

TERRIBLE DISASTER AT SEA.

The French Passenger Steamer La Bourgogne Sunk.

Two Montreal Nuns and Several Other Persons From This City Drowned—Nearly Five Hundred People Lost—Three Priests Give Absolution to the Catholic Victims.

HALIFAX, N.S., July 6.—The British iron ship Cromartyshire was towed in here this morning by the Allan liner Grecian, with her bow torn away by collision, sixty miles off Sable Island, with the French steamer La Bourgogne, which went down ten minutes later. Of the six hundred passengers and crew on board, fewer than two hundred were saved. One woman was saved by her husband. The captain and other deck officers went down with the ship. The Cromartyshire laid to and picked up the 200 passengers and seamen who were rescued, transhipping them to the Grecian which came along later.

The log of the Cromartyshire is as follows: On July 4, at 5 a.m., dense fog, position of ship, sixty miles south of Sable Island, ship by wind on the port tack, heading W.N.W.; though under reduced canvas, going about 4 or 5 knots an hour, our fog horn was being kept going regularly every minute. At that time heard a steamer's whistle on our weather side or port beam, which seemed to be nearing very fast. We blew horn and were answered by steamer's whistle, when all of a sudden she loomed through the fog on our port bow and crashed into us, going at a terrific speed. Our foremost and main top gallant mast came down, bringing with it yards and everything attached. I immediately ordered the boats out, and went to examine the damage. I found that our bows were completely cut off and the plates twisted into every conceivable shape. The other ship disappeared through the fog. However, our ship was floating on her collision bulkhead, but kept heaving, so there seemed no immediate danger of her sinking. We set to work immediately to clear the wreckage, and also to ship our starboard anchor, which was hanging over the starboard bow and in danger of punching more holes in the bow. We heard a steamer blowing her whistle on coming back, and we answered with our fog horn. The steamer then threw up a rocket and fired a shot. We also threw up some rockets and fired several shots, but we neither saw nor heard any more of the steamer. Shortly after, or about 5:30 a.m., the fog lifted somewhat and we saw two boats pulling towards us with the French flag flying. We signalled them to come alongside, and found that the steamer was La Bourgogne from New York to Halifax, and that she had gone to the bottom. We laid to all day and received on board about 200 survivors from amongst passengers and crew, reported to be in all about 600. Several of the passengers were on life rafts without oars and I called for volunteers from among my crew and the surviving French seamen to bring those rafts alongside of the ship. Some of the passengers and seamen from the sunken steamer assisted us and we jettisoned some thirty tons of cargo from our forehold in order to lighten the ship. At about 3 p.m. another steamer hove in sight bound westward. We put up our signal N.C. (wants assistance). Shortly after the steamer bore down towards us. She proved to be the Grecian bound from Glasgow to New York. The captain of the Grecian agreed to take the passengers on board and also agreed to tow my ship to Halifax. Owing to the condition of my ship I accepted the offer, and we proceeded at once to tranship the passengers and get ready our tow line. At six p.m. we had made a connection and proceeded in tow of the Grecian towards Halifax, having put a sail over the broken bow to take part of the strain off the collision bulkhead. There was at that time fourteen feet of water in the fore peak.

ALARMING POSITION.

The United States Army Under a Tremendous Strain.

Dissatisfaction Expressed with General Shafter's Method of Conducting the Campaign—Reinforcements Needed Badly.

That the Cuban war is a more serious undertaking than anybody at first imagined, is being proved before Santiago, where the American line of attack is still baking in the sun or rolling in the rain, under a continuous shower of shrapnel. The most serious fault, however, is the lack of unity among the commanding officers. Richard Harding Davis, one of the most conservative and best informed men at the front, writes from San Juan on July 6.

