

THE EVENING TIMES-STAR, SAINT JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAY 16, 1925

SAILOR TELLS HOW HE WAS SHANGHAIED ON RUM ROW VESSEL

A. E. BURGOMASTER RECITES TALE THAT RIVALS FICTION

Was Signed On as Cook, But Was Forced to Work at Unloading of Liquor Cargoes—Escapes by Signalling Coast Guard Cutter.

ALBERT E. BURGOMASTER, whose diary of his experiences on Rum Row is published herewith, had a libel issued against the schooner "Dorothy M. Smart" on which he claims he was held an involuntary prisoner. He alleged that he had been induced to board the boat under misrepresentations and succeeded in leaving only when he climbed high in the rigging and signalled a coast guard cutter by waving a blanket.

The schooner was seized and conveyed to Port Newark, N. J., where the United States marshal placed it on sale to satisfy the claims of Burgomaster and Louis Cocchini, a fellow sailor who shared his experiences. The sailors were represented by S. B. Axtell, a New York attorney widely known among seafaring men. This was the first legal action of its kind in many years.

Burgomaster's diary unfolds a tale that rivals fiction of the old days of piracy.

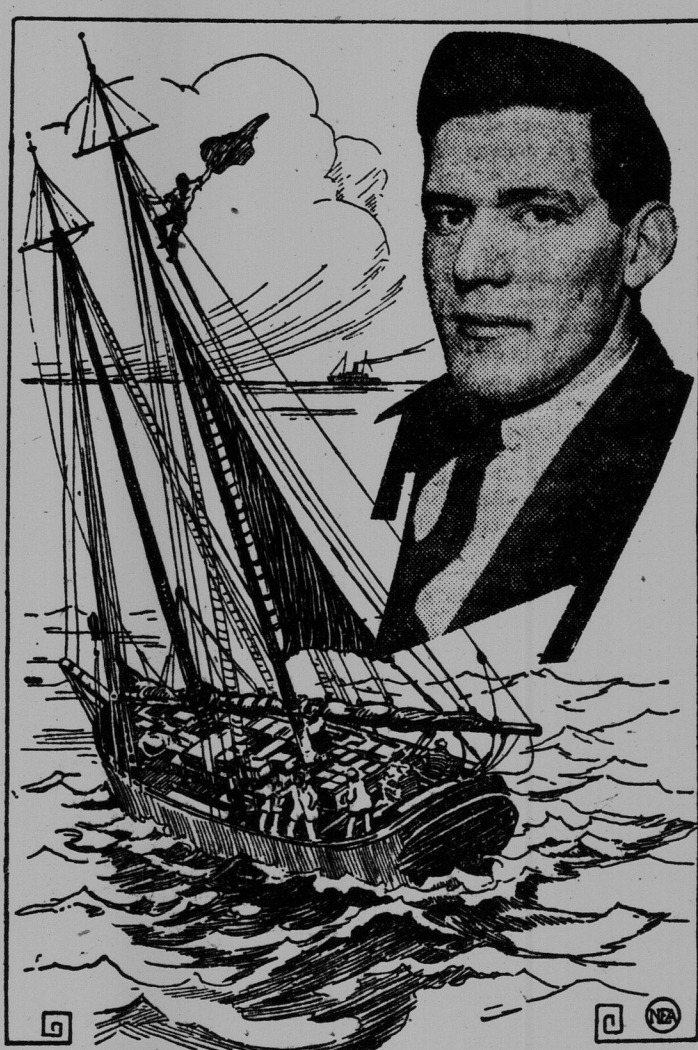
His diary is as follows:

By ALBERT E. BURGOMASTER

MONDAY.
Out of work. Jobs scarce. Figured I would go to sea until things looked brighter ashore. Went to Salton's Institute, South street, New York. Hung around a couple of hours. Then noticed chalked up on employment board that a mate, cook and two seamen were wanted for schooner Enterprise. Wasn't a seaman but could cook, so decided to apply for job.

