



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, Proprietor
C. T. JAMES, Editor

MONDAY Dec. 30th, 1918.

Ricketts, V.C.

It reads baldly, that short dispatch which we were permitted the honor of publishing Saturday, announcing the award of the Empire's most coveted military distinction, to one of our own boys, but it conveys a world of meaning in its brevity.

"1918. Private R. T. Ricketts awarded Victoria Cross, D.C.M., and Croix de Guerre."

For what act of conspicuous gallantry Private Ricketts won the little bronze cross, the most highly prized of all the Imperial decorations, we have not yet been told, but when the record is given out for the information of the public, we believe that it will contain a story of most unexampled daring and transcending courage. For the Victoria Cross is not to be won lightly, but on the contrary is only bestowed upon those who have performed individual deeds of almost superhuman valor on the battle field, in action, or in the hellish turmoil of a naval engagement. The roll of Victoria Crosses is a roll of heroes and the last to be added to the galaxy of immortals which make up the number is Private R. T. Ricketts, Royal Newfoundland Regiment, whose home is at Middle Arm, White Bay, and who has been with the colors on active service for but a short period over a year, and who has not yet attained his twenty-first birthday. The gallantry and heroism which he displayed on the particular occasion ending in the winning of the premier honor of the V.C. must therefore be illustrative of remarkable courage and bravery. The award of the decoration itself proves that.

We have already congratulated Private Ricketts, having on Friday been the first to make the announcement, which incorporates his name into the roster of the Empire's heroes.

"One of the few, the immortal names.
That were not born to die."

And to-day we take the opportunity of extending these congratulations to his sister Mrs. Rachel Gavin, also of Middle Arm, the next of kin to our first V.C.

To win three distinctions, one of them foreign, in the short time that Private Ricketts has been on service is ample testimony of true courage, and we believe that the honour is unique in regimental traditions.

So much has been written of the institution of the Victoria Cross decoration, that it might appear superfluous to again refer to its origin, but under the circumstances we feel that it is worth while.

The Victoria Cross was founded January 29th, 1856, for the purpose of recognizing acts of signal bravery or devotion by soldiers or sailors in presence of the enemy. It originated in connection with the Crimean War, and the first general distribution of the Crosses earned in that war was made in 1857. Since then the decoration has been conferred for acts of bravery and devotion in battle, the one thousandth being awarded in the present war. Volunteers serving against the enemy with the regular forces are eligible for the decoration. The Cross is of Maltese form, made of bronze, the centre bearing the figure of a crown, surmounted by a lion, the words "For Valour" being engraved on a scroll below. The color of the ribbon from which the Cross is suspended is blue for the Navy, red for the Army. On the clasp are spread two branches of laurel, the Cross being connected with the clasp by the initial V. A bar, to be placed on the ribbon is given to the holder upon the achievement of any additional act of valor. A special pension of £10 a year is granted to every soldier who receives the Victoria Cross, with an additional £5 for each bar. In the event of an annuitant being unable to earn a livelihood the amount may be increased to £50 per year. Holders of the Cross have the right to add V.C. after their names.

The Distinguished Conduct Medal is awarded to Warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and men of the army and is conferred, as indicated by the title, for some act of a distinctive nature performed during service. The Croix de Guerre (War Cross) is a French decoration and is awarded for meritorious and special deeds of gallantry.

Newfoundlanders, of all ranks and

titles will acclaim, with the honor due him, Private R. T. Ricketts, No. 3012, Royal Newfoundland Regiment, winner of the Victoria Cross, Distinguished Conduct Medal and Croix de Guerre. "Better than the Best."

Announcement.

With its 29th issue to-morrow The Evening Telegram closes the year 1918. Special pains have been taken to make the last edition of the year a victory one, particularly of interest. The Right Hon. Sir Robert Bond, P.C., contributes a very fine article on "The Passing Year," and in addition, there will be a complete review of the events of the year compiled from the most accurate sources. Our advertising patrons will please note that we will go to press at 12 o'clock noon, on Tuesday. All advertisements for Tuesday's issue must be in the hands of the Manager by 1 o'clock this evening, otherwise insertion cannot be guaranteed.