As far as the Spanish permitted, the army rested to-day. No advance was made because no advance was possible without artillery. Little reply was made to the constant infantry fire from Santiago last night. The Spaniards opened up on the entire line with shrapnel and Mausers. Our troops replied, and after an hour the firing ceased. Only a few were wounded. The chief effect was to destroy the men's rest, which they sorely needed. The situation at present is this: Santiago rises from the harbor to the crest of a long hill. Three quarters of a mile back from the hill are the hills of San Juan, occupied by our entire army. Our troops took the hills before the artillery had arrived. We cleared them of the enemy's troops and lost many men. Now that we have them we cannot again advance until artillery has opened the way. Another such victory as that of July 1 and our troops must retreat. The situation is exceedingly grave. Judging from the quality and quantity of the rations left behind them in the trenches the Spaniards are bountifully supplied with food. Their fire is constant and heavy, showing no lack of ammunition. The city is protected by six-inch guns. We have only sixteen 3-inch guns; for the siege guns have not even been taken from the ships. It is as impossible to take Santiago with the infantry now overlooking its walls as to open a safe with a pocket pistol. I have been writing about this campaign since it opened and certainly I have not been an alarmist. Mistakes have been made, yet the present does not seem to be the time to comment upon them and thus cause needless anxiety. The situation here is critical—alarming—and it would be false to make it out otherwise. The troops should never have been sent here without the entire force of artillery at Tampa, and until it arrives they can neither advance nor retreat. They can only lie on their faces or be shot at if they rise. They have been in the most cruel heat and wet with frequent showers for three days. They are unable to move about. They are under an unceasing fire. Even the strongest and bravest cannot stand such a strain long. Lack of speech, of exercise, of food and of tobacco, and the incessant fire of bullets and shrapnel, will destroy any constitution. I went along the trenches this morning and saw men lying in the high grass which was as wet as a sponge. The day had not been out of the clothes they wore since June 30. They had not even had time to take them off for a bath. Some of them had been without food for 48 hours. When food did come it was hard tack and coffee. Those who smoke—and they are in the majority—were suffering agonies from the lack of tobacco. Their nerves were so unstrung in consequence that as a substitute they were smoking grass, tea leaves and herbs. I do not see how men not made of iron can stand such a state of affairs much longer. It is not a question of weeks, but hours. This may sound hysterical, yet it is written with the most earnest intention. We are in the face of possible disaster. Nothing has been done by these expeditions beyond proving the heroic courage of American soldiers. Truthfully, the expedition was prepared in ignorance and conducted in a series of blunders. Its commanding general has not even yet been within two miles of the scene of the operations. Overhead the fire was incessant. Ten men at a time manned the rifle pits, and were relieved every hour. The rest of the company, or troops, lay lower down the crest trying to sleep. Shrapnel burst over them, killing and wounding several. They were under unintermitted fire from sharpshooters. That officer rode to a hill two miles from San Juan the day before the battle. He was overcome by heat and has been lying on his back the greater part of the time ever since. General Wheeler, who refused to remain in bed with his fever, is here beside me asleep on a poncho with bullets passing over him. There are Generals Sumner, Kent, Lawton and Chaffee, and Colonel Wood—never before have so many commanding officers lived so constantly on the firing line, yet the man who is supposed to direct the entire expedition is in a tent at the rear. If he is ill he should be relieved; if not, the presence of some man with absolute authority is necessary at the front. I am quoting what brigade commanders demand. The commanding general's orders are disobeyed without a moment's hesitation. I have heard them countermanded in my presence by colonels. This is written with the sole purpose that the entire press of the country will force instant action at Washington to relieve the strained situation. Here is what is needed: First—Artillery, but as that cannot arrive soon the navy must be urged until it acts. General Pando, with six thousand men, is at Santiago. Admiral Sampson could do much by landing stores, guns and quick firing guns, and blue jackets, and coming to the relief of the men along the hills. He can bombard the city or lose a few torpedo boats and force his way into the harbor. He asked that the army should come here. Well, it is here, holding its own on the hills which it captured with such loss. The army needs artillery. It needs some one in command who is well, strong and able to stand the hardships of a campaign. It needs reinforcements, and it needs mules for transportation, and it needs all these things now.

Give Him a Call. Mr. B. Hughes, one of our young men of energy and enterprise, and formerly in charge of the electrotyping department of John Lovell & Son, has purchased the electrotyping plant of the Dominion Type Founding Co. Mr. Hughes intends equipping his business with the latest and most improved machinery now in use, and has placed orders with several American firms for their machines, which are expected to arrive during the coming week. The True Witness wishes Mr. Hughes every success in his new enterprise, and speaks for him a share of the patronage which numerous readers of our paper may have the placing of, feeling that both workmanship and prices will be found to be right. Mr. Hughes has rented a suitable building for the carrying on of his business, at 18 St. George Street, where all information about the latest and most improved method of electrotyping, etc., will be cheerfully given.

