

## ISLAND BRAND

IMITATION

# Fish Sausages

To be had at the following stores:

W. E. Beams—2 stores  
Ayre & Sons, Ltd.  
Royal Stores, Ltd.  
C. P. Eagan.  
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Knowing's—East End  
J. J. St. John—2 stores  
W. J. Murphy.

Steer Bros.  
Mark Pike & Son.  
Peoples Supply Store.  
F. Lukins.  
J. M. Brown.  
Jackson Roberts.  
Mrs. Buckley—  
Bannerman St.  
Ken Ruby.

## THE SPRING OF 1855.

### "Skysail" Jack Aide.

(H. F. SHORTIS.)

It is very difficult to get at the records of the great sealing fleet when it was at the zenith of its glory, and we have, to a very great extent, to depend on tradition to acquire the full particulars and details. In those days the masters shifted about from one vessel to another, and thus the record of one Spring would not do for the next, as the masters might have purchased or been engaged by the merchant to take charge of another vessel. We can only do our best to keep alive the memory of those famous heroes who performed so much in the days long past to place Newfoundland in the foremost position as a great fishing country. The seal-fishery, in particular was the great nursery of our sailors for our mercantile marine, and they received such a training amidst the dangers of the ice-floes, that when they emigrated from Newfoundland they were recognized as the most competent, fearless and intrepid mariners in the world. Their services were eagerly sought after, not alone in the mercantile marine of the United States and Great Britain, but also in the Navy of nearly every other country. I could relate scores of instances wherein they

#### AT ITS ZENITH.

As I said above in the fifties of the past century the sailing fleet was at the zenith of its glory, both with regard to the strength, size and durability of the vessels and the fame and success of the masters. It may be looked upon as the period of romance in our country's history. But all this has passed away, and all that is left for us to do now is to "foster" national pride and love of country by perpetual references to the sacrifices

and stories of the past." In the Spring of 1855 the total amount of seals brought in by our great sailing fleet was 238,083, of which 130,774 was landed in St. John's. Amongst the vessels of that year there were many which were owned by the merchants and independent skippers of St. John's, and amongst them were the *Grace*, *Carbonar*, *Heart's Content*, *Brigus* and other ports in the island. In that year 128 vessels discharged in St. John's, a good showing, considering it was only three years after the great loss of our fleet in the "Spring of the Wadhams," when it was estimated that not less than 40 vessels were abandoned or crushed by the ice during that memorable spring. Amongst the fleet of that year was the brig *St. Philip*, Capt. John Aide, one of our most popular seal-killers of his time, and of whom I have some remarks to make in this communication.

#### DARING JACK AIDE.

As I remarked, one of the best-known skippers of the fifties and sixties of the past century was Captain John Aide, who was familiarly known by the sobriquet of "Skysail" Jack. How he attained this title was that when he was master of the brig *Myrtle*, one of David Steele's employ, he carried a skysail, royal studding sail, ring-tail and utilized every place where he could carry a yard of canvas. He was a fearless and competent ship-master. After Steele's failure he bought the pink-stem brigantine *Snipe*, from the estate. I presume Steele purchased her from the firm of Newman & Co., as he took over Newman's premises. My reason for thinking so is that all Newman & Co.'s fleet were called after the feathered tribe, such as the *Duck*, *Drake*, *Goose*, *Snipe*, *Swan* and so on. "Skysail" sailed the *Snipe* for a year or more in the trade with Portugal. The steam tug *Dauntless* was owned by David Steele, and Capt. Mervin was in charge. He was master of the brig *Peerless* up to that time, and when he went in the *Dauntless*, Skysail Jack took charge of the brig, which he commanded for a considerable period, after which he went master of the *St. Philip* out of Tasker's employ, both to the seal-fishery and on foreign voyages. After Steele's failure, McBride & Kerr purchased the *Peerless*, and the brigantine *Matilda* was purchased in Brigus, and for many years prosecuted the seal-fishery under command of Capt. Doelling. I remember her very well.

#### RETURNED TO PORT.

Steele's brigantine, *Sir John Campbell*, afterwards purchased by Messrs. J. & W. Stewart, was a new vessel. Her first voyage was to the West Indies under Capt. Harris. Two days after leaving St. John's she was running in a heavy gale of wind, and during the second mate's middle watch (James Murphy of Patrick Street, father of Mr. Benjamin Murphy, cooper), she shipped a sea and the bilge-keel light went out, and he went into the cabin to light it, when she shipped another sea which cleared the

### Sourcey Declares He Just Dreaded to See Night Come

#### Montreal Man Was Almost A Nervous Wreck—Is Now Well And Strong.

"Tanic did far more for me than I expected and I never felt better in my life than I do right now," said J. R. Sourcey, 2287 Jacques-Herriot St., Ville Marier, Montreal, Quebec. "I had indigestion so bad that I could not eat, and my stomach was so upset and weak that I could scarcely retain anything. My nerves were keyed up to such a pitch that I dreaded to see night come and every morning would get up with a dull headache that often lasted through the day."