Those Resignations.

The trouble at the Militia Department, culminating in the resignations of Major Montgomerie, Macpherson and Paterson, has been very much commented on, throughout the city, and opinion is general that there are altogether too much politics in that particular department, where laymen of the building type, possessing no qualifications other than that of bluff, are running matters with a high and heavy hand, having in view, nothing less than their own future aggrandizement. Officers who are specialists in military affairs have been thrown down by the Minister of Militia, because it suits him, but we shall be very much mistaken if this autocratic action on the part of our civilian military head does not have an opposite effect from that which he intended. Our contemporaries the Daily Star and Daily News have exhaustively covered the matter at issue, in so far as available information was in their disposal. We ask now that all the correspondence in connection with the resignations be made public, which has been too much hole and corner concealment of Militia affairs and the time has now come when some light must be turned on the darkness which has too long covered many important matters dealt with by the Minister of Militia and his guides, philosophers and friends in politics. In order to make things clear, the officers who have resigned must show that they either sent in their resignations voluntarily or by request, and press and public are willing to wait a reasonable time for some explanation. Failing that, both will get busy.

Casualty List.

RECEIVED DECEMBER 30th, 1918.
Previously Reported Dangerously Ill, December 21st, Now Reported No Change in Condition December 28th.
1489—Pte. Chesley W. Carter, Pass Island, Hermitage.
At Dysentery Convalescent Hospital, Barrow-in-Sea, Lancs, England.
227—Cpl. Ernest P. Woodman, New Harbor, T.B. Dysentery.
Following Repatriated Prisoners of War Arrived at Riple Camp, England, From Germany.
2025—Sgt. William Grouchy, Bouch Cove, St. John's East.
524—Cpl. Heber Cuff, Bonavista.
2892—Cpl. Duncan J. McLean, Task, Fortland, Rosshire, Scotland.
2076—Pte. Albert Adey, Clarendville.
2356—Pte. Samuel Burton, Ward's Harbour, N.B.S.
2781—Pte. Edgar J. Bradbury, 158 Gover Street.
100—Pte. Kenneth Mustford, Port Albert, N.B.S.
J. R. BENNETT, Minister of Militia.

Reids Boats.

Argyle left Marytown at 12.15 p.m. Saturday, outward.
Clyde at Port Union.
Dundee left Port Union at 4 a.m. Saturday.
Ethie not reported.
Kyle left Port aux Basques at 1 p.m. Saturday.
Home leaving Lewisporte this a.m.
Kyle leaving Port aux Basques at 1 p.m. yesterday.
Sagana left St. John's at 10.30 p.m. Saturday.
Petrel left Clarendville midnight Saturday, going to Port aux Basques.
Pogota left Pushthrough at 6 p.m. on the 27th going to Port aux Basques.

Small But Good.

On Saturday night while a Chinaman was gazing into window on New Gower Street, two soldiers passing by slapped him on the back with insulting patronage. The blood of the Chinese man, however, flowed in the veins of the chink and although diminutive in stature, the ready spear and lightning strokes of his fists soon snuffed the spirit of the man, and convinced the would-be-patronisers that they had struck a tartar, and they fled precipitately.

McMardo's Store News.

MONDAY, Dec. 30th, 1918.
We still have a fair stock of Perfumes, Sachets, Bath Salts, Chocolates, Hot Water Bottles, etc., which make suitable New Year's Gifts, and can suit anyone who wants anything of this kind. If you are in need of anything of this kind, drop in to McMardo's, 100 Gower Street. Witch Hazel is one of the best things for keeping the hands and face tight during cold weather, preventing or curing chaps, eruptions and roughness. If your hands spray easily, get a bottle. Price 25c. a bottle.

Notice To Importers.

The following notice is posted up in the Board of Trade Building:
All goods imported into Newfoundland from Belgium must be accompanied by a certificate of origin and entered by the British Consul-General in Belgium.
H. W. LEMESSURIER, Deputy Minister of Customs, St. John's, Nfld., Dec. 28, 1918.
Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

Ricketts, V. C.

Private R. T. Ricketts, V. C.
Who is he?
What's his degree
Socially?