Interview with man at desk, was told that schooner had auxiliary engine, was engaged in trading between Cape May and Boston. Offered full union wages and told to order all needed stores regardless of expense. Wow! what a goldmine for a guy out of a job!
So signed up as cook along with three men who signed on as mate and seaman. Paper signed gave us right to turn down job when we reached it if not suited. Told that schooner was at distance from New York at Rockaway. Offered free transportation there by man claiming to be engineer of schooner. Packed clothes and met the engineer and other men at 59th street. There taken in a motor truck to town of Rockville Center, Long Island. Told schooner was off shore, but too rough to go out. Were put up at small but good hotel by engineer. Soft, I'll say.

TUESDAY.
Had very meager breakfast at 6. Engineer mistook. After couple hours fell low drove up in Packard limousine.



Albert E. Burgomaster. Sketch shows how he signalled for help.

Asked for crew of Enterprise, which was boat we were supposed to ship on. Told him we were it. Then took us in to hotel where we could only buy beer. The night before, and had them bring out whiskey. Hotel proprietor treated him with great respect. Must be popular and well known. Drunk, took us in car to beach, called Jones Inlet. There was truck that brought us from N. Y.

Loaded stuff from truck into one of four motor boats tied up at dock. Then put out to sea, the engine, the motor and the other fellow piloting. After two hours travel sighted some schooners. Headed up for them, but engine wouldn't start. Pilot pointing out steamer on horizon. They said it must be the cutter and headed down. Boat was small and rat and that everything is not what it seems. Asked what was meant by cutter. Told that cutter was a small boat. Take anything from shore to ship at anchor. Engineer got nervous and went at 20-mile clip. Said cutter couldn't catch us. Reached first schooner and told nerve. Put supplies aboard her for few days, but schooner's (the Athena) where I cooked, also slept there.

WEDNESDAY
Duck is covered with case champagne and hold is filled with whiskey, kimmel, cognac and brandy.

Brandy don't sell so well. Harder for rum runners to handle kegs. Most of the smugglers are rigged out as fishing boats. They took the bottles they had bought, saw that the cork was well driven home, then packed them in sacks like to those used to mark the coast guard cutter halts them over would go the booze to be picked up later with a clear conscience, would then halt for the government search. When the stuff was not packed they wouldn't hesitate to throw it overboard if they were chased. These cases were salvaged and the proceeds of the sale of them divided among the crews of the salvaging vessels. No luck for us. Always going somewhere when we sighted them. Work all the time. When not sailing in handling liquor, kept busy painting ship and renewing rigging. We asked all boats purchasing liquor to bring fresh provisions and water. All promised to send out on once.

SUNDAY.
Still no provisions. Just drags of water left to drink. Everybody throws up when they try to swallow stuff. Even coffee undrinkable. Tobacco gone. All champagne and kimmel and cognac sold. Nothing but whiskey left. Boats not coming so fast. Got some "manna from Heaven" today. Traded a few bottles of rum for 10 pounds of fresh meat. What a feast. Nobody washes now. No water except salt and we have no salt-water soap. Captain promises the boss would be out tomorrow and we can go ashore, but he's promised the same thing all week, so don't take much stock in it.

MONDAY.
What luck! A large motor boat taking water to the Athena was out by the cutter, and to get rid of it I put it aboard us—five 50-gallon tanks. The cutter left then but we had already emptied three of the tanks into our own tank so they had to leave it. A week's supply. Found out today not aboard schooner Enterprise. Fainting outside of schooner and found she was the Dorothy M. Smart of Nova Scotia. British registry. The boat was supposed to be an old one said to be of American registry. A fine game. Nobody can trace us now.

WEDNESDAY.
Today boat came out and bought the last of our rum. Asked him if he knew Rudolph—the man who had hired us with such rosy promises. He said he did and agreed to let him know of our plight. Meanwhile the captain kept us in submission with prominent showing of his gun. We told him we would call the cutter. He laughed and said we could go ahead—we would all see the inside of a jail. The cutter passed us tonight only 100 yards off but we were so close that the cutter's jail looked too close.

