

WEEK END NOTES.

(I. C. M.)

In November last when I wrote a tribute to Theobald on his retirement from the Telegram column, I had not the least idea of continuing my writings weekly, nor did I dream of having sufficient to write about for so long a period; but each week seemed to suggest something worth while, and the result has been that instead of finishing in the winter, I am writing into the autumn.

I have been enabled to do this by the encouragement of the kind friends who from time to time have spoken to me, and written to me. From far and near words of approval have come, and if these notes have been worth while, and if they have done any good, then some of the merit must be attributed to those who read them, for they have helped the writer very much by telling him they thought his notes were "clean, independent, and impartial." They were meant to be clean, independent and impartial, and when those principles cannot be upheld, there will be at least one contributor less to our press.

My one object in writing has been for the good of our fair land. From the first year that I began to travel around our Island Home I have held the opinion that we do not know her, and that we have a misconception of her beauty and of her possibilities. The best has never been done for her, and at the critical moment in her history, when development should have taken place, the tide turned in the wrong direction, and stagnation took the place of industry; and then followed migration, and migration has sapped the vigor and beauty of our population; and between it all, we now have one quarter of a million people, when we should have a million and a quarter at the least.

The question of population for Newfoundland is one that must not be overlooked, because certain it is that we are annually losing a lot of our people, and season after season they pour across the Gulf. We think the loss by war a large one, and so it is, but our steady migratory loss is greater than that of the war. But there are certain causes for migration, and if it is to be avoided, and the leakage stopped, these causes will have to be abolished. Our readers are aware that those who leave us belong to the juvenile class, and mostly to the female sex of the working people. I know this class of people well, and for fifty years I have worked with them, and know their burdens, and have felt their disappointments, and I know just how it is with them. They all have but one common burden, but one common struggle—it is the struggle for bread, for existence, the struggle to make both ends meet.

The struggle of the working man and his family will never be known, nor can it be known, only by those who feel it and endure it; and into whose soul the iron has entered. The average working man has to send his children to work at an early age; and it is at this point that the cause of much of our migration arises. A girl goes to work in a shop, or in a factory, or in an office, and she is offered the meagre pay of six or seven, or eight dollars a month. She offers as a nurse in our hospitals and she gets four dollars a month, but is found in food and lodging. A lad goes into a shop or an office, and he is expected to give two or three years service for less than will support him; or he goes at a trade, and we offer him

enough to starve him—in my time it was a dollar a week and take it up, and put in seven years, the most of which was akin to slavery—for boys had very little rights: or at least I found it so.

This matter of small pay for girls and lads is one of the principal causes of our migration, and it should be looked into and remedied by the proper authorities. Surely an apprentice boy ought to be worth at least three dollars a week to begin with, and he ought to be worth six dollars a week towards the end of his apprenticeship. Why oppress him? Why keep him poor? Why wrong him? Why not give him a chance to feel his birth-born right and instill into him the feelings of a true citizen and a loyal Briton? Why take a girl's labor for pay that will not give her a livelihood? To do so is but to discount her worth, and to degrade her womanhood. It was meant that men should toil for their bread. Why then not give them enough to buy bread? And why not the beginners get sufficient to enable them to help their parents?

This may seem an indirect cause of migration, but it is a cause and a vital cause at that; and it is one of the hardships in our family life. Every lad and every girl who goes to work is an asset to our commercial life, and to our industrial institutions; and they should be counted as an asset to their employer, and as a help to their parents or guardians. In vain we educate them and qualify them for life's duties; when they step out into the arena of life's toil, and take their places in the labor market, we give them for their services the pay of slaves. For this age of advancement it will not do; and if our young people are to be kept at home, and if they are to be encouraged to love their own land, they will have to get a higher rate of wages when they begin their work.

No monetary value is to be compared to the lads and lassies of our homes; they surpass all the gold of all the banks, and not one of them could be replaced by the wealth of the State. They are the nation's life and the country's hope, and unless they be shown that their worth is recognized, and that they are of some help to their parents, and some value to themselves, it is not to be wondered at if they lose heart, and seek a home elsewhere, and thus give to other countries that industry which should be given to their own.

Newfoundland is worth the best her sons can give her, and her sons are worth the best that she can give them. She is rich in mineral wealth, and forest growth; and her fisheries have yet to double their value. She is a rich country. Let us see to it then that the best is done for our young people, and that we bequeath to them a better chance than it was possible for us to have had. It is their right, we owe it to them; let us then do our duty towards them.

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SCHOOL REOPENS SEPT. 12th. Calendar sent on application.

Indian Island Notes.

The schr. Carrie Steer arrived from the Labrador last week, she hails for 450 quintals.