True soul of chivalry,
Moulded heroically;
Whose signal bravery,
Brings to our country
Joy in his gallantry!
Bright shall his memory
Shine thro' the years to be,
Newfoundland's pride, for he
Brings to her history,
Glory, whose poetry,
Thrills this Old Colony.

While we wait patiently the tale
Of the brave deed,
We would respectfully tender our love
To thee
With fullest need.

Hail to thee
Ricketts, V. C.
Join with me all of ye
Winds from the Atlantic Sea—
Glad be whose tales in joy
Sang his first lullaby—
Tempets that sturdily
Nurtured his infancy!
Northlight whose wizardry
Charm'd his youth's fantasy—
Lodestar whose constancy
Brought him in safe
Over dark waters, to home and
Security.

Climb that have sheltered
The bread who has fathered
these—
Mothers and sires of the hamlet
That cradled thee,
Extend a welcome that's worthy
Of him and ye,
Honour, no honour too great
For this son of ye!

When in the future years
Ricketts, V. C.
War tales are telling
In homes by the sea
Many a youth shall
Thy story inspire,
Many a heart shall
Thy valor admire,
Undimmed renown cling
To thy memory,
Bright be the name for aye,
Ricketts, V. C.

Proudly acclaim him—
Rejoice in your plaudits,
Honour the deeds of him,
Boast of his fame,
Honour yourselves in your bounty
to-day to him
Give of your best to his soldierly
name.

Ask ye his pedigree?
Maidhood majestically
God's own nobility—
Of such is he!
Ring cheers from every side—
Shout, shout his name! in
pride
Over this island wide.
RICKETTS, V.C.
Dec. 29th, 1918. D. CARROLL.

Shipping Notes.

The s.s. Diana arrived in port Saturday night with a load of coal from Sydney.
The s.s. Thetis has arrived from Sydney after a run of 2 days. She brought a cargo of coal.
The Gaspe arrived in port last night and brought a cargo of coal to the Gorton Pulp Co. from Gloucester.
The s.s. Melita arrived in port with general cargo from North Sydney for the Reid-Nfld. Co.

Dangerous Steps.

The Municipal Council might well inquire into the condition of the stone steps on Duckworth Street, just west of the T. A. Hall. One of these steps has been missing for some time and people are continually slipping down the entire flight. Before a serious accident occurs these should be repaired.

Crew Coming Home.

Hon. J. C. Crosbie has received word that the Captain, Mate and Cook with four sailors of the s.s. Jean, which was torpedoed by the raider Kormoran, 11th December, 1916, had arrived at London, on Friday, at 6 p.m. These seamen have been prisoners of war in Germany since the sinking of their ship. They are due here shortly.

"Odds and Ends of 1918."

A concert with supper and dancing, will be given in the C.C.C. Hall on Jan. 10th for the benefit of the Ladies' Guild Disabled Sailors and Soldiers' Fund, the Governor to be present. A fine programme has been arranged, those taking part to appear in fancy costume, and the concert will close with a Red Cross March, organized and directed by a regimental officer. Supper and general dancing, the C.C.C. band to be in attendance, will follow this. The promoters are the Misses Orr.

The Airplane's Task.

The airplane already has begun its task of forming a link between African and Asiatic countries, where railway communication is as yet non-existent or not of the best. On Nov. 28, Major-General Sandford of the Royal Air Force, Brig. General Kington of the same service, and Captain Ross Smith, with two mechanics, started from Cairo and arrived at Damascus, about 400 miles distant, the same afternoon. The next day they left Damascus at 7.30 o'clock in the morning and flew to Bagdad, 490 miles distant, reaching there at 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon of December 1. In three days' flight they had visited three countries—Egypt, Syria and Mesopotamia—and linked up the East and West. Expeditionary Forces of the British Empire.

EXPRESS PASSENGERS.—Following first class passengers are due on the incoming express:—L. Pack, B. Parsons, F. Pearcey, W. A. Master, O. W. French, W. Hallett, Capt. W. P. Kennedy.

A SEA MYSTERY.

Woman's Body Picked Up—Whose Can It Be?