FRIDAY.
News must have reached shore of our fix. A boat came out with two bags of potatoes, a bag of turnips and some carrots and what would all see the smoke that first one was. We even felt



Sketch shows handling of liquor on the rum ship. Below is the Athena, the boat from which the shanghaied sailors obtained their only fresh water.

kindly toward Rudolph when he showed up later in the day. He told us he had been delayed by the smashing of his boat when she had rammed the schooner that first day. He asked us to stay aboard until he could get another crew, claiming it was murder to leave him alone. He said he would be back tomorrow with some other men and that he would be paid off in submission with prominent showing of his gun. We told him we would call the cutter. He laughed and said we could go ahead—we would all see the inside of a jail. The cutter passed us tonight only 100 yards off but we were so close that the cutter's jail looked too close.

MONDAY.
Wow, what a row on board today. The mate had the wheel and the ship was under full sail when the captain came on deck and took the wheel out of the hands of the mate. The mate being an old-timer and an experienced sailor, resisted the actions of the skipper, who was but 23 and having his

away from us by the cutter. Tried to catch the Etheline who was under sail but couldn't make it. She's too fast.

FRIDAY.
No sleep again last night. Pierce gale that compelled all hands to handle sail. Drove us way out of our course.

SUNDAY.
Back again to old stamping ground. Saw the Etheline and worked up to her but sea too rough to lower boat and go our grub. One hundred yards away a good square meal that might just as well have been in Halifax. Having lost anchor drifted away from her and by right had lost sight of her. Rudolph came out bringing a few chickens and apples. But no water or bread. We demanded to be put ashore but were again put off. He put armed guard on his boat while below, telling him "Watch that beer, no one or he's liable to get away with the boat." He promised to take us off in two days. Others said no. If he told him I would call the cutter. He said he would knock the excitement out of me if I didn't shut up. Saw light from starboard and thought it was cutter and tried to loosen rigging to signal her. The guard also saw it and called Rudolph and his partner. They rushed to their boat, threatening to shoot me for attempting to signal. Rudolph left word a steamer would arrive tomorrow with more liquor and supplies for us.

WEDNESDAY.
No steamer has arrived nor has Rudolph returned. Captain says if any boat will take us ashore he will pay us off. We plan to send one man to tell authorities. No boat will take any of us, however. All aboard agreed to call cutter if she's sighted. Captain again demanded that we sign up to take the ship to Halifax. This we won't do because we don't want to be on a rum runner. Rudolph the cutter and while mate kept captain below taking we hoisted a blanket to the masthead. This was wrong, should have been a salt-mat. The cutter went on. Later she came back and I went into rigging to signal her. The guard also saw it and called Rudolph and his partner. They rushed to their boat, threatening to shoot me for attempting to signal. Rudolph left word a steamer would arrive tomorrow with more liquor and supplies for us.

THURSDAY.
Still nothing doing, and our position getting worse. Rudolph hasn't shown up nor have any provisions. Practically no water left and no provisions. A passing boat told us that a boat with some food for us had left. It was the schooner Etheline after being chased

PENDER NAILS CARRY CITY'S NAME ACROSS OCEANS TO ANTIPODES

WIRE NAIL MAKING REQUIRES WORK OF SKILLED ARTZANS

Four of Busy Saint John Plant Shows 100 Employees Turning Out 600 Kegs Nails Daily, Besides Other Manufactures—From Ore to Consumer.

THIS week's Saint John industry story of The Times-Star has to do with one that has for a long period been important in the business life of the city—the making of wire nails by James Pender & Co., Ltd., in their bustling plant at the lower end of Charlotte street. There upwards of 100 employees are steadily at work, and it will be of general interest to know that their product is carrying the name of Saint John far across the seas, even to New Zealand and Australia. West Indies dockers, too, have to handle kegs of Pender nails, though the bulk of the large output, averaging 600 kegs a day, besides staples, cutlery and wire, is distributed throughout the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario and New England.

CALLS FOR SKILL

The manufacture of wire nails, which the household uses when he has an odd job of carpentering to do, and which the small boy of the family delights to drive into any piece of wood which is exposed to view within his reach, and with which the carpenter shows his skill in work, is a process which involves highly skilled labor and the utilization of many intricate machines, driven by enormous power.