Canadians Pay War Tax. One of the war taxes of the United States will be paid, in part at least, by outsiders, namely, that which requires a two cent stamp on all cheques drawn in the United States. Thus, when a cheque is drawn in New York, Boston, or elsewhere in the States in favor of a resident in Canada, the payee, when he cashes it at the bank here, has to pay the two cent war tax, in addition to the usual rate of discount.

Mr. Justice Lawrence of England is an ardent golfer. He tells how he had recently a case before him in which he felt it necessary to ask one of the witnesses, a boy, the usual question, whether he was acquainted with the nature of an oath. The ingenious youth calmly replied: "Of course I am. Ain't I your caddie?"

take passage thence to France, there to enter convents of the Franciscan Order of Cloistered Nuns.

Both of these ladies led quiet, uneventful lives and left home happy with the thought to serve God in continuous devotion and end their days in France. Miss Morin was 20 years of age, and had intended for the past three years to leave home. This was necessary, as no convents of the order are to be found in Canada. She had received a good education at St. Anne's Convent, Ste. Cune-guene. For the last four years she lived at home, but always had the one object in view.

Her last words when leaving were: "I'll meet you all in Heaven." Her parents, five sisters and three brothers, are now plunged into deep grief over the awful accident. She was to enter the convent at Peronne.

Marie Anne Cauchon was 23 years old. She also received her education at St. Anne's Convent, Ste. Cune-guene. Although this was her first journey from home she was happy, as it was one step nearer the goal she had wished for for several years. She was of a religious turn of mind, and was well aware of the hard life before her. Her destination was Amiens. She was the youngest of a large family, and it is unnecessary to add, deep grief is now their lot.

Amongst the other Montrealers who sailed on the ill-fated steamer was Mr. Eugene Duboc, who kept a dry goods store in partnership with his brother, Mr. Auguste Duboc, at No. 1127 Ontario street.

Mr. Eugene Duboc, who according to all probabilities, has perished in the catastrophe, left Montreal on Saturday last, to join his wife and child in France. Mr. Eugene Duboc was of French descent, and married a French-Canadian woman. He was 46 years old.

There were three priests on board. They went on the bridge immediately after the collision and gave absolution to the Catholic passengers. It was a touching sight to see crowds of doomed men and women throw themselves on their knees as the priests pronounced the absolution and gave them their blessing.

CATHOLIC ORDER OF FORESTERS' PILGRIMAGE

Ste. Anne de Beaupre, Under the direction of the Redemptorist Fathers of Montreal.

SATURDAY, JULY 23rd, 1898, By the Str. "THREE RIVERS."

Boat leaves Jacques Cartier Wharf at 6:30 p.m. and returns Monday at 5 o'clock a.m.

Returning Boat will stop at Dominion Cotton Mills Wharf, Hochelaga.

TICKETS, - \$2.10. Children under 11, half price.

THE ALLIANCE QUESTION

The forces at work, and which have only sent up promontory bubbles since the Hispano-American war has been in progress, seem strange in their diversity and wanting in the logic of events. Such a thing as an Anglo-Saxon alliance, the proposition of which seems only the mushroom growth of a day, is an anomalous excretion, the monstrosity of which will only be fully appreciated when its fruit is eaten off.

The subject is too large a one to be discussed on the spur of the moment, when fortuitous circumstances have placed the United States navy in a position to be reckoned with by the great European Powers. A proposition so contrary to all the doctrines of Jeffersonian democracy must needs cause disturbance in the channels which make for the moulding of public opinion, and it is not to be wondered at that the lines taken by the leading newspapers of the United States should be widely divergent.

An instance of this is well illustrated by the New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, who points out that the recent commencement address of ex-President Cleveland has served the purpose of lining up the press of New York on the new political issue—the question of imperialism and colonial expansion. "It is noticeable," he says, "that old party lines are broken on this question," and that "while the Republican press, with more or less enthusiasm, support the Administration in its policy of Hawaiian annexation and probable acquisition of the Philippine Islands, the Democratic and independent newspapers are completely split on the subject."