Special Evening Telegram.
CAPPADAYDEN, To-Day.
Picked up this morning, by William and James Finney, at 11 o'clock, remains of a woman, with her stockings on, at Burnt Head Point, Cappahayden.
WILLIAM FINNEY, Found Dead.

The following message was received by the Inspector General of Constabulary this forenoon, from Constable Grouchy, Holyrood:
"John Kerby, aged 50 years, found dead on Salsbiller Road, at 5 o'clock p.m. yesterday. Writing particulars."

Oporto Stocks.

Stocks (Nfld.)	Week	Last
Consumption	23,700	22,488
Entered: Winnifred, Clintonia, Associate, Winnifred Lee, Ronald, Outside, Carrie, Belle, Sent to Bilbao: Doris.	2,172	7,215

Obituary.

There passed away yesterday, at her residence, No. 4 Bond Street, after a short illness, Miss Gertrude Meany, aged 24 years, third daughter of Mr. Denis Meany, (cooper of Messrs. Harvey's employ). The deceased young lady was well and favourable known, and leaves a large circle of friends and relatives, amongst whom are a father, 3 sisters and 4 brothers to mourn their sad loss. Interment will take place this afternoon at Mount Carmel. May her soul rest in peace—Com.

Train Notes.

Saturday's west bound express left Clarendville at 7.05 a.m.
Yesterday's west bound express left Badger at 7.40 a.m.
Yesterday's east bound express left Grand Falls at 8.30 a.m.

BOWRING BOATS.

The s.s. Viking left H. Grace at 4 p.m. Saturday, and harbored at Trepasser yesterday out of St. John's.
The s.s. Prospero left Greenspond Saturday, going north.
The s.s. Portia is taking freight towards the Church of England Synagogue, will probably sail after Wednesday.
The s.s. Eagle sailed for Bonny Bay this morning.

Personal.

Mr. Arthur Simmonds, the popular cabman, left by yesterday's express for Bay St. George, where he will be united in holy bonds of matrimony with Miss Florence Perry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Pynn. We congratulate the young couple, wishing them many years of wedded bliss.

Here and There.

WEATHER ACROSS COUNTRY.—N. W. fresh, dull, bar. 15 to 25 above.

LOADING AT CHANGE ISLANDS.—The s.s. Jean MacKay and Max Horton are loading codfish at Change Islands by Elliott & Co. for Gibraltar.

AT THE CROSSING.—Isaac Wakeley, of H. Buffett; C. H. Horn, Gambo; Mr. K. Keating, City; J. Jensen, New York; G. Frisco, Halifax; H. H. Amon, Windsor, N.S.

R. C. CATHEDRAL SERVICE.—The Pontifical Vespers were sung in the R. C. Cathedral last evening to mark the closing of the old year; also a solemn Te Deum.

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY.—THERAPION NO. 1, THERAPION NO. 2, THERAPION NO. 3.
No. 1 for Rheumatism, No. 2 for Gout, No. 3 for Gravel.
No. 1 for Rheumatism, No. 2 for Gout, No. 3 for Gravel.
No. 1 for Rheumatism, No. 2 for Gout, No. 3 for Gravel.

SAGONA'S PASSENGERS.—Following first class passengers left by the S.S. Sagona:—R. Gillett, J. Hull, A. Strickless, J. Norris, W. Head, H. Gillingham, A. Butler, A. Hamlin, D. Rice, J. R. Kelley, J. Suley, W. J. Bursey, L. Biles, I. Bartlett, P. Upward, E. Elliott and 8 in second class.

This Monday and Tuesday evenings, the 30th and 31st inst., at 8 o'clock, a Christmas Cantata, entitled "Santa Claus, Jr.," will be given in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Hall by the young people of the Sunday School. Tickets 40c.; Children, 20c.

The Lynn, Mass. police have solved the cause of the peculiar "jags" which have been discovered within the past few weeks, and a crusade against storekeepers who have been selling a mixture of Jamaica ginger and other drugs has been started. It is said that a couple of drinks of the mixture will send one into a state of intoxication which cannot be produced by an equal amount of real liquor. In one small store the police found that the purchases of Jamaica ginger in one day amounted to \$77. The labels said that the ginger contained 9.2 per cent. alcohol.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

"Turn Over a New Leaf."

