

New Light on Trafalgar.

On the one hundred and sixteenth anniversary of the great sea fight of Trafalgar—October 21—a new account, by Lieut. Andrew Green of H.M.S. Neptune, of the French and Spanish fleets was published in England. The document was discovered by Lord Cottesloe, great-grandson of Captain T. F. Fremantle of the Neptune, in looking over neglected family papers. Although considerably passed since Trafalgar, Nelson's plan of battle is still a subject of discussion in naval circles. In 1912 an Admiralty committee, with Admiral Sir Cyrrian Bridge as Chairman, made an inquiry into the handling of British ships in the engagement. Existing models and diagrams seemed to indicate, in the opinion of some critics, that Nelson's Captains did not always understand the positions assigned to them. The committee, after a full inquiry, concluded, on all the evidence available, that the diagrams were faulty in not showing the real places of ships in the attacking fleet; also that its divisions were formed in two lines ahead which had been questioned. Collingwood, it is said, would have preferred "a line of bearing rather than a line ahead," but Nelson's tactics were strategically sounder, as the event proved. In a note to Southey's "Life of Nelson" it is said that when the flags began to go up or the Admiral's signal, "England expects that every man will do his duty," Collingwood, not knowing what the message to the fleet was going to be, exclaimed impatiently, "I wish Nelson would make no more signals; we all know what we have to do." When the signal was translated, Collingwood was delighted with his old friend's appeal; but the story indicates that a good many signals had been flown. It may have been the case that some captains became a bit confused as the curtain went up on the most dramatic of sea fights.

Lieut. Green's story of Trafalgar is in the form of notes taken every ten or fifteen minutes during the engagement. It seems to corroborate the judgment of the Admiralty Committee that the British captains knew what they were about when going into action, and that the formation signalled by Nelson was in two lines ahead and directed against the far-flung line of battle of the French and Spaniards to cut it in two. But there is nothing in Lieut. Green's version to show how gallantly, in individual cases how heroically, the enemy fought the forlornest of hopes against the superior skill of Nelson and the efficiency of his carefully trained crews. Southey, in his classic short study of Nelson's career, does not recognize the valor of the foe, although his book was published eight years after Trafalgar.

The anniversary interest in England quickened by the discovery of Lieut. Green's notes recalls the centenary celebration in England in 1906 when French naval officers came to London as guests of the nation. French and Spanish colors were shown in every town in the British Isles, and the silent toast drunk at the banquet on the Victory at Portsmouth was: "To the memory of those who fought and fell, whether friend or foe, in the glorious battle of a hundred years ago." It is true that the ill-starred allies were glorious in defeat. The story is handsomely told in "The Enemy at Trafalgar," by Edward Fraser, which was published the year after the celebration. The author had access to the French and Spanish archives, and made liberal use of them. He points out that jealousy and friction sapped the strength of the Franco-Spanish alliance. "The enemy," he says, "were in no condition to give battle, as they themselves well knew and said before they put to sea." Press gangs had filled the depleted complement of the Spaniards' fleet with raw and reluctant levies. Brave and able as was the French Admiral Villeneuve, who commanded the allies, he put to sea unready, to escape being superseded by Admiral Rosily, supposed to be coming post-haste from Paris and the choice of Napoleon. Moreover, Villeneuve, vacillating and nervous, did not have the confidence of his officers. Yet this allied fleet, doomed to disaster in advance, battled with tremendous energy, courage and fortitude.





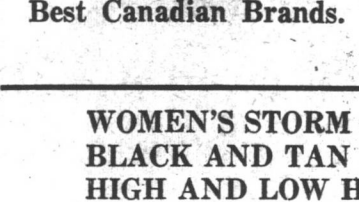
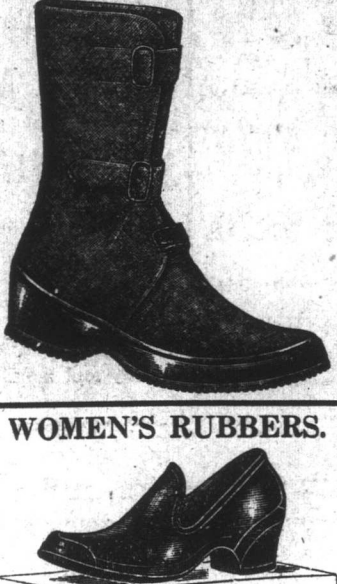
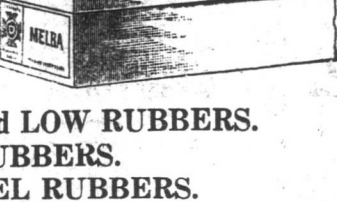

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Side Talks by Ruth Cameron

IT HAPPENS TO ALL OF US.

