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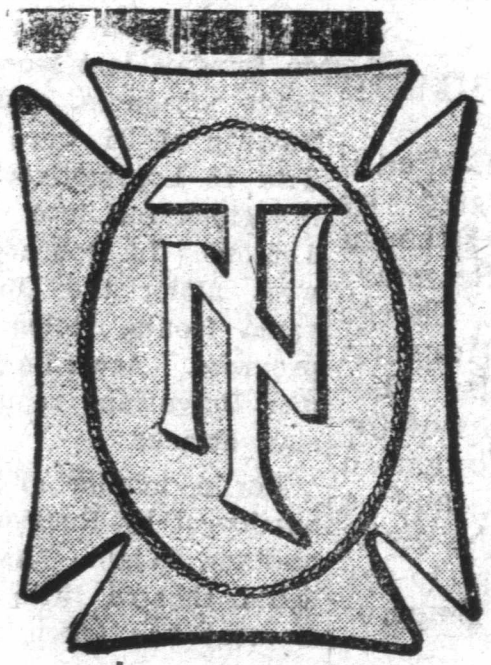
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BUDDY BOOTS

Are the LATEST New Process Boots. The color of BUDDY BOOTS is GREY from top to bottom.

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Shipwrecks and Loss of Life on the Coast of Newfoundland.

(BY JAMES MURPHY)

The loss of the Queen of Swansea has been told at many a fireside for the last fifty years, but the letters which we publish to-day have not reached the great majority of the fishermen, as they will through the Mail and Advocate. The Queen of Swansea was lost at Gull Island near Cape John in December 1867. Four months passed by, and no tidings of the unfortunate seamen and passengers were discovered. On the 21st. of April 1868, a vessel cruising about the mouth of Green Bay got becalmed near the Gull Island, and a boat went from her to the Island, to shoot birds. When they got there they only saw one bird, at which they fired, one of the men went to pick it up, when he saw two skeletons lying side by side. He saw a piece of canvas, he called his companions who were a few yards away, the canvas was frozen, they cut it in several places, and found underneath the bodies of nine men and two women. They returned to the vessel and went to Tilt Cove. Coffins were made the next day, and the men came with a great many people and took away the remains of the unfortunate victims of the disaster. The Captain and Mr. Felix Dowsley wrote a Journal of the sad event, the parchment was found by the men of the rescue. A few years ago a magazine published an account of Mr. Mark Rowsell, who, it said, was going on a sealing voyage, and when near Cape John saw a line hanging over the cliff, which lead to the discovery of the bodies. Mr. Rowsell was offered the position of lighthouse keeper when the first light-house was placed on Gull Island, which he accepted, and was there for many years.

The following are the letters written by Mr. Dowsley. In our next issue we will publish the letters written by the Capt. of the ill-fated ship. Dr. Dowsley's remains were brought to St. John's, and were interred at Belvidere.

Gull Island,
Off Cape John,
Tuesday, Dec 17, '67

My Darling Margaret:
As you are aware we left St. John's on Tuesday morning the 6th. inst. On the morning of that day a dreadful gale came on which lasted about 2 or three days. We were driven off about 160 miles to sea. I thought every moment the vessel would be upset or swamped, but it appears that she was spared a little longer for a similar fate. We ran into a gulch on the Island on the morning of Tuesday the 12th. inst., about 6 o'clock, when the sea was raging and running mountains high. She only remained there for about ten or fifteen minutes which was not sufficient time for all hands to save themselves. All were saved with the exception of two of the crew—Duggan, the pilot; and Muldowney's step-brother. We were dragged up the cliff by means of a rope tied around our waists. Not one of us saved a single thing, but as we stood, not even a drink of water, there being no such thing on the Island, it is void of everything that would give us comfort. It is so barren and bleak that we cannot get wood to make a fire to warm ourselves. Our bed is on the cold rocks with a piece of canvas full of mud to cover us up. You may fancy what my sufferings are and have been, you know I was never strong or robust. My feet are all swollen and I am getting very weak. I expect that if Providence does not send a vessel along this way to-day or to-morrow at the farthest some of us will be no more, and I very much fear that I will be the first victim, if so, you will not have the gratification of getting my body, as they will make use of it for food. I am famishing with the thirst. I would give the money I took with me, yes all I ever saved for one drink of water. I know I should live much longer. I feel a dreadful feverish thirst and no means of relieving it. Oh! it is not a hard case that I cannot even get a drink of water. Oh! did I ever think my life would end in this way, to be cast away on a barren rock in the middle of the ocean, and there to perish with cold and hunger and thirst, and my bones to be bleached by the winter's frost and the summer's sun, and to be food for the wild fowls. Oh! it is not sad to think of this and such a little thing would save us. We are only eight miles from Shoe Cove, where we would be received with open arms.

