



Evening Telegram

W. J. HERDER, Proprietor
C. T. JAMES, Editor

SATURDAY, December 21, 1918.

Will our advertising patrons please note that THE EVENING TELEGRAM will go to press at 12, noon, on Tuesday next, Christmas Eve. All advertising matter intended for that issue must be sent in NOT LATER THAN NOON Monday to avoid disappointment. We positively cannot guarantee insertion on Tuesday if this request is not complied with.

The Apologist.

We have much pleasure to-day in presenting, what we presume, the official explanation of the omission to provide a guard of honor or funeral escort, for the non-commissioned officer who recently died at Jensen Camp and whose remains were taken out by train to Placentia, Wednesday morning for interment. This explanation is a very, very weak one. A mistake was made in the time, and consequently the escort which had been provided was not on hand as arranged, to accord the last military honors to the deceased soldier. We are fully aware that guards have been furnished on numerous previous occasions to escort military corpses to the railway station. The traditions of the army, no less than the King's Regulations, demand this. It is part and parcel of military routine and discipline. The departure from prescribed form, in the present case, was noted in a news item in Wednesday's issue of the Telegram. Thursday it was referred to in an editorial article. Friday, we received the belated explanation from the Department of Militia, signed by Captain R. H. Tait, an explanation which is obviously inspired. Captain Tait has laid aside, pro tem, the sword for the pen, and he wields the latter with as much valour as he did the former. The explanation itself would have been acceptable, perhaps, but with a desire to have a shot at the Telegram, Capt. Tait accuses us of endeavouring to create a bad feeling among the soldiers and community generally, "and that the most sacred feelings of the bereaved have not been spared to make political capital out of an incident." Quite eloquent is it not? Captain Tait shows great solicitude for the soldier. Well he might. He owes them something which he can never repay, and the soldiers know it too.

But to return to the political accusation contained in the letter. Where the men of the Regiment are concerned, the Telegram has no politics. We have ascertained that from the start, but whenever and wherever we see anything wrong, wherever the men are not given a square deal, we will have no hesitation in lifting up our voice in protest, and that which we state we are prepared to substantiate. Did we need anything out of which to make political capital the Department of Militia itself supplies any quantity of material. We do not have occasion to harrow the sacred feelings of those who have been bereaved. The Department itself through its official scribe has done that, and if his explanation of the circumstances under discussion has been made in a similarly crude manner, to the relatives of the deceased soldier, whose body was allowed to go through the streets unescorted and unguarded, as it has been to us, we think that they will not be altogether satisfied.

Captain Tait, as the official apologist of the Department of Militia, has not made a good case, either for himself or his chiefs. The little rancour which he shows in the last paragraph, but of course, indicates that the Militia Department is not beyond the range of politics. Officially then, the letter is a clear give away, and Captain Tait cannot dissociate himself from the fact that but for the chance offered to work off a little political grudge and incidentally to cover up the responsibility for the blunder, his letter would never have been written.

For the present we are content to rest our case on the article in Thursday's Telegram, and let the public judge.

Welcome Home.

To the boys who arrived by the s.s. Corsican this afternoon, the Telegram addresses a sincere and hearty WELCOME HOME. They return after duty well and faithfully performed, to receive the plaudits of their fellow-countrymen. They return in time to spend the Christmas season with their loved ones, and the spirit of our greeting possesses the spirit of that joy and gladness, with which the Christian world, freed from the menace of destruction, will, this year, celebrate the festival of the Nativity. To the ladies who have captured the hearts of a number of our brave lads, and have bound them in the silken ties of matrimony, we extend a most kindly word of greeting. We are glad to have them, glad to receive them, and we are sure that they will find in Newfoundland both homes and friends which will become to them as dear as those which they left in the old country to become the brides of the gallant soldiers of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment. Again we say WELCOME!

"Corsican" Signalled!