Continuing, the correspondent gives the following very interesting review of the position taken on these questions by the leading representatives of the metropolitan press: "The Herald and the Post attack, with all their strength, the new imperial policy. On the other hand, the Times, which has been an exponent of Cleveland Democracy as long as Mr. Cleveland has been a figure in national politics, takes the ground that it is a condition, not a theory, that confronts us, and that it is not a question whether it is best for us to take the Philippine Islands but a question of what we shall do with them now we have them and the Times appears to think that the only thing to do is to keep them, though it hopes for a new solution of the problem. A week before Mr. Cleveland spoke William J. Bryan came out against the imperialistic programme, but the 'Journal,' which was the strongest supporter Mr. Bryan had in New York in 1896 is now loudly proclaiming itself an American newspaper for Americans, and advocating the Jingo policy. It roundly denounces Leader Bailey for opposing Hawaiian annexation. The 'World' plants itself squarely on the platform of opposition to territorial expansion, and says that 'only common sense is necessary to banish this wild dream of imitation imperialism and crazy expansion.' The most remarkable expression of opinion, however, comes from the able and conservative Journal of Commerce, which is not influenced by political considerations, but tries to guide the views of the financial and commercial classes of New York. It is advocating an American protectorate over Hawaii, the retention of the Philippine Islands, the building of the Nicaragua Canal and an aggressive foreign policy. 'Foreign commerce,' it says, 'is becoming as much a competition between fleets and armies as between goods, and it the United States ignore that fact, they may have to pay dearly for their infatuated lack of foresight.'

THE DOMINION CENSUS. Mr. Johnston, the Dominion statistician, is already preparing to take the Dominion census. It is stated that the census will be taken on April 1, 1901, and that it is expected the population will have increased at least 25 per cent. since 1891. It is to be hoped the estimate may be justified, but it must not be forgotten that an increase of a million and a quarter is a great deal in ten years, especially when the first part of the decade was a season of depression and emigration. The exodus is now stopped, the west is filling up rapidly, and everywhere there is a return movement from the United States; but with it all the population of Canada will hardly be over six millions in 1901, as it would be with a 25 per cent. increase. We looked for about five and a half millions at last census, but the figures were only 4,833,000.

DANGERS FROM VIOLENT EXERCISE. There is considerable diversity of opinion as to the safety with which women may indulge in violent exercise in view of possible injury. As regards the heart, there appears to be but one opinion—namely, that that organ, accustomed to a quiet life, may be dangerously and permanently crippled by the excessive strain in athletic sports. Experience in medical practice, says an eminent authority, teaches that the patient with a weak heart must be extremely cautious in his exercises, and the demonstration of a dilatation of the healthy heart under sudden, violent, exhausting effort which has been made was of a surprising nature. Many official observers in Germany and in this

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Which is less than the cost of the leather. Money refunded if not satisfied.

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country have detected by percussion and observation of the changes in the heart beats that there is under strain and exertion considerable dilatation, which continues for a shorter or longer time after the exertion is over. Ocular proof of this has been afforded by the Roeng-nays. This shows not only the need of caution by those in good health, but more particularly so in the case of those who suffer from any weakness, constitutional or otherwise, in this organ.—New York Letter.

"WHEN IN DOUBT, BOMBARD."

The New York Times says:—Artillery is perhaps the greatest peace-promoting factor that was ever called into play. Its moral effect is always great. Napoleon knew this; he always bombarded when he could do nothing else. The booming of a great gun in the midst of battle gives courage or strikes with fear, according to which side fires the gun. An Englishman who was at Puerto Rico when Admiral Sampson threw a few shells over into San Juan Harbor said that little damage was done, but a lot of fight was taken out of the Spaniards. The bombardments that have been visited upon Santiago de Cuba recently have had an enormous effect throughout this country, quite as stirring as it was debilitating to the Spaniards behind the fortifications. This cheering effect of artillery fire should not be underrated; battle may be saved by the booming of a great gun at the proper moment, whether it be a blank loaded with saluting powder or not. To American Admirals this discretionary order may safely be given: 'When in doubt, bombard.'

The evil disposed person who invented spring-heeled shoes has thousands of ugly flat feet for his to render account. The nervous strain on the body, caused by the pounding of the heeled shoes on the hard ground, is very considerable. And more than that, it is almost impossible to carry the weight on the balls of the feet under such circumstances. Of course, high heels are equally injurious, but a heel of medium height with good width will allow the instep to develop as it should. To cultivate the instep to its proper arch no exercise is so effective as this: Stretch the foot downward, the toe always endeavoring to reach a point just beyond itself.

