

A SEA VOYAGE

Miss Muir Writes Interestingly of the Trip to Barbadoes

Third Letter—Guadeloupe and Martinique

On board S. S. Gilman,
November 21st, 1908.

These are the two principal islands of the French West Indies and they are the largest of all the Windward group. In shape Guadeloupe is like two saddles, one of volcanic origin and mountainous, the other flat with rich sugar plantations; through the narrow strip of land that connects them is a salt water passage. The town before which we anchored is at the southern mouth of this salt river. It is called Point à Pitre, and is quite a good sized town. Our first visit as usual, was to the post-office for stamps, then for picture post-cards. So having thought of our absent friends who are interested in these things, we sought out a gentleman, for whom we had a message, and he kindly showed us the points of interest. I thought the coloured people much better looking than at the other islands. From the time of landing I kept exclaiming about the trees, how strange it was to see such enormous trunks with so few branches or leaves. In the public square were immense trees with large bunches of roots just above the ground, "fine places for squirrels," Grace remarked, but so stunted in appearance. Then I learnt from our guide that a hurricane, last September, had torn the branches off the trees, and left them in the mutilated condition they were. There is a very fine Cathedral, and when we drew near the market square, what a babel of sound. Most of the goods for sale seemed to be on trays on the ground. Women were walking about with trays on their heads calling out their wares. In the street were small carts drawn by two or three donkeys, about the size of a three month's calf. Just outside of the town is the second largest sugar factory in the world, the other being in Egypt. As France gives a bounty for sugar it is more profitable to grow it here than in the English islands. There are 180,000 people in Guadeloupe; almost as many as in Barbadoes. It has also the distinction of having one of the largest and most active volcanoes in the West Indies, 5,000 feet above the sea. There has been no great eruption since 1815. There are several French ships in the harbour. One which has just come from Paris on the way to Panama, 547 feet long, makes our Genaira, which is 350 feet, look small. We are always glad to return to our ship and our comfortable quarters, after being on shore. She is built up several storeys, to use a land term, in mid-decks for passengers so they will not feel the vibration from the propeller. Our staterooms are large, with electric fans to keep them cool and are on the main deck. On the promenade deck is the dining saloon with good sized windows and a sitting room off it always cool. On the hurricane deck is the music room, beautifully furnished, and the smoking room, and all the decks are covered in so are protected from the sun.

Unfortunately we passed the north of Martinique in the night so we could not see Mount Pelee and the ruins of St. Pierre. From where we are anchored, opposite Fort de France, we cannot see anything of either. Before the awful catastrophe of 1902 when 35,000 people were overwhelmed, Martinique was a very prosperous island. As there is yellow fever at Fort de France, no one can come on board; lighters come out to receive the cargo. They are light barges, open at the back, where two men sit and row, and strange to say, although the barges have pointed bows they row the barges with the broad open stern forward. No one on board could tell why they did what seemed such a stupid thing. I sat and watched the men rowing the heavily loaded barges, and wondered why they did not turn them round, and put the bow first, especially as we were a mile from shore. In a valley not far from Fort de France is the house where the Empress Josephine was born.

Having discharged our cargo in the afternoon, we were off again, and as we passed the southern end of Martinique, I noticed a strange looking rock, about a mile from the mainland, shaped like the pictures I have seen of an African hut, precipitous sides and a roof like an inverted saucer. On inquiry I was told that it was Diamond Rock, 574 feet high. At one time, this rock was registered as H. B. M. Sloop-of-war Diamond Rock. I am sure the readers of "COTTON'S WEEKLY" would like to hear how that came to be. Dur-

ing England's great struggle with Napoleon, Admiral Sir Thomas Hood, who had served under Rodney, conceived the idea of taking this rock which had never been scaled by man. A large kite was flown to which was attached a line which they managed to stretch across the crag. By this line a cable was drawn over the pinnacle and made fast to the vessel below, which had been lashed to the rock. A crew of brave men were then hoisted to the top of the rock, guns and provisions were sent aloft, and soon the Union Jack was flying in full view of the surprised Frenchmen at Martinique. From their sea-girt citadel Hood's sailors blazed away with their longtom at every kind of craft that came near. It was held for twelve months. Finally, a squadron of two sail of the line, one frigate, one brig, and eleven gunboats manned by 1500 men, was sent against them. I cannot imagine why the sailors were not all blown off the rock, so unprotected as they were, but they managed to defend themselves for three days; then water and ammunition having given out, the 180 sailors under Captain Murray surrendered, but on honorable terms. They stuck their arms on their own deck, and were to be taken to Barbadoes by the French government free of expense.

