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PEOPLE AND PLACES

THREE men in an open boat for three days in the raging Pacific is the little story that comes from Victoria. These men were sealers; but as one of them said when the three were finally picked up by a rescuing boat, "Well, I guess that'll be all the sealing that's coming to me for a while." They were from the schooner *Ollie Alger* and the schooner got away from them; got away in a storm somehow and somewhere after the three had pushed off her in a sixteen-foot yawl to chase a pack of seals in Queen Charlotte Sound. The storm struck them before they struck the seals; night came on before the storm let up and they baled and rowed and tacked all night—forty miles from land with a few sea biscuits and a trifle of fresh water. Fifth of May the boat and the schooner parted company with the storm between; the eighth of May the derelicts were picked up by a north-bound boat from Seattle, from which they were landed at Bella Bella.

* * *

REGINA is to have a five-hundred-barrel flour mill and a hundred-barrel oatmeal mill in place of the old mill burned a short while ago. Minnesota capital is behind the scheme. A hundred barrels of oatmeal in a day is a good deal for this western Peterboro; but it is not so long ago that Regina had so many Scotchmen that it was necessary for a Chinese laundryman to hang out his shingle—"Mack Sing."

* * *

He has made also the topmast, spanker boom and trussle trees—made of the "great-heart" wood from the West Indies. The new ship will be floated in June.

* * *

FIFTEEN thousand apple trees are in bloom in the town of Red Deer, Alberta. The orchard is owned by Mr. Sharpe, an eastern fruit grower, who has been working a good while on the problem of producing a hardy apple that will stand the hard winters of the West. He thinks he has succeeded in this orchard, which is the farthest north orchard in America and a great deal farther north than the trees which have been grown for years on the experimental farm at Indian Head. Native apples in Alberta will be a curiosity. It used to be said that the only apple ever grown in Edmonton years ago was a single apple that came out on a tree on the lawn of Frank Oliver.

* * *

A MAN has just come two thousand miles to Ottawa to tell the Government something new; not about elections or voters' lists—but about fish, which lately has been considerable of a figure in Government literature. This man is from Fort Churchill, which is soon to become famous as the terminus of a Hudson's Bay railway. He is the first settler in Churchill—since the great Company gave up the post. The



The Road-Cutters in the woods of Northern Ontario are busy chopping out the way for the "iron horse" on the Transcontinental Railway.

* * *

A STRANGE discovery has been made by the engineers in charge of the La Tuque section of the new Transcontinental in Quebec. The high water of the St. Maurice River has demonstrated that several miles of the newly graded roadbed are the natural course of the river if the river is given a decent chance. At any rate several miles of the road have been lately under water. One of the contractors states that he paddled for two miles in a canoe over the road.

* * *

BENJAMIN LIPPETT is one of the mariner characters of Nova Scotia. In fact he may be called the ancient mariner, for he has been all his life of eighty years in ship-building; working in the woods—making masts and spars; and now for the first time he is busy on an iron ship. This is said to be the first iron ship ever made in Canada. The spars which Mariner Lippett is putting in to the new ship are of Norway pine, ninety-two feet in length and twenty-four inches in diameter at the deck.

thing that Mr. Beech, the early settler, brought with him was a large box in which was a consignment of Arctic fish; not the spermataceous sort such as whales and walrus, but good human salmon edible throughout, and a sample of the really civilised menu that may be expected in that remote region whenever people get in there.

* * *

TWO hundred carloads of machinery have left Hamilton on board ship for the Canadian West. The two lake leviathans that carried this huge consignment of machines from the docks of the Canadian Birmingham were the *Canadian* and the *Wasaga*, which are the largest boats in the habit of doing business at Canadian ports. The *Canadian* was the first to get under way this season with her hundred carloads of wheels and machinery. After the initial voyage up she loaded with grain at the head of the lake, unloading at Kingston and back to Hamilton for another hundred carloads of machinery.