Mrs. Bertrana Carrie, widow of the late High Stewart of Kingston-on-Thames, England, has promised \$25,000 towards the erection of a new Catholic church for that city.

COUNTRY PRODUCE.

There was no important change in the situation of the egg market. The demand is still fair for small lots to fill actual wants, and a fair business is doing. We quote:—Fancy selected stock, 10 1/2; ordinary run, 9c to 9 1/2c; No. 2 stock, 8c to 8 1/2c per dozen. The receipts to-day were 702 cases. The market for beans is quiet, and price rule steady at 95c to \$1 for primes, and at \$1.05 to \$1.10 for choice hand picked per bushel. Honey is neglected and values are nominal. We quote: White clover comb, 11c to 12c; dark do, 8c to 10c; white strained, 6c to 7c, and dark, 4c to 5c. There is nothing doing in maple product. We quote: Syrup, in wood, 4 1/2c to 4 3/4c per lb, and in tins, 45c to 50c as to size. Sugar, 6c to 6 1/2c per lb.

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER.

If you are not already a subscriber, fill out the subjuncted order blank and send it to this office with your check, registered cash or money order. If you are a subscriber, cut it out and send it to a friend who may desire to subscribe for the only representative organ of the English-speaking Catholics of the Province of Quebec—the TRUE WITNESS.

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LADIES' BOOTS and SHOES which we have been selling at a Dollar-fifty, Two, Two-fifty and Three Dollars a pair, we now offer at

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Our subscribers are particularly requested to note the advertisements in The True Witness, and, when making purchases, mention the paper

DAIRY PRODUCE.

There was little change in the cheese market yesterday. Buyers and sellers are apart and prices are difficult to quote. Eastern makers are placed nominally between 6 1/2c to 7 1/2c, and western 7 1/2c.

Butter remains much the same with trading in finest creamery at 17c, but prices shaded down to 16 1/2c. Receipts, 1,625 packages.

Kingston, Ont., July 7.—At cheese board today 2,000 white and 500 colored boarded. Sales, 1,200 at 7 1/2c to 7 3/4c.

Listowel, Ont., July 7.—At the cheese fair here today 25 factories boarded 6,595 boxes white and 190 boxes colored cheese, June make. Seven hundred and twenty boxes were sold at 7 1/2c, 700 at 7 1/4c, and 495 at 7 1/2c. Fairs will be held at 11:30 a.m. every Thursday, and call system is being strictly enforced.

Brookville, July 7.—(Special)—In round numbers 5,000 boxes of cheese, about equally divided between colored and white, were offered for sale on the board to-day, showing that very few factories had any over from last week. The market was easy in tone, with little competition, the buyers seeming to be afraid of each other. The bidding opened at 6 1/2c and advanced to 7 1/2c. The salesmen hesitated about accepting, but the small factories mustered up courage and so, Hodgson Bros. was the only bidder who came on even terms with Johnson's bid at 7 1/2c. On the part of the buyers bought freely at 7 1/2c and the entire offerings of the day were estimated at 7,000 boxes, were nearly all sold. A few lots brought 7 3/4c, and sales at 7c are reported. When the Montreal exporter, was present at the board and criticized the brand used in this section. He claimed it was a detriment to the trade because the cloths would not be removed from the Montreal warehouse without pulling up the ring and thereby damaging the surface of the cheese. Several representatives of Montreal houses corroborated Mr. Ware's statement and one went as far as to say that his house would refuse to take from factories that had been accustomed to, if they continued the use of the brand.

Chesterville, Ont., July 7.—(Special)—At a meeting of the cheese board held here this evening, 772 boxes of cheese were offered, 230 of which were white and the balance colored; they were offered for both white and colored, but no sales were made on the board.

FAST ATLANTIC SERVICE.

A new development of the fast Atlantic mail service is expected to be completed and announced in a few days. It is understood from remarks of Hon. Mr. Blair that the contract will probably be placed in fresh hands, not impermissibly those of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

'Remember the mane,' said one of Teddy's society circus members when he had lost the reins and the bronco began to buck.

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