Open a New Account for 1919.
Can We Not Help You?

WE HAVE
LEDGERS—Single and Double.
JOURNALS—Demi and F. C. Folio.
DAY BOOKS, CASH BOOKS.
ORDER and LETTER BOOKS.
LETTER FILES, BLOTTER PAPER, ETC., ETC.
OUR INKS are from the best manufacturers and are of the highest standard.

AYRE & SONS, Limited

BOOK and STATIONERY DEPT.

Look Over This List

AND SEE WHAT THERE IS THAT YOU REQUIRE FOR XMAS.

Pipes
Taddy Tobacco
Tobacco Pouches
Pocket Knives
Gillette Safety Razors
Ender's Safety Razors
Pocket Flash Lights
Whitely Exercisers
Sandow's Dumbbells
Hunting Knives
Watches
Walking Sticks

Manicure Sets
Fire Brasses
Case Cutlery
Silverware
Hot Water Bottles
Carvers
Table Mats
Grape Fruit Knives
Crumb Brush and Trays
Photo Frames
Oil Heaters
Oil Cookers.

Also a full line of

BABY SLEIGHS, GIRLS' SLEDS, BOYS' COASTERS and RAILS,
ACME and HOCKEY SKATES, HOCKEY STICKS, ETC.

All selling at our usual low prices.

Martin-Royal Stores Hardware Co. Ltd.

m.th.ey

Acknowledgment.

Mrs. Brehm gratefully acknowledges the following additional donations towards the Church of England Christmas Tree fund:
A. J. Harvey \$10.00
Parker & Monroe 10.00
E. D. Spurrell 10.00
Hon. W. J. Ellis 10.00
Mrs. G. Knowling, Jr. 5.00
W. J. Clouston 5.00
M. & E. Kennedy 5.00
Mrs. R. Goodridge 5.00
Judge Morris 5.00
Ethel and Lucy Noonan 5.00
W. B. Grieve 5.00
W. F. Rendell 5.00
Hon. Tasker Cook 5.00
Hon. W. J. Higgins 5.00
Anonymous 5.00
J. A. Branscombe 5.00
In Memory Corp'l. W. Christian T. J. Edens 5.00
Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Bell 2.00
A Friend 1.00
Trade for Xmas tree 1.00
Jean and Helen Clarke 1.00

S. S. GRACIANA DUE.—The Furzees Wilby Co. has received a wireless that the S. S. Graciana will arrive in port at daylight to-morrow morning. She left Liverpool on the 21st and brings a cargo and mail.

His Excellency the Governor will be glad to receive callers at Government House, on New Year's Day, between the hours of 3.30 and 5.30 p.m. dec30.21

AT HOME.

His Grace the Archbishop will be "At Home" on New Year's Day from 12 to 1 p.m. and from 8 to 5 p.m.
J. J. McDERMOTT, V.G. dec30.21

P. J. Edstrom. J. L. O'Grady.
Edstrom & O'Grady

PLUMBERS, HOT WATER and STEAM FITTERS.
Jobbing promptly attended to.
66 Prescott Street, dec31m St. John's, Nfld.

Items of Interest

GATHERED FROM EVERYWHERE.
Canada's total war casualties, according to latest reports, are 213,266.

Gerald Shanley, of Kent, O., hiking somewhere in France, where for a long time he had had no word from home, stopped with his company to rest. He saw a newspaper over in the field, and curiosity prompted him to get it. It was a paper from Kent, on which his sister was employed, and it had one of his own letters in it.

A record price of \$2.50 a pound for beef was paid at Chicago, for Fyvie Knight, 21 months old, grand champion yearling steer of the International Livestock Exposition, by Wilson and Co. The steer, of the Angus breed, was raised at Purdue University and sold at the show for \$2,350. Part of the beef from Fyvie Knight has been offered to President Poincaré, of France, for his dinner to the peace delegates.