EVOLUTION

Years ago, before modern inventions made nails common articles, their production was the work of the blacksmith, who forged each one separately. The cut nail machine was invented, and the carpenter and builder, as well as other users of nails, thought that the last word had been said, but cutting nails, even with machinery, was a long and tedious process. Man's ingenuity then evolved the processes by which the finest of wire nails are now available at little cost.

SAINT JOHN PLANT

In Saint John the plant of James Pender & Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of the British Empire Steel Corporation, Limited, is manufacturing daily more than 10,000,000 nails of one kind or other, besides 200,000 fence staples, 2,500 pounds of toe calks for horses' shoes, 423 miles of wire and four tons of balie ties or straight and wire, as well as two tons of straight and cut iron rods which may be used for reinforcing concrete, or for rivets, bolts, etc. In this plant 85 to 100 Saint John men and daily employment.

However the rods cannot be drawn out to any size at once but a rod which is 3 gauge is first reduced to 8½ gauge, then to 10½ and then has to go through other machines to be further reduced.

The chilled dies used in these machines are all manufactured in the plant.

MAKING WIRE

When the rods are to be made into commercial annealed wire they are first drawn to the necessary size and then passed through an annealing room. They are placed in an annealing pit and heated to a cherry red to take out the temper and eventually go to jobbers and others who use the wire for hanging stove pipe and other work. The annealed wire is also used for baling hay and pump and many other articles. The coils of wire are placed with a loop in one end. This loop is made by a special machine which was designed and manufactured in the works here.

After the wire had been seen in the process of manufacture and the steel prepared for making nails, etc., the reporter was taken to a room where rows of machines were making a great pounding noise. The sign language was in vogue. Here staples were being turned out. The coils of wire were placed on spindles and the end fed into the machine. Each machine was throwing completed staples into boxes at the rate of about 500 a minute.

NAIL MAKING

The next room contained the nail machines. One machine was stopped and turned over by hand so that the stages of nail making could be seen. The wire passed into the machine, a small end went through a hole, and a hammer came up and flattened the end of the wire into a ball head. The hammer moved back and large iron jaws cut the wire to the required length. The cutter made the sharp end of the nail. These machines each turn out 275 nails of the larger size in a minute, while the smallest nails are produced at a rate as fast as 500 a minute.

OTHER PROCESSES

After the nails were turned out from the machines they were taken to a cleaning room, where they were revolved in large drums and cleaned and polished. From these mechanical cleaners and polishers the nails were dumped into large bins, whence they were conveyed automatically into kegs which were kept shaking so that the nails were put into as small a space as possible. They were weighed automatically and then the heads nailed in the kegs by a machine specially designed for that kind of work. The packages were then conveyed to the warehouse, where they were ready for shipment to the different customers of the company.

GALVANIZING

There is a galvanizing department where the reporter saw nails being given coatings of pure zinc. The process was in full operation and the nails were placed in the heated metal and then clamped out into cooling pans and

Jas. Pender & Co. Plant, Saint John

SHIPPED FAR AWAY

The market for the products of the plant of James Pender & Co., Ltd., is chiefly in the Maritime Provinces, Ontario and Quebec, but nails are also shipped to the West Indies, Jamaica, and to the New England States, as well as to New Zealand and Australia. The people engaged in the plant here have the benefit of the Workmen's Compensation Act, but it is a matter of pride to the management that the plant has been particularly free from accidents and that during the last six years the expenses in connection with accidents have been less than 35 per cent of the assessment paid by the company.

The employees and company work together under a co-operative plan, which has added greatly to the efficiency and increased production, with the result that the employees have benefited financially and otherwise.

A co-operative benevolent association has also been formed and the sick employees are given assistance, and in case of death aid is also furnished to the bereaved.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

The men who are heads of the different departments are: W. F. Knoll, general superintendent; R. A. Gregory, foreman of wiremen; R. F. Mabey, foreman of nailmen; L. A. Murphy, mechanical foreman. The office staff is: C. W. Earle, secretary; E. W. Gaines, assistant secretary; J. McMillan, sales manager.

Improvements were being made in the plant. One of the big annealing vats has been rebuilt recently and the coal comes to the blast furnace in the form of coke, after it has been produced in the coke ovens of the corporation. After proper treatment the blast furnaces are tapped and the slag or impurities are conveyed to a dump while the iron is taken in ladles to the next process which is in the open hearth furnaces. Here other impurities are removed and when this furnace is tapped there is produced what is known as open hearth steel.