Now! My Darling Margaret, as I plainly see that in a few hours, I must appear before my God, I wish to say a few words about your future prospects. I think the best place for you to go, would be the States, if you

can possibly arrange matters. See when he arrives in the Spring, tell him I believe he is a very good human man, and will do everything that is fair and in his power for you. While I am writing this under my little bit of canvas I am shivering with weakness and cold from head to foot. I do not know how I have wrote what I have, but this I can say, the facts are really worse than what I have named.

Give my love to my darling children, and tell them to think often of my sad fate. Tell them that I leave it as my dying request, to be kind and obedient to you and to be advised by you in everything. Oh, my darling you will feel, you will pity me when you hear of my sad fate, oh do and pray for me with the children incessantly.

Again, I would advise you to go to the States, if you can dispose of the property, and arrange other matters, I cannot see what you can do here.

I must now conclude my darling, as I am unable to write more. Embrace my darling children and tell them to be obliging and kind to each other, for without this they cannot expect to prosper. Tell them their unfortunate father leaves them his blessing. Should our fate be known before the Spring, if I would come around he would be able to get my body or bones, which I would like to have laid in Belvidere. If I had you or if I was with you and my dear children and had the clergyman I do not think that I should fear death half so much. I must now, my darling, take my last farewell from you in this world. May we meet and enjoy one another where there is no sorrow, no trouble, no afflictions. I leave you my love, my blessing.

Your loving but unfortunate husband.

F. DOWSLEY.

The Doctor penned the second letter which speaks of thirst, and the craze for water.

Wednesday, Dec. 18, '67

I have been out to see if there might be any chance of a rescue, but no such thing. I am almost mad with thirst, I would give all I ever saw for one drink of water, but I shall never get it. We are all wet and frozen. I am now going under the canvas to lie down and die, may God pity me and have mercy on my soul.

The third letter written by the Doctor is as follows:

THE FIRST PAIR

DON'T make any mistake this year. Let your first pair of Rubber Shoes be BEAR BRAND. Times are too hard for anyone to take chances of being out of work for two or three weeks with a cold which could have been avoided by getting satisfactory Rubber Shoes. The good old BEAR BRAND Shoes, which are becoming more widely known every day, are being sold in St. John's by

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TRENCH WARFARE

The large number of captures of Germans in the latest Somme advance by the British is explained by the fact that the subterranean passages which the Tontons relied upon to hold back the British are rather a handicap than otherwise when the attacking forces get to close quarters. In the event of the defenders being compelled to seek shelter in these passages the attacking troops have them practically trapped. All that is necessary is the homely American backwoods treatment of the coon in the hollow stump—to smoke him out. In the present instance, however, the Teuton is not smoked out but is hunted out and frequently puts up a desperate fight before he is evicted. But all such resistance is futile as regards the ultimate outcome. The defence of such isolated passages cannot affect the result of the immediate engagement. But it is interesting in this connection to read the statement of an accredited American correspondent with the German troops published in Tuesday's papers in which the claim was made that the British offensive was doomed to failure because of the hidden artillery of the Germans along the Somme front. It was not pretended that the Germans were numerically capable of meeting the British onslaught but reliance was evidently placed upon the mechanical structures and defenses of the positions assailed.

Trench warfare, it should be obvious, must be successful only to the extent that it afford equal offensive advantages with its defensive qualities. By trench warfare is here meant all operations below the level of the surface and comprises the hidden fortification as well as the subterranean passage. In a war of heavy guns, when the issues are decided by weight of artillery and projectile it is clear that there must be a limit to the trench as a nest for big guns. The mobility of the latter is a great asset while concealment is a matter of immobility itself. Huge guns located at sufficient depth in excavations to be known as "hidden" artillery cannot exercise mobility nor can their location be long concealed. Hidden artillery is circumscribed artillery and cannot be of equal value to that above ground in the circumstances.

If what has been said of the German defences along the Somme is true the British are doubtless rejoicing. Not only is it an admission of superiority in man power and morale but the results of the present drive are showing that it is valueless. The human element has been long suppressed in this war but it is coming to the fore with every advance of the British along the western front.—Ottawa Citizen.

Gull Island, off Cape John.
Dec. 24th.

My Darling Margaret:
We are still alive and only that. We have had no relief ever since or any signs of it. We have not tasted a bit of food of any kind, with the exception of the dirty snow water that melted around and under our feet, which we are very glad to devour. The place we are sheltered in, if I can call it a shelter, is up to our ankles in water. Oh! what a sad Christmas Eve and Day it is for me. I think I can see you making the sweet bread and preparing everything comfortable for to-morrow. My feet were very painful last night, I was in complete agony with them. My clothes are completely saturated. Oh! I never knew how to appreciate the comforts of a home or a bed until now. If I was home, to have you and the children beside me and have the clergyman, I think the trial would be small compared to what it is now, but we shall never see one another in this world. I had no idea that we should have lasted so long, our case is now hopeless, there is no hope for deliverance. My sufferings has been beyond description, since I landed on this barren rock.

I would write more, but feel unable. Oh! my darling, if I could but see you and the children I would be satisfied. Embrace them all for me.

Your loving but unhappy husband,
F. DOWSLEY.