Gasoline has soared into the class where its theft apparently is deemed worth while by clever crooks. Dr. J. L. Bang, of Los Angeles, left his car half an hour while he went into a house to see a patient, when he came out he found it emptied of gasoline. Investigation in this and other cases gives police the theory that the thief operates with a syphon.

Thousands of dead seagulls, soaked with fuel oil, strew the waters of the Lynn Canal, Alaska, near the wreck of the steamship Princess Sophia. When the ship was swept on the reef near Vanderbilt Reef, her fuel oil tanks burst, releasing the oil, which soon covered the water for a great distance. The gulls, alighting, were caught in the sticky oil and starved.

Rev. Dr. S. B. Chown, general superintendent of the Methodist Church in Canada, has left Toronto for overseas to confer with the soldiers who are probationers for the ministry belonging to the Methodist Church, to relate themselves to their work on this side of the water. There are 350 probationers overseas and there are a great many problems in their minds as to the future, which Dr. Chown will seek to settle.

"Never has the work of the Probation, Divorce and Admiralty Division been so heavy," says the Westminster Gazette. "No fewer than 1,992 cases stand

British E

Coalition

ment Re
Russian Regulars
iks --- No Stable
Germany.

BOLSHEVICS DEFEATED.
PARIS, Dec. 29.
Russian troops have captured Perm from the Bolsheviks, taking 15,000 prisoners. M. Pichon, the Foreign Minister, made this announcement in the Chamber of Deputies to-day. Perm is the starting point of the Northern Siberian railway. It is a depot for goods sent to and imported from Siberia, and the chief prison depot for the transport of convicts under exile to Siberia.

GERMAN CABINET FALLEN.
AMSTERDAM, Dec. 28.
The Ebert cabinet has fallen, and according to the Kreuz Zeitung, a Liebknecht-Ledebour-Iechron cabinet will be formed.

WILL FORM NEW GOVERNMENT.

BERLIN, Dec. 29.
Foreign Minister Haase, Minister of Social Policy Barth, and Demobilization Minister Dittmann retired from the cabinet at midnight last night after the Central Council had decided against the Independents on a majority of the questions the Independents had submitted for consideration. Premier Ebert, Finance Minister Scheidmann and Minister of Publicity Landsberg are now in charge of the Revolutionary Government. The cabinet and the Council of Soldiers' and Workmen sat in conference through all of yesterday afternoon in what was a cross-examination. Afterwards the council went into executive session and sat until late at night. The impression now is that the Majority Socialists will form a new government with the assistance of the Liberal Bourgeoisie. Herr Barth told the Associated Press that his faction does not approve of the tactics of the Spartacist Socialists, or violence in any form. He permitted the inference that Hugo Haase's party does not at present contemplate a counter revolution. Herr Barth concluded with the statement that the general economic and food situation would chiefly determine the future course of events.

BALANCE OF POWER GONE.

LONDON, Dec. 28.
Speaking to-day in the historic Guildhall, at a ceremonious gathering of Great Britain's most distinguished statesmen, President Wilson reaffirmed his principle that there must no longer be a balance of power which might unsettle the peace of the world, but that the future must produce a concert view which will preserve it. The President's reception at the Guildhall was so spontaneous and hearty that it carried an unmistakable note of friendship and admiration. At the conclusion of his address the audience with one accord cheered and kept it up and prolonged the cheering as he passed out. In the course of his speech the President declared he had fought to do away with the old order and establish a new one. "The old order," he said, had for its centre the unstable thing called "the balance of power." The men who have fought the war, said the President, have been free from nations who were determined that this sort of thing should not now and forever. The suggestion

Photographi

We have just received by the Kodak photographic supplies, consisting of KODAKS—Fremo and Brownie EASTMAN KODAK FILM for every PRIMO FILM PACKS of all sizes VELOX PAPER and POST-CARD format size and grades. EASTMAN M. Q. TUBE DEVELOPER EASTMAN SPECIAL DEVELOPER ACID FIXING POWDER in 1 pound KODAK AMATEUR PRINTER. ENAMEL TRAYS of all sizes. Complete stock of PHOTOGRAPHIC things needed in Photograph amateur.

Always a Complete

TOOT
The Kod
320 Water Street