Five of our sick folk left by the Prospero to go to St. Anthony. Today we had the sad news that one of them, Mr. George Kendon, died at the hospital just after arrival. He leaves to mourn a wife in delicate health and three small children. The sympathy of the whole community goes out to the sorrowing family.

During the past few days two of our oldest inhabitants have passed to the Great Beyond, namely, Mrs. Julia Colish and Mrs. George Perry. Both served their day and generation well and will be greatly missed; funeral services were conducted by Rev. J. A. Wilkinson.

Mr. Harold Perry left by Clyde on Wednesday for Bishop's Falls, where he will teach during the year. We wish him much success.

Mrs. W. Blundon has ordered a monument in memory of her son, Thomas, who was killed in action while serving with the Canadians in France. It will be erected in the Methodist cemetery.

CORRESPONDENT.

Man Killed; Another Drowned.

Patrick Ryan, an aged and sickly man, fell over his fence near his dwelling house at Plate Cove, Bonavita Bay, on Monday last, and was instantly killed. There was no sign of life in the body when picked up.

John Wesley Edwards, a fisherman of Change Islands, was presumably swamped while returning from the fishing grounds in his boat recently. He was in a punt by himself and was seen by some men from the hills to hoist a sail, but after a few minutes his sail disappeared. The accident happened 4 miles from shore and the punt was the last to leave the fishing grounds. It was too risky for boats to go in search of the body as the water was too rough. The following day the punt was found near Fogo Island Point, but the body was not recovered. The deceased fisherman leaves a wife and two children to mourn his loss.

Information of the above tragic occurrence has been received by Deputy Minister of Justice Summers.

Typhoid Outbreak at Change Islands

Typhoid fever is epidemic at Change Islands, we are informed, but no deaths are reported to have occurred. The medical authorities, as a precautionary measure, are giving the wells their attention, as it was drinking impure water that caused an outbreak of the same malady at that outpost about two years ago.

Here and There.

FISHERY INTERRUPTED.—Yesterday a heavy sea raged on the local fishing grounds and boats had to cease operations early in the day.

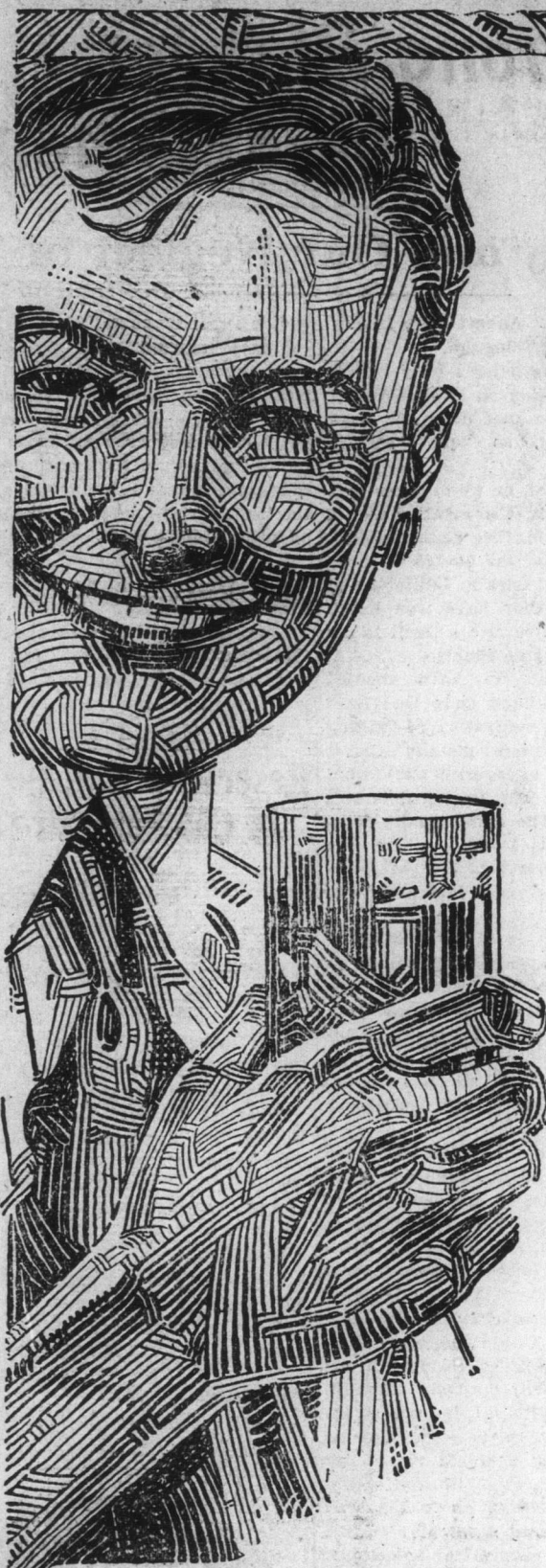
Mr. H. W. Stirling will resume lessons in Organ, Piano, Singing and Harmony on Monday, Sept. 10th. Pupils of all grades received. Studio: 29 Victoria Street.—sep8,10,13

MATCH POSTPONED.—The football match, the last for the season, set down to be played last evening between the C. E. I. and B. I. S. did not come off, owing to the inclement weather. The game will likely be played Monday next. Should the C. E. I. win they will take second place.