Martinique soon becomes dim in the distance and St. Lucien is getting larger. The best idea I could give the readers of "COTTON'S WEEKLY" of these islands, is to suppose the country between Cowansville and Knowlton stretched out about 20 miles, the hills made much higher and surrounded by sea. Cover the hills with beautiful tropical trees, with ferns and palms in bewildering variety, and gardens full of roses, lilies and rare plants of all kinds, hedges of hibiscus a blaze of crimson, vines off all kinds some covering the tall trunks of palms, and you will have some idea of the beauty of this part of the world.

A. MUIR

TOWNSHIP NOTES

Mr. George Garland, a former resident of Sutton and Potton, is dead at Derbyshire, Vt., aged 83 years.

Reports from merchants all over the Townships indicate a good Christmas trade.

An earthquake took place at St. Johnsbury, Vt., on Wednesday afternoon, Dec. 16th, lasting nine seconds.

Five hundred dollars worth of goods were stolen at the recent wreck at Glen Sutton. The guilty parties are now in the hands of the law.

Through some mishap, not only Sutton, but all the stations on the line from Farnham to Newport, including Cowansville, and from Farnham to Sherbrooke, on the C. P. R., went without their usual mail on Saturday night last.

No case of foot and mouth disease has been found in New York state in the last two weeks, and both state and federal authorities are so confident that they have the outbreak smothered that orders have been issued modifying the quarantine regulations.

BRIGHAM

The annual Christmas tree was held on Dec. 23rd and as usual was a decided success, owing to the untiring efforts of our popular teacher Miss Buck, who trained the children and played their accompaniments.

Rev. Mr. Pierce was presented with a purse of \$25 as a slight token of the esteem of his parishioners. Mr. Pierce is spending his holidays with friends in Ontario.

Mr. J. T. Tucker of Montreal preached here on Sunday.

Mr. F. M. Morey and family, who have recently moved here from East Farnham, are making extensive repairs on their buildings.

Miss Seymour returned on Monday after a five week's absence in Westmount.

Mr. Primmerman lost a horse this week.

The death occurred here recently at the home of Mr. Alonzo Ring of Mr. Orison Ingalls a former resident of this place and latterly of Boston, Mass. The funeral was held in the Congregational Church, Rev. W. E. Baker of Cowansville, officiating. Interment in the Riverside cemetery, East Farnham.

NORTH STANBRIDGE

Mr. George Thompson spent Christmas with his father here.

Mrs. John Scott and Mr. Stanley Scott of Farnham, were among recent visitors.

Miss Nina Stone is home from her school at St. Constant.

Miss Kate Newell is the guest of Miss Mable Schoolcraft.

Mr. A. M. Kemp is home again.

Repeat it: "Shiloh's Cure will always cure my coughs and colds."

DUNHAM

Mr. B. M. Miner of West Sheffield, spent Thursday last with his brother, H. H. Miner, helping him over his Xmas trade and also doing considerable shopping himself.

Mr. and Mrs. Reuben Jones of Bedford, spent Christmas at H. H. Miner's.

The Oddfellows have finished plastering their hall which is going to be a credit to them. Don't forget that Dunham is gradually improving.

Mr. Hibbard and wife of Montreal, and A. Rykert and Miss Rykert spent Christmas at Mr. Jos. Baker's.

Mr. Robert McElroy of Knowlton, and Mr. Albert McElroy from the West were with their parents over Xmas.

Berard Bros. have just put a very fine new milk vat in their factory. They intend sparing no money or time in keeping things thoroughly up to date, sweet and clean so as to make a first-class article for the coming year. The farmers can aid by doing their part.

Mr. J. N. Gailor has been on the sick list for a few days.

The All Saints Sunday School exercises took place on Tuesday evening, Dec. 29th. The cantata, "Christmas on Grandpa's Farm," was finely rendered by the boys and girls in the presence of a large concourse of people. At the close, the prizes were distributed from the Christmas tree.

The rector of all Saints Church desires to express sincerest gratitude to those good parishioners who joined with the Ladies Guild in presenting him with such valuable and useful Christmas gifts.

The suitability of the articles add to the appreciation already felt of the kindly feelings which actuated the givers.

Services at All Saints—Thursday, Dec. 31st, 7.30 p.m., to close the 'old year. Friday, Jan. 1st, 10.30 a.m., to ask a blessing on the new year. Sunday, Jan. 3rd, 1909, holy communion at 11 a.m. Evening service at 7 p.m., and at East Dunham at 3 p.m.

A grand clearing sale is on the tapis at H. H. Miner's, Dunham. It will commence Wednesday, Jan. 6th. Tables of goods will be laid out at astonishing low prices. If you want bargains, lay for this sale.

