

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

We regret, that, owing to the lateness at which certain contributions,—prose and “otherwise”,—were received, it has been found necessary to hold them over until our next issue. Publication of these is, however, merely deferred.

We wish to thank all those who have contributed their various ‘gems’ to “Knots and Lashings” this week and ask that next week they send more,—and get them in earlier. All contributions must be in our hands not later than Thursday morning.

A PROBLEM IN GASOLINE.

There are a number of industries in St. Johns, and not the least important is running gasoline boats on the Richelieu. Of course there is a semi-official craft at the Depot. It usually stays there. With the near approach of open navigation, R.Q.M.S. Beauchamp and Sgt. Thompson are moved to ask the following:—

If it takes 40 gallons of gasoline to start the dog-gone thing, how many gallons will it take to run up to Isle aux Noix?

(Better not take any chances; you’d never get back.)

The grub at Quebec is really not bad,

If there was only a little bit more to be had,

Alas! for our officers! they do miss their mess,

And though I don’t like to, I have to confess

That if good language will help to Salvation,

There’s a bunch of good fellows on the road to damnation.

In the Orderly Room at the Old Rock City,

There’s a fellow who punches the ‘keys’ without pity,

And strange to relate,

He’s now met his fate,

In the telephone girl whose mon-niker’s kitty.

THE GRAND OLD FLAG(S).

The mysterious phenomenon of a pair of pyjamas, kicking feebly in the soft west wind, from the flag-pole of the Canada Hotel, was the subject of much speculative comment in local circles during the past week. One of the N. S.’s tentatively inquires, “So that is the new flag of the C.A.M.C.? How very chic!”

An old bachelor is a man who is too late for the fair.

SAINT JEAN, QUEBEC.

There’s an isolated, desolated spot I’d like to mention,

Where all you hear is “Stand at ease”, “Slope Arms”, “Quick March”, “Attention”.

It’s miles away from anywhere, by Gad, it is a rum ‘un,

A man lived there for fifty years, and never saw a woman.

There’s lots of little shacks, all dotted here and there,

For those who have to live inside, I’ve offered many a prayer.

Inside the shacks there’s rats as big as any nanny goat,

Last night a soldier saw one trying on his overcoat.

Its mud up to the eyebrows, you get it in your ears,

But into it you’ve got to go, without a sign of fear.

And when you’ve had a bath of sludge, you just set to and groom,

And get cleaned up for next parade, or else its “Orderly Room”.

Week-in week-out, from morn till night, with full pack and a rifle,

Like Jack and Jill, you climb the hills, of course that’s just a trifle.

“Slope Arms”, “Fix Bayonets” then “Present”, they fairly put you through it.

And as you stagger to your Hut, the Sergeant shouts, “Jump to it”.

With Tunics, boots and puttees off, you quickly get the habit.

You gallop up and down the hills just like a blooming rabbit,

“Heads Backward bend”, “Arms upward stretch”, “Heels raise”, then “Ranks change places”,

And later on they make you put your knee caps where your face is.

Now when this war is over and we’ve captured ‘Kaiser Billy’,

To shoot him would be merciful, and absolutely silly,

Just send him down to old St. Johns, among the rats and clay,

And I’ll bet it won’t be long before he droops, and fades away.

And we’re not downhearted yet.

Sgt. BUCK DARWIN,

Machine Gun Corps.

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