(To be continued)

HIGHER WAGES FOR WOODSMEN

Bangor Commercial.—Woodsmen will get higher wages this winter in the Maine woods than ever before, at least in recent years. From \$40 to \$45 a month will be the scale where last year \$30 and \$35 was paid. The Great Northern Paper Co., which paid \$1.25 to \$1.35 this year for the same grade of woodsmen. All the large companies are paying about the same, while the small operators find it necessary to pay as high as \$45 a month.

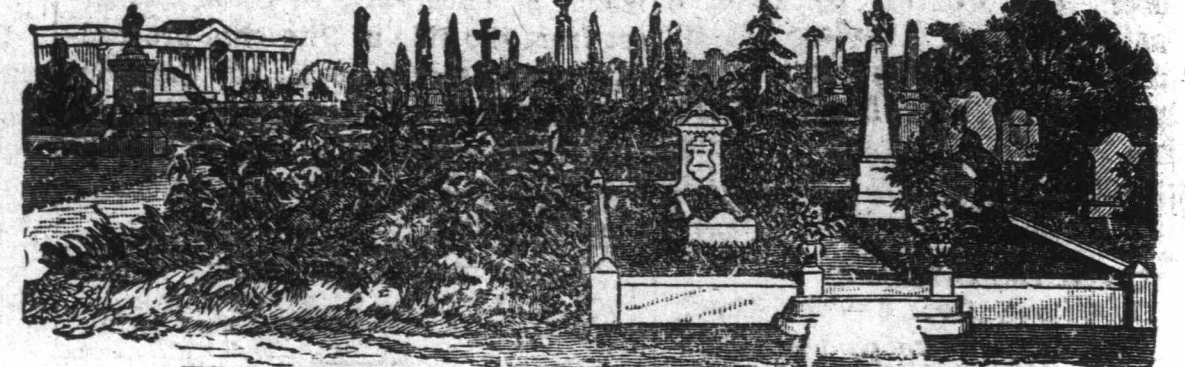
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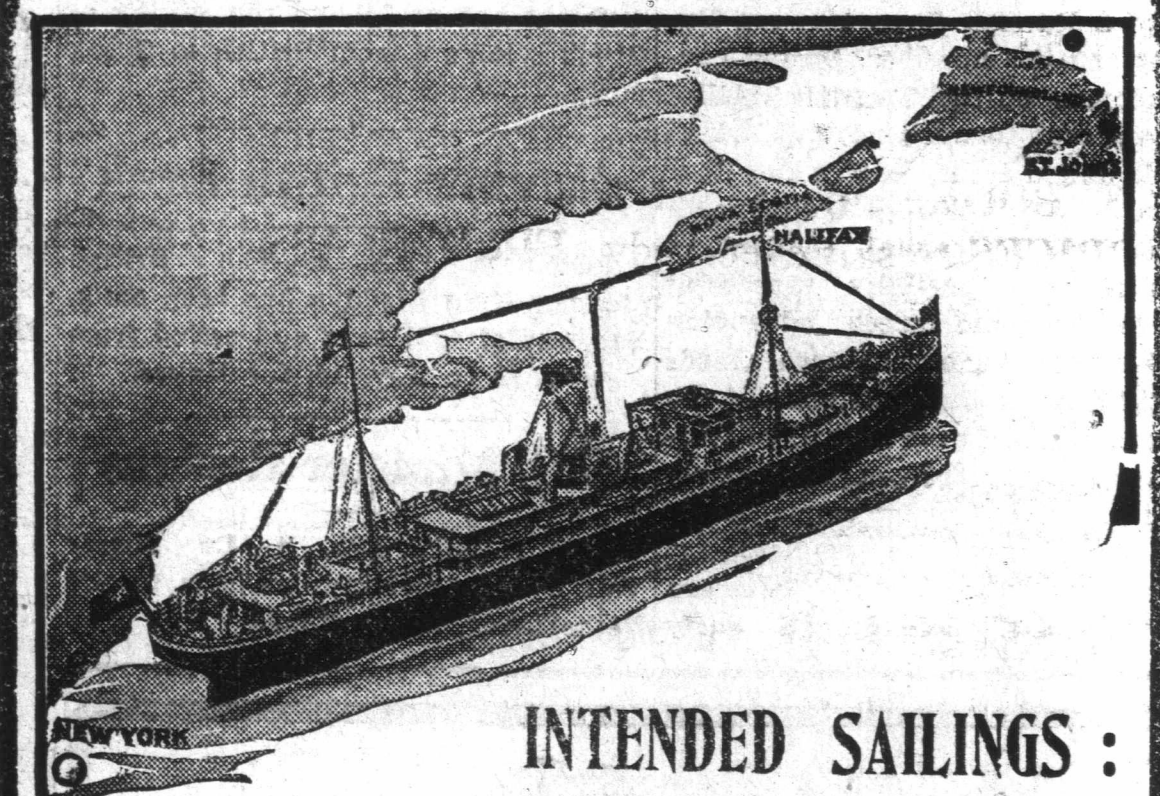
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