As we go to press the s.s. Corsican has been signalled from the Block House, and will arrive in a short time. We regret therefore our inability to give readers a report of the landing and official reception of the men of the Regiment, to-day, but a full description will appear Monday. Once more we say to all who are on board the ship—Welcome Home.

Casualty List.

RECEIVED DECEMBER 21st, 1918.
Following Prisoners of War Arrived in England in Good Health, Repatriated from Germany.
2261—Pte. George Mulrooney, 94 Circular Road, City.
2103—Pte. Nathan Bander, Codroy.
184—Pte. Wilfred Dawe, Upper Gullies.
1598—Pte. William A. Luff, Exmouth, N.D.B.
1972—Pte. Reuben LeGrow, Bauline, St. John's East.
2229—Pte. Eli Cook, Port Rexton, T.B.
2020—Pte. Bella Abbott, Pool's Island, B.B.
2230—Pte. John A. Dick, Harbor Buffett, B.B.
At 44th Casualty Clearing Station, Dangerously Ill, Broncho Pneumonia, Dec. 19th.
4080—Pte. Chesley W. Carter, Pass Islands, P.B.
J. R. BENNETT, Minister of Militia.

Just received, Holly and Laurel at BISHOP, SONS & CO., LTD. Phone 679—d19,tf

Reids Boats.

Argyle is leaving Placentia this a.m. on the Merasheen route.
Clyde left Lewisport at 11.10 p.m. yesterday.
Eddie is at Humbermouth.
Glence left Port aux Basques at 3.45 a.m.
Home left Nippers Harbor at 8.15 a.m. yesterday outward.
Kyle arrived at Port aux Basques at 7 a.m.
Madge arrived at St. John's at 6 p.m. yesterday.
Saguna is due at North Sydney.
Petrol left Port Union at noon yesterday.
Fogata arrived at Placentia at 6 p.m. yesterday.

GREAT IMPROVEMENT — The Universal Tone Arm on Sterling Phonographs. Plays all Records. RYAN SUPPLY CO.—dec20,tf

Prospero Arrives

The S. S. Prospero arrived at 12.50 p.m. to-day from the north, bringing a full freight and the following first class passengers: Messrs. Bowring, Bursey, Bartlett, H. Moore, J. Moore, Miller, Boyles, Simms, Phillips, Handcock, Mesher, Breen, Hynds, Joy, Gate, Blackler, Bugden, Norris, Brooks, Parsons, Short, Clark, Murdoch, Forbes, Lynam, Scott, Wiseman, Quirk, Glavin, Deen, Brine, Rideout, Gillett, Dewling, Curley, Pardy, Fudge, Woodford, Young, Curley, Whelan, Downer, Locke, Pittman, Luffman, Ricketts, Hutchings, Downey, Capt. N. Kean, Spurrell, Guy, Hogan, Bagg, Ete, Clibborn, Byrne, Leslie (2), Killen, Curtis, Sheppard, Gaulton, Dugney, Yettman (2), Doody, Brown, Wiseman, Bannister, Bartlett, Osmund, Wallman, Mesdames Brine, Dewling, Woodford, Kean, Curtis, Cobb, Misses Breen, Bishop, Hearn, Glavin, Penney, Boyles, Foley, Swenney, Penney, Stockley, Fleetwood, Kean, Roberts, Edgar, Hindle and 65 in steerage. She reports having met very good weather north but that some of the harbors are frozen up.

Files, Files, Files

We have just received Several Hundred Dozen Highest Quality FILES, and are selling them at our usual low prices.

ALSO

Ship Carpenters

Siding Axes.

VULCAN SADD IRONS,
O'SULLIVAN'S RUBBER SOLING,
NYE'S SEWING MACHINE OIL

G. KNOWLING,

Limited.

dec21,3,5,m,f

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

Mr. Walsh Protests.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Dear Sir,—In behalf of the relatives and friends of the late L.-Corpl. King, and in behalf of the whole people of the district of Placentia and St. John's I wish to thank you for your timely protest which appeared in Wednesday's and Thursday's issues of your paper against the disgraceful treatment given this young departed hero.