"I am like a new man now, and I feel so strong and well that a whole day's labor does not tire me now as much as a half hour's work used to. I eat hearty, my digestion is perfect. I sleep like a boy all night long and then get up in the morning feeling just fine."

Tanic is sold by leading druggists everywhere.

#### UNDER OTHER FLAGS.

In the early sixties, he, with his family, left Newfoundland for St. John, New Brunswick, where he sailed out for a considerable time as master, and then went to New York. For some years he was master of a ship plying between that port and the West Indies. When he got up in years he went mate with Capt. William Shelley, a well-known Newfoundland sailing out of New York. When he became incapacitated from going to sea Skysail Jack was appointed watchman over the vessels, more particularly those of Newfoundland, which were employed sailing to and from that port. So ended the eventful career of one of the most capable ship-masters that ever sailed out of Newfoundland ports.

### Loss of the Schrs. Hopewell and Waterwitch

#### AND NINETEEN LIVES.

Two most distressing marine disasters involving the loss of nineteen lives will long make memorable the storm of last Monday (Nov. 29th, 1875). The early part of the evening was moderate enough, and about four o'clock a craft called the *Hopewell*, owned by Messrs. Joy of Harbour Main left here for Harbour Main with eight souls on board, including the three brothers Joy (owners of the boat) and a quantity of provisions. Towards dark a gale sprang up, with heavy snowdrift, and at eight o'clock it was at the height of its fury. The *Hopewell* struck on Biscan Rock near Cape St. Francis, and in a very short time was broken up, all on board but one man going down to a watery grave. The survivor, named Waugh, got on to a rock and there he remained all night and a great part of the next day. When the *S.S. Hercules* neared the spot, on her service to Conception Bay, about noon on Tuesday, this poor fellow was seen waving a handkerchief, and Capt. Blandford, of the *Hercules*, promptly manned a boat and sent her with a strong crew to effect his rescue. The waves ran so high at the time that they could not get near enough to throw a line within Waugh's hold, and a second and third attempt were made before they succeeded in reaching him with a rope and life-preserver. After three hours spent in the utmost endeavors for his safety, Waugh was pulled off on board the *Hercules* in a most exhausted condition, but, at all events, saved by the heroic efforts of Capt. Blandford and his crew.

Pouch Cove People to the Rescue. The *Waterwitch* which left here for Cupids, soon after the *Hopewell*, struck in the neighbourhood of Cape St. Francis also, much about the same time. There were twenty-five persons on board and of these twelve, eight men and four women, went down with the vessel. The following letter from the Rev. Mr. Johnson, Church of England Minister at Pouch Cove, shows how the survivors of the *Waterwitch* escaped, and no praise can exceed the merits of the Pouch Cove people in the saving of these poor creatures, and the care and tenderness with which they succoured them:—

(Copy)  
Parsonage, Pouch Cove,  
Nov. 29th, 1875.  
Dear Sir—We had a frightful wreck here last night. The schooner *Waterwitch*, from St. John's to and belonging to Capt. is a total loss. There

were twenty-five souls on board, out of which we saved only thirteen. I was on the spot soon after the terrible news reached the houses, and helped to haul up the survivors. Every man was hauled up, fast to about one hundred fathoms of line as the wreck could not be approached. We could hear their cries all night below us. It was frightful. The people here behaved nobly. Apply to Messrs. Bowring Bros. for trustworthy list which I have forwarded them, of lost and saved.

Yours truly,  
REGINALD M. JOHNSON.  
P.S.—Skipper's name Samuel Spracklin—saved.

The surnames are the names of the lost and saved. Lost—Moses Spracklin, Jonathan Spracklin, Amelia Spracklin, Priscilla Spracklin, Samuel Wells, Richard Wells, Elias Ford, George Ivany, Solomon Taylor, Joannah Croke. Saved—Samuel Spracklin, Thomas Ivany, Henry W. Spracklin, Samuel Row, Henry Ivany, Samuel P. Spracklin, Thomas Nosery, Thomas Spracklin, William Wells, Richard Ford, George Wells, James H. Wells, William C. Spracklin.—From the Times Dec. 4th, 1875.

### DANDERINE

Stops Hair Coming Out;  
Thickens, Beautifies.



35-cents buys a bottle of "Danderine" at any drug store. After one application you can not find a particle of dandruff or a falling hair. Besides, every hair shows new life, vigor, brightness, more color and abundance.