Mr. F. J. King will resume teaching on Monday, Sept. 10th. Piano, Organ, Singing and Harmony lessons for all grades of pupils. For terms apply 235 Theatre Hill.—sep7,8,11,13,15

GETS COMMISSION IN U. S.
By the last American mail word was received from Mr. Edward Wadden, of Gloucester, Mass., son of Captain Wadden, of the schooner Atlanta, stating he had enlisted in the U. S. Army, and had been given a commission as Second Lieutenant. Capt. Wadden, father of the young officer, is a native of St. John's.

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THE LIGHTNING ROD.

The lightning rod is a substitute for fire insurance which answers every purpose except when the hired man lights a cigarette in the hay-mow. It is one of the noblest protective devices on the market, being far superior to an accident policy which prohibits the owner from being killed outside of the country in which he resides.

The lightning rod was invented and brought to its present state of perfection by Benjamin Franklin, a former Philadelphia citizen with a taste for mechanics and rye bread. Mr. Franklin was the first American to discover that lightning could be handled with the bare hands without leaving any unpleasant effects or funeral expenses. When we think of the large number of new red barns which have been saved from destruction by the lightning rod, we are forced to believe that Mr. Franklin performed a greater service to humanity than the man who gave us the non-stalling gas meter.

The lightning rod consists of a long stretch of wire which protrudes above the roof at so much per foot. When a lightning bolt attempts to pass it, it is impaled upon the rod and thus prevented from raining the family cow and other agricultural implements. Some farmers are so skeptical concerning the merits of this device that they will not have a lightning rod on the place, and they will not be converted even when lightning creeps down the chimney

and cremates an unsuspecting St. Bernard dog. Does anybody suppose that the Chicago fire would ever have happened if Mrs. O'Leary's cow had been equipped with a lightning rod, properly installed?



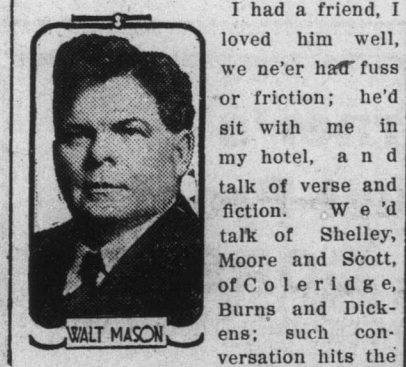
The bolt is impaled upon the rod and thus prevented from ruining the family cow.

If the lightning rod could be adapted to the human form and sold on a small payment down, fewer people would be killed while standing under a catalpa tree during a thunder shower. The number of people who now curl up and crawl under the bed-clothes every time the lightning begins to show its teeth at the window would also be reduced. A lightning rod might be a trifle uncomfortable to sleep in, but it can't be any worse than a pair of pajamas which have come from the laundry with a six-ply coat of starch.

It is highly discouraging to the owner of a new lightning rod to have a stroke of lightning miss the rod en-

tirely and set fire to a barn with twenty-foot posts. The man who can retain his faith in science after such a trial as this ought to have no trouble in believing that woman sprung from man's ribs.

LOSING A FRIEND.



I had a friend, I loved him well, we ne'er had fuss or friction; he'd sit with me in my hotel, and talk of verse and fiction. We'd talk of Shelley, Moore and Scott, of Coleridge, Burns and Dickens; such conversation hits the spot, the jaded mind it quickens. Now nearly every modern skate will only talk of getting, of stocks and bonds and real estate, of rents and contract letting. And so I loved the man who spied of books and those who penned them, from Homer down to Eugene Field, to roast them or defend them. And then one night he sought my den, and told a tale of sorrow, and ere he left he borrowed ten, which he'd return to-morrow. 'Twas long ago, and nevermore my friend and I forgot; he does not knock upon my door, but shuns my portal, rather. No more he makes the keen remark that set my pulses rumbling, but slides into an alley dark where'er he sees me coming. I can't get close enough to say, "That debt I have forgiven; oh, visit me, the good old way."

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Everyday Etiquette.

"Should guests be announced at a wedding reception?" asked Bess. "Guests are not announced but are allowed to join at once the line of people passing before the couple," said her mother.

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