"How often in trying to do right we do wrong." In the manuscript of a very fine story which I was permitted to read in the proof and which you will, doubtless, enjoy some day when it reaches print, occurs a pregnant sentence.

Of all the tragedies in human life it seems to me there is none more poignant and pitiful than those that are represented by that sentence.

To try to do right, often at the expense of self-denial, and then to find after all is over, that you have given up what you wanted and in exchange for it have not gotten the satisfaction of doing the right and best thing. It seems to me that no realization could be bitterer and more disappointing.

Like Buying a Precious Stone and Finding it Paste.

It is like scraping all your money together, going without other things you want and need to buy a precious stone and then, after you have paid out the money, finding out that the stone is only paste after all.

You remember the man in the Bible who, having found a pearl of great price, went and sold all he had to get it.

the money to buy it with. Suppose he had found that the pearl was only an imitation (I wonder if they had those things in those days) what a desolation of spirit he would have felt!

Pity the Reform Candidate.

Whenever I read of some reform candidate for political office, who unquestionably means to do right, I feel mixed with my admiration, a great pity for him. I suppose it is inevitable that he will be placed in positions where in trying to do right in one direction he will inevitably do wrong in another.

And in this past war when people were bitterly blaming this and that high official, even when I had joined in the blame I would have a second thought of pity from the realization that he might be trying his hardest to do right, and that in doing wrong he may have inflicted the most intense suffering on himself.

Not a Tragedy at All.

And yet perhaps there were some men bigger than that, men big enough to see that which is the ray of light that shines through the cypress trees of human difficulties and puzzles, namely, that if you do try with all your heart and soul to do what is right that is all you can do, and that whatever the outcome you have a right to peace.

I have called it a tragedy. I should not have done so. To do wrong in trying to do right is a misfortune, but

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Yours very truly,
(Signed) ALFRED BLAIN,
184 Agricola St.,
Halifax, N.S.

St. Catherine the Martyr

November 25 is the festival of Saint Catherine, a native of Alexandria, in Egypt, who was said to have appealed to and been brought before Maximus, a Spaniard who had become general of the Roman army in Britain. He proclaimed himself Emperor of Rome in A.D. 382, and ruling over England and Spain, afterwards conquered Gaul (now France) and then marched into Italy, where his army committed most dreadful crimes. Amongst the Christians who were persecuted was Saint Catherine, a name that she well deserved, for it is one of Greek origin, signifying "pure," as the word is translated in various passages of the English New Testament (Acts xx, 21; Rom. xiv, 21; I Timothy iii, 9; Titus v, 15; Hebrews x, 23; James i, 27). She is said to have victoriously refuted the heathen sages of Alexandria, and that knowing the character of this Roman emperor before whom she was brought, she refused to encourage his lust; he therefore had her stretched upon a spiked wheel, and tortured to death. Such has therefore since been called amongst fireworks, a Catherine wheel.

How Animals Resist Disease.

Not all persons or animals are equally susceptible to disease. Some are strongly resistant, others readily contract the ailment and are slow in recovering, or quickly succumb. Every particular in the housing, environment, feeding and management of farm animals should in the maximum degree foster and augment natural resistance, and when infectious (germ-caused) disease is prevalent artificial immun-

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(John o' London) go a small party of on their galleys on shore of what we now know and laid the city of Byzantium. Years later Constantine, master of the Roman Empire, made the city and made it capital. And Byzantium became Constantinople. In the later phase of Roman Empire ever less and less Roman. Later Emperors were constant himself. The city of the Danube. The city in the year 1453 Constantinople remained art of his dominion.

The Galleys

Rome was an inch too far from the front from the rest of the city and made it a good harbour. By the way, the city was the eastern and the city arrived in its port. The jumping-off point, either with the East or with the North. Constantinople was the city in the year 1453 Constantinople remained art of his dominion.

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