toothache is usually due to neuralgia in the gums or to the congestion and swelling of the nerve pulp. As "Nerviline" relieves congestion, you can easily see why it cures toothache so quickly. Nerviline does more—it relieves the pain in any part of the body, and let it be neuralgia, neuralgia, lumbago or rheumatism—so long as there is pain, "Nerviline" will cure it. It's the marvel of all doctors who have used it, so penetrating and powerful. Hundreds of thousands of bottles used every year—and that is true proof of its merit.

## GUYSBORO BOY DROWNED

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Special meeting of the Ladies' Association of the Seamen's Institute at 2.30 p.m. today at 184 Princess street.

## EARL STANHOPE ON IMMIGRATION

He Proposes A Novel Plan to Make Old Country Settlers Desirable Class.

(Vancouver World.) "The one great bar to the gigantic immigration scheme contemplated by the English government in an attempt to relieve the acute labor situation in the old country, is the fact that a great number of those who have been sent to Canada are of a class undesirable in Canada."

This unexpected hindrance to the move to turn over a part of the surplus labor in England to Canadian farms was compounded by Earl Stanhope who accompanied Earl Grey in the latter's westward tour as far as the Okanagan. Earl Stanhope is traveling around the world, but is so impressed with the Canadian situation that he has decided to make a permanent home in Canada.

## BOY IS MISSING; DROWNING IS FEARED

John Parks Nine Years old, has Been Away From Home Since Saturday—His Cap Found in the Water at Marble Cove.

John Parks, the nine-year-old son of George Parks, of 66 Kennedy street, has been missing since Saturday morning and it is feared he has been drowned in Marble Cove. A cap was found yesterday in the water near Rowan's Point and was later identified by Mrs. Parks as having been worn by her son. Three boats with grappling irons worked all yesterday afternoon and in the evening two of the boats kept up a vigilant search till 9 o'clock. The men will again grapple this morning.

## BARLEYCOCK AND OTHERS

(Collier's Weekly, Oct. 24.) Colonel Waterson observes that the proprietor of the New York "Times" deserves to be hanged to the nearest lamp-post. "In the same issue of his paper it is related that because a negro in Kentucky was rumored to have sworn, and drawn a revolver, his home was burned, and his wife, his five-year-old daughter, and his small baby were shot by the expectant mob. In Springfield, Ill., a little while ago, a woman said something about a negro, and with the horrors that ensued the country was ablaze. Then, after the burning and the shooting had subsided the woman's story was disproved, and the negro, whom the mob had failed to get, was set free. That little item about the final truth, when it emerged, was in most papers half hidden from the eye—an important fact, to hush rumors. It is well known that many 'identifications' are sheer hysteria, often for crimes that never were committed, and many other charges and identifications are founded on something worse than hysterical invention; they are the easiest escape from scandal. Now these are not the things to say, no the aristocratic virtues. But perhaps it is time to put justice and truth above 'hoax,' whatever that may be."

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