



Wednesday, October 26, 1921.

With a bright market for shore fish and the price advanced somewhat, a ray of hope shines through the clouds that have hitherto overshadowed business and helps to lighten the gloom. If Labrador could only be advanced proportionately in the local market, it would add greatly to dissipating the feeling amongst the fishermen who toiled on that coast during the season, that at present prices the voyage will not pay expenses. One experienced skipper told the Telegram the other day that nine hundred quintals for a schooner with a crew of ten men all told would, at the ruling rate to-day, barely square outfitting bills. At that there is nothing left for profit or to pay wear and tear on material and, let alone the vessel's overhead costs, nor yet, to put in the necessary stocks of provisions and groceries for the months between now and spring. Well would Labrador fish should not go a-begging for either purchasers or price, yet the fact is that voyages off the coast are not being sought after by shippers in St. John's. The cargoes that were exported direct to market have to some extent created congestion, but as the season's catch has not been abnormal, there should not be any great difficulty met with in disposing of the balance, whether shore made or soft cure. Just at the moment, perhaps, shippers desire to realise on parcels sent across before conducting any new purchases or entering into new engagements, but we believe that ere long there will be created the usual annual demand for the remains of the Labrador voyage, and that the prices then offered will be remunerative. It is hard on the men themselves, both owners and shippers, to have to wait indefinitely before realising on their summer's work. Yet it is better to do that than to sacrifice the whole earnings of the voyage to the policy of hastening slowly to shore. Precipitation in both purchase and sale may make for a more critical state of affairs than now exists. Calm and uncalculated reasoning should be the course of all. Times were never so bad, but that they might have been worse, and it is better to delay sometimes than to plunge headlong and recklessly. Those who brought home their Labrador fish, will, it is our impression, make a sale of it later. The demand will come. It must come, notwithstanding competition by other countries in our foreign markets. But while all are waiting let a cheerful spirit be cultivated. Hope springs eternal in the human breast, and hope has rarely, if ever been disappointed. The process of reorganization through which business is passing must be gone through. At the same time with co-operation and mutual assistance the worst times will be passed ere we know it, and a newer and better era ushered in, an era when all misunderstandings will vanish and our insular commerce will recover its original vitality.

that Masonry is universal and that adherents of the Order carry their principles with them in all lands, is amply demonstrated by a photograph, unique in itself, taken by the sons of Mr. W. A. Ellis, P.G.E.P. of Caputla Masonry in the jurisdiction of the Province of Nova Scotia, last summer while on a fishing excursion on the lakes of the interior. Near the foot of Mount Sykes, 1913 feet high, and amid virgin forest stands a gigantic birch tree, a monarch of its kind, its exact location being where the Birchy Stream begins its course into Sandy Lake. This spot has been known for years as Freemasons's Point. This king of trees is some thirty feet in circumference, and was discovered by some of the last Masons to enter over sixty years ago, when travel in Newfoundland was not so comfortable as it is today. Desiring to perpetrate their visit, these pioneers scaled off the bark until the bole was exposed. Then they carved a number of the symbols of Masonry, the chief being the Allseeing Eye, Square and Compass, Sun, Moon and Seven Stars, with their names. William and John Chearnley of Halifax and James Pope, the date being September 17, 1853. Other names are Walker, 1854, initials H.P., C.T.L., 1707, which is possibly the number of this brother's Lodge, W.L.D. Philips, J.B. M.D. and others which are indistinguishable. The emblems, however, are very clearly cut, and the preservation. The inscription on this tree is of great interest to Masons. Upon investigation Mr. Ellis discovered that William and John Chearnley, who apparently were the original carvers, were brothers and came to Nova Scotia in the early 30's of the nineteenth century. William was a Captain in the 8th King's Regiment and remained in Halifax until the regiment had left, later becoming a Captain in the Chebucto Greys. John, William's brother, was promoted to the 63rd regiment of Militia. He was made a Lieut-Colonel of the Halifax Volunteers Battalion in 1865 and died in Boston on July 9th, 1871. His brother John died at Halifax on March 28, 1867. Both the brothers were great hunters and came to Newfoundland every year for Caribou. William worked for some time in St. John and was killed in the office. John was a surveyor and they both were men who possibly remember him. The brothers Chearnley were both made Masons in Virginia Lodge, No. 3, Halifax in 1850. James Pope was an Indian guide, who lived at Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia, and often went with the Chearnleys to Newfoundland on their hunting expeditions. He had but one arm but was wonderfully skill in shooting and woodcraft. His will be remembered by the Indians who discovered the Hawdon Gold Mines. The initials H.P. may be those of Henry Piers, who was frequently in Newfoundland, and was the father of Henry Piers of the Halifax Provincial Museum. Or the initials may be those of a son of a Lieut-Governor of the day, whose name has slipped the memory of our informant. The other initials of our informant were doubtless carved by Masons who devoted to the Indian legends originated by the Chearnleys. That this interest to Masons is undoubted, and steps should be taken by the Craft to preserve the carved portion, and to protect it from being defaced. We would suggest that that portion of the bole containing the symbols, names and dates, should be sawn out and sent to the Temple in St. John, there to be engraved on a stone case as a typical souvenir of the University of Nova Scotia, and as an object to impress junior brethren with the profundity of the lessons taught.

Brick's Tasteless can be purchased at J. Brown's Grocery Store, Cross Roads, West End. Price \$1.20 btl. Postage 20c. extra.—sep15.11

**G. Knowling, Ltd.**  
oct25,51

Has "Q" laid in 2 dozen Liniment for use as a preventative against writers' cramp during Brigade Week, Nov. 13-20?

Malakoff left Trinity at 6 p.m. to-day, coming East.  
terday, inward.

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