This is taken in ladles and poured in forms known as ingot moulds. The ingots are eventually stripped of their forms and placed in pit furnaces or soaking pits, where they are re-heated preparatory to the next step, which is in the rolling mills. The ingots are conveyed by electric cranes and table conveyors to the blooming mill, where they are broken down, thence to the billet mill to be rolled into billets, standard sizes and cut to regular lengths.

The steel has become cool by this time and is put into another heating furnace before being rolled into rods. This is the last process through which the steel passes before being brought to Saint John.

In the roll mill at Sydney the billets, which is 1½ inches square, goes through a series of rolls, which gradually reduce it to a No. 5 rod about 7-32 inch in diameter. These are wound automatically into coils and conveyed by the long line of rollers where the coils are split in two for easier handling, properly banded for shipment and loaded into cars and brought

Head of Works

Men! Don't Come Home Fagged Out by Hard Work

DOCTORS say that in an enormous number of cases when men come home physically and mentally "fagged out," the real cause is not hard work, but thin, pale, watery blood, deficient in strength and vitality. Once this iron is restored to the blood it is often astonishing how quickly these men gain new strength, nerve force and endurance.

But be sure the iron you take is organic iron—Nuxated Iron. Nuxated Iron is a natural organic iron like the iron in your own blood, and like that in spinach and lentils. Does not irritate teeth nor disturb the stomach. So remarkable are the effects of Nuxated Iron that thousands of weak, nervous, fagged out men and women have increased their strength, energy, and endurance in only two weeks' time.

Try Nuxated Iron just two weeks. Money back if not delighted. But make certain you get genuine guaranteed Nuxated Iron tablets with the letters N on every tablet. At all good drug stores.

N. S. Bank President Backs Gold Standard

HALIFAX, May 15—George S. Campbell, prominent Halifax shipping magnate and president of the Bank of Nova Scotia, returning today from a two months' tour of Great Britain and the continent, endorsed the move for an early return of Great Britain to the gold standard and commented generally on the economic conditions of the old country.

HER HEADACHES WERE SO BAD SHE COULDN'T DO ANYTHING

Once the head starts to ache and pain you may rest assured that the cause comes from the stomach, liver or bowels, and the cause must be removed before permanent relief may be had.

BURDOCK BLOOD BITTERS

as it removes the cause of the headaches in a way that no other remedy will do.

Mrs. Wm. Heigard, Lower Stewart, N. S., writes: "I suffered for a long time with my head. It would ache and ache until it made me so sick I could not do anything, but after taking four bottles of B.B.B. I feel that I cannot recommend it too highly to all those suffering from headaches of any kind."

B.B.B. has been on the market for the past 40 years and is recognized by all who have used it to be without an equal as a remedy for headaches; put up by The T. Milburn Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

CORNS

Lift Off—No Pain!

Doesn't hurt a bit. Drops a little "Freezone" on an aching corn, instantly that corn stops hurting, then shortly you lift it right off with fingers. Your druggist sells a tiny bottle of "Freezone" for a few cents, sufficient to remove every corn, soft corn, or corn between the toes, and the foot calous, without soreness or irritation.

PENSION SYSTEM

The employees of the James Pender & Co. plant are eligible for pensions under the British Empire Steel Corporation plan. Pensions are allowed to any male employee who has been 25 years in the service and who has reached the age of 65 years or more and who is retired from service either at his own request or the request of his employing officer. For female employees the pension age is 55 years, after 25 years service. Provisions is also made for those who have been employed 15 years and have become permanently incapacitated from further service.

Already two employees of James Pender & Co. Ltd., have taken advantage of the pension plan—Jefferson Denier and Edward Howard, both of whom served more than 25 years with the company.

The plant of James Pender & Co. Ltd., is located in Charlotte street with the buildings extending through to Sydney. The buildings are mostly one story but several are two floor structures. Fire protection apparatus are suitably placed about the buildings. The plant has its own railway siding and maintains its own vehicles for transporting the products to the shipping wharves.