### The Author of Gay's Fables.

On December 11, 1781, John Gay, an eminent English poet died, at the house of the Duke of Queensberry, who had given him a residence in their home, and he was buried in Westminster Abbey where a monument was erected to his memory. Born at Barnstable in Devonshire in 1693, Gay was apprenticed to a silversmith in London, but as he was found to strongly dislike trade, his indentures were cancelled, and in 1711 he published his first book "Rural Sports," which he dedicated to Alexander Pope, like himself a young poet, and they entered on a lifelong friendship. The following year Gay became secretary to the Duchess of Devonshire, and in 1714 he went to Hanover as secretary to the Earl of Clarendon, the British ambassador. His poems published in 1720 produced for him a considerable sum of money, but he lost it all as many others lost theirs, through the disastrous South Sea Bubble. He continued to produce ingenious and agreeable works, of which the most celebrated and most widely-known was his "Fables," which he wrote for the instruction of Henry Frederick,



### "A Pleasure To Take"

our Cough and Cold Cure, because it is composed of pure and harmless drugs. No cough remedy has ever been discovered that will cure every cough, but we think we have one that comes a little nearer to doing it than most of them. We have prepared it in a pleasant and palatable manner, and we think it is a most reliable and given satisfaction. We ask you to remember and try this:

Because it is safe.  
Because it is most certain to cure.  
Because it is pleasant to take.  
Because it is equally good for children or adults.

Ask for Stafford's Throatene. Price 25c. Postage 15c. extra.

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Wholesale and Retail Chemists and Druggists,  
St. John's, Newfoundland.  
Write us for Wholesale Prices.  
Phone 654.

## Free, Frank and Fearless.

Efficiency, economy, conservation of the present income earning power of the city, and development of new sources of revenue—Policy of Hon. Tasker Cook, as outlined in his manifesto to the taxpayers.

## VOTE FOR COOK FOR MAYOR

First name on the Ballot Paper. Tasker Cook Must Win.

## LANTIC SUGAR COMPETITION

We sent Lantic Sugar Recipe Books to each competitor; let us know if you didn't yours.

The \$10.00 prize was won by Miss Evelyn Boone, 5 Cummings' Street, whose list contained 75 words as follows:—

A.—Ant, act, ail, aga, ai, art, an, at, ait, ala, as, air, ana, ani, ara, arc,  
C.—Cat, can, car, cur, cut, cit, cal.  
G.—Gas, gun, gin, gut, gan, gnu, gar.  
I.—It, in, its, is.  
L.—Lac, lag, lit, lug, la, lar, li.  
N.—Nag, nit, nut, nul, nil.  
R.—Rag, rug, ran, rat, run, rig, rut, ras.  
S.—Sac, sal, sat, sit, sag, sir, sic, sun, sig, sug, sin.  
T.—Tag, tan, tun, tig, tin, tug, tar, tac.  
U.—Urn us.

We checked the above list with Webster's Revised Unabridged Dictionary, 1914-16 Edition, disallowing obsolete words, also prefixes and suffixes.

NOW, BOYS AND GIRLS, don't be downhearted, carry on saying up the Red Book which are on all Lantic Sugar packages.

We shall have another competition bye and bye, in which the number of Red Books that you send us will count, and we shall have several prizes in this new competition. Remember, Lantic Sugar in packages is cleanest and sweetest. There is no chance of flies, dirt or dust to get into the Sugar. Lantic comes direct from the Refinery, your table unsoiled by contact with any person's hands. Every package is full weight of purest and best sugar obtainable. The best shops sell Lantic. Ask your grocer Lantic and get the worth of your money.

## Colin Campbell, Ltd.

## MAGICAL!



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Lathering  
Laundry Soap

Warranted free  
from all  
Impurities.

## JOB'S STORES, Ltd.,

Agents.

Duke of Cumberland, fourth son of George the Second. But Gay also composed theatrical plays, of which the most popular was "The Beggar's Opera."

### Mrs. O'Leary's Cow Innocent.

Ever since the great Chicago fire broke out on October 9th, 1871, and burned over an area of about 5,000 acres, destroying over 15,000 buildings and which caused a money loss of at least \$175,000, the blame for starting that second greatest conflagration of

modern times has been laid upon Mrs. O'Leary's cow who, instead of docilely yielding up the family milk supply was supposed to have got rambunctious and kicked over a lantern in the cow stable, thus causing all the trouble.

However, it now appears, according to a special despatch from Chicago to the New York Tribune on the anniversary of the disaster, that the long-standing indictment against the O'Leary cow must be quashed. There was an all-night drinking orgy, it is now stated, in a home near the O'Leary cottage, and three or four men of the bacchanal, still able to navigate

climbed into the loft of the O'Leary cow barn to sleep it off, all of them smoking. The morning milk was completed at 6 o'clock and the cow not break out till 9.30. Michael S. Sweeney, the only living newspaper man "covered" the fire, has now concluded that he and the other reporters who blamed the cow. The innocent cow perished in the fire, but the drinkers are supposed to have saved it.

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