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ST. JOHN'S****International
Schooner Race.****Gloucester "Esperanto" and Lunenburg "Delawana" Matched for Contest.**

Gloucester, Mass., October 18. The fishing schooner Esperanto, a boat of the fleet sailing out of port a decade ago, was selected as the vessel that will represent United States fishermen in the challenge race with the Nova Scotia schooner Delawana, Queen of the Canadian fleet.

The conditions stipulated by Canadian challengers call for a within a fortnight, there is no to be lost in preparing the States craft. Men were put to today cleaning out the boat, which brought in a salt catch of fish a few days ago, making her ready for moving the Marine Railway.

Esperanto will go into the almost under working condition. She will carry her usual results of working sails, with the son of a few lighter sails that skipper may find available for pieces of sailing strategy.

Gloucester men to-day discussed the race confidently, but with an indication of the sailing qualities of the Nova Scotia ship, they were for their soft-wood craft. The fact that the Delawana was a race off Halifax, which has to tune her up, to some extent was regarded as somewhat of a handicap to the Esperanto. But for boat, as the race will be, the vessels are fairly evenly

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last Monday, and the Esperanto, the competing Gloucester craft, race off Halifax Harbor within the next fortnight.

The wire informing the Halifax Sailing Committee of the acceptance of the challenge, was received on Saturday morning. A meeting of the committee in the afternoon, it was decided that representatives proceed to Gloucester to arrange the details. W. H. Dennis and W. J. Rose leave this morning to meet the Gloucester representatives, R. A. Corbett, another member of the committee, may accompany them.

It was at first proposed to have a trial race between the Delawana, the Gilbert B. Walters, and possibly the Aloha. At Saturday's meeting it was decided that the Delawana should represent Nova Scotia.

Although the final details will not be made until the members of the committee confer with the Gloucester men, it is understood that the race will be conducted on the "best two out of three" basis. This would make the international contest more interesting and afford each craft a better opportunity. It will also be proposed that should either boat meet with mishap in any of the races, the following race be postponed until repairs have been made.

The dates for the races have not been fixed, but they will likely be sailed about the first of November. The Delawana is now at Lunenburg and will have to undergo overhauling, while a Gloucester despatch of Saturday stated that the Esperanto was being cleaned and put in readiness for the race.

According to their dimensions, both vessels are evenly matched. They are of the bowsprit type. The Delawana's dimensions are as follows: Length, 106.8 feet; beam, 26.8 feet; depth, 10.4 feet; net tonnage 95.25 tons. She is owned by W. C. Smith and Company of Lunenburg.

The Esperanto, which has been in Halifax Harbor quite a number of times, has a gross tonnage of 140.22 tons and is 91.33 tons net. Her length is 107.4 feet; beam, 25.4 feet, and depth 11.4 feet. She was built at Essex in 1904, while the Delawana was built in 1913. The Esperanto has no auxiliary power, so that there will be no delay in that respect in getting her ready.

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**MINARD'S LUMBER BELIEVED
DISTEMPER.**

**John Churchill and
Bewitching Sarah.**

(THORNTON HALL in John o' London Weekly.)

When young John Churchill, in later years the hero of Blenheim and Ramillies, returned to Whitehall one day in 1676, after a few years of gallant fighting in Holland, his good looks and powers of fascination, allied to his character of hero, wrought havoc in the breasts of the Court ladies. But, to the amazement and indignation of them all, he turned a cold, unresponsive eye on all their allurements.

The solution of this mystery—for in his earlier years as Royal page his handsome son of a West Country knight had proved himself a veritable Lethario—was not long in being revealed to all. The returned warrior had actually lost his heart, and his head too, to Sarah Jennings, daughter of the Squire of Sandridge, near St. Albans, whose beauty and witcheries had already brought every Court gallant, even the King himself, to her feet.

Love at First Sight.

On the very first day of his return to Whitehall, Colonel Churchill had seen her moving with queenly grace at a Royal ball, her proud, well-poised head rising above those of the other ladies as a lily towers above meadow flowers. And from that first glance he had been fascinated by her as no other woman ever had the power to fascinate him.

When he sought an introduction to her, the bright spirit that shone in her eyes, her clever tongue, and her graciousness, quickly forged the chains that he was to wear to his life's end. Seldom has a woman's spell wrought such quick magic; never has the love it gave birth to proved more loyal and enduring.

But Sarah Jennings was no maid to be easily won by any man—even

by a lover so dowered with physical graces and so invested with the halo of romance as John Churchill. She could be gracious to him, as to any other man, but she quickly made the limits of her indulgence clear. To his amorous advances she presented a smiling and inscrutable front; his ardour was as unwelcome as it was premature.

The Pain in his Head.

Was ever woman more tantalizing and unjust? For weeks he had been sending her letters breathing the most ardent devotion and imploring her for a little love, even a little pity, to none of which she had deigned a word of answer. Now she assumes an air of injured innocence and accuses him of the very unkindness she had inflicted on him. She promises, however, to see him; but cannot resist the temptation to qualify the concession with a glib.

"That would hinder you," she says, with delicious, if cruel, satire, "from seeing the play, which I fear would be a great infliction to you, and increase the pain in your head, which would be out of anybody's power to cure until the next new play. Therefore, pray consider, and without any compliment to me, send me word if you can come to me without any prejudice to your health."

But such stilted gleams of sunshine were not to last long. John Churchill's father insisted on his son marrying a wife of his own choosing—Catherine Sedley, daughter of his old friend Sir Charles Sedley, a lady no longer young, angular and unattractive, but heiress to large estates.

A "Shocking Creature."

And for a time he dallied with the temptation of a rich alliance which would make his ambitions more easy to realize. He was thus distracted

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between the calls of prudence and faithful obedience and of love, when rumours of his disloyalty came to Sarah's ears, and all her affected coldness vanished in a flame of anger. "Marry a shocking creature for money!" she exclaimed, passionately. "And this was what all his extravagant vows of love amounted to!"

Then, taking up her pen, she wrote to him: "As for seeing you, I am resolved I never will, in private or in public, if I can help it. But surely you must confess that you have been the falsest creature on earth to me. I must own that I believe I shall suffer a great deal of trouble, but I

will bear it, and give God thanks, though too late I see my error."

When Churchill, in answer to this outburst, broke off his match with the "shocking creature" and returned to the woman he adored, it was to find that she was colder than ever—unapproachable, in fact. In vain he protested: "You do so entirely possess my thoughts that I think of nothing else in this world but your dear self. I do not expect in return that you should either write or speak to me; I beg only that you will give me leave to adore you as long as I live; and in return I will study how I may deserve, though not have, your love."

To this pathetic letter she retorts that he had merely written it to amuse himself, and to make her think that he had an affection for her when he was assured he had none.

Thus week after week she drove him to distraction by her alternate coldness and veiled encouragement, until at last, concluding probably that she had gone quite far enough for safety, she consented to see her lover, and delighted him with a surrender so complete as her resistance had been stubborn—vowing, as her head nestled on his shoulder, that she had never ceased to love him from the first, and that she had never meant to be unkind.

Thus, one winter's day in 1677, John Churchill led his bride to the altar, at St. James' Palace, which proved to be the portal to one of the happiest wedded lives in human history.

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