General Bell, Chief-of-Staff, declares that the infantry arm of the United States army is inadequate, while the cavalry arms is antiquated.

Many newspapers get a great reputation for reform by hunting around for some unpopular evil and hitting it.

M. B. JUDSON

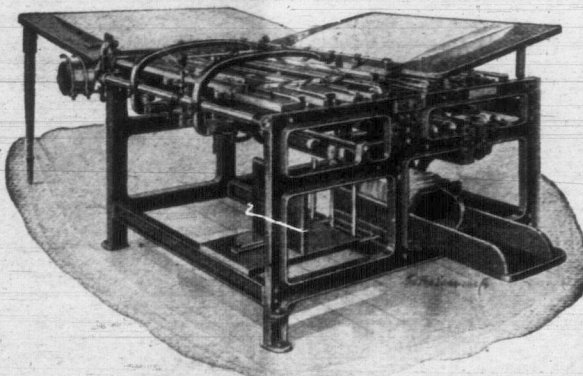
Undertaker and Embalmer

Personal attention. Prices moderate. Calls attended Day or Night

MAIN STREET COWANSVILLE

PHONE NO. 47

OUR NEW FOLDER



THE above is an illustration of the No. 2 Eclipse Newspaper Folder which we have just installed in our office. It handles 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 pages of any size newspaper sheet, trimming where necessary and delivering at the third or fourth fold. It handles the work neatly and satisfactorily and folds the sheets as fast as the press delivers them, so that we have no difficulty in making the mails. The time saved by this machine is a matter of twenty hours per week, and enables us to give that amount of time to the improvement of this paper.

Start the New Year Right

There is a tale of Righteousness following our work of Heating Plumbing and Tinning

You get "Value Received" for your Money.

WE are in a position to supply your wants in the Hardware Lines and quote you "Living Prices" for any work done. Get your order in early for what you expect to need next Sugar Making.

McCLATCHIE BROS.

Hardware Merchants, Cowansville

LEND US YOUR EAR

For a minute or two. We want to do your Plumbing and other jobs of this nature. Our staff will take charge of any Roofing, Steamfitting, etc., in a creditable manner, and our prices are very reasonable. Come and talk it over with us.

Canada Dairy Utensil Co., Ltd
Buzzell Block, Cowansville

To Our Customers OLD AND NEW

We would here acknowledge our grateful appreciation of the generous patronage bestowed on us during the past year, not forgetting the Christmas trade. Our sales greatly exceed all previous years.

FOR RETURN GIFTS

We have still a good selection of

Neckwear, Gloves, Mufflers.
Silk, and Linen, Handkerchiefs, Ties.
Fancy Suspenders, Umbrellas.
Dressing Gowns, Sweaters
and Fancy Vests.

TWENTY PER CENT REDUCTION ON THE FOLLOWING LINES.

Dressing Cases, Glove and Handkerchief Cases, Sewing Sets, Perfume Collar Cases, Necktie Cases, Toys, Dolls, Games, Fancy China.

DINNER SETS

We offer an
extra full line
to select from
of . . .

Our price runs
from \$5.00 to
\$40.00 for 12
persons.

FURS

If you are thinking about Furs come and see what we have to offer before buying. If we cannot give you better value than you can get elsewhere, don't buy from us.

TO OUR CUSTOMERS AND FRIENDS

We extend the heartiest greetings of the season. Should we continue to be favored with your patronage, as we hope to, we can assure you of the same attention to your slightest commands which has characterized our dealings and made pleasant and cordial relations in the past.

ED. GOYETTE

The Store of Quality

Cowansville

WATCH FOR THE GRAND

Clearing January Sale

AT

H. H. MINER'S

Posters will be put out. Sale will commence

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 6th

In which we will have tables laid out with Shoes and other goods we want to clear at astonishing low prices. If you wish to save money, this will be your chance.

THIS SALE IS TO BE CASH AND
GOODS NOT RETURNABLE

A Heavy \$3.35 Skirt
at \$1.75.

A Heavy \$2.25 Skirt
at \$1.25

Lots of Misses skirts
at very low prices.

Groceries at the usual
low prices.

Best Flour at \$3 25 a
bag.

Shoes less 20 per cent.
except the jobs on tables which are net.

Rubbers less 1 per cent

Underwear less 15 per cent.

Dry Goods less 15 per cent.

All Fancy Goods less
2 per cent.

Don't forget the place and come at once. Small Posters will be sent out first of week.

Clothing at great reduction. We are going to give you a great reduction of 25 per cent, except on Overalls and Smocks, on which we only allow 10 per cent. This brings Clothing below cost, but they must be sold.

Come one and all to the great sale.

H. H. MINER
DUNHAM