This is the second Placentia boy who has died at the Jensen Camp, and were it not for the fact that personal friends of the other gentleman to whom I refer were here in St. John's at the time of his death another such protest as yours would have had to be recorded. The late Mr. King was a member of the Placentia Star of the Sea Society, whose total membership was, in 1914, a little in excess of two hundred and fifty, and Mr. King is the twenty-fifth to make the supreme sacrifice, and on the Honour Roll I think you will find that well over a hundred members responded voluntarily to the Call of Empire at that time. It is a sad spirit of boast but with pride and sorrow, and I feel sure that when the facts concerning Mr. King's funeral are made known to the officers and members of the Star of the Sea Society of Placentia, yours will not be the only protest against such a disgraceful action, as that committed by someone, which will remain forever a disgrace to Newfoundland's Military Organization. I opposed the Military Act last winter for various reasons, which were publicly stated at the time from my seat in the Assembly. And one of these reasons was the insincerity of those who were in control of the Government, and as I then pointed out, if just recognition was given to the men who made possible a Newfoundland Regiment, some of whom were at that time invalided home, broken in health, no compulsory service would be required to keep the Newfoundland Regiment up to full strength.

Again I make bold to assert that if the late L.-Corpl. King was the son of some of our so-called aristocracy, flags would be flown at half-mast from all the public buildings, and we would be given a display of military officialdom, but not Mr. King was only the son of a poor widow and though he was the second son of this good mother to die, wearing the King's uniform not a drum was heard, not a funeral note, and to those who witnessed the little procession as it wended its way to the Railway Station, it may have appeared to be a pauper's funeral.

Shame on those who are responsible for such a contemptible action. Men of the Great War Veterans Association! Men of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment! Citizens of Britain's Oldest Colony, fellow citizens of the late L.-Corpl. King, of Placentia, and especially your brother members of the Star of the Sea Association! demand a full explanation from the Military Authorities and let us all unite to strangle and forever destroy the atrocity which is quite in evidence in the midst of a full knowledge of the facts of the case, and which if allowed to firmly root itself must eventually cause such destruction as it has wrought in the German Empire.

Yours truly,

W. J. WALSH.

St. John's, Dec. 19, 1918.

Official Explanation.

SHOWS A LITTLE ANIMUS.

Editor Evening Telegram.

Sir,—With reference to your editorial in yesterday's paper headed "Forgotten," the facts of the case are as follows:

Instructions to provide an escort were properly received at the Depot and passed along in the usual manner. Through a misunderstanding the guard was not despatched to the Mortuary at the time arranged.

Numerous guards have been furnished from the Depot at various times, and this is the first instance in which one has failed to arrive. The occurrence is deeply regretted by none more than those responsible at the Depot who, themselves soldiers, who have fought and bled for their country, have a personal interest in doing honor to their deceased comrades.

It is regretted that the present occasion has been utilized for the purpose of endeavouring to create a bad feeling amongst the soldiers and the community generally, and that the most sacred feelings of the bereaved have not been spared in an effort to make political capital out of the incident.

A full explanation has been forwarded to those directly concerned.

Yours very truly,

R. H. TAIT, Captain.
Officer Commanding Discharge Depot.
Dec. 20, 1918.

FREE XMAS TOYS—Giant Toys, Warships, Destroyers, Tops, Games, Guns, Pistols, Dolls, Dogs, Jumpy Tinkers, Art Toy, Tea Sets, Clicker Horse, etc. See window. Ask particulars. RYAN SUPPLY CO., 227 Theatre Hill.—dec21,tf

"FLU" SUFFERER.—One case of Influenza reported yesterday and the sufferer, a domestic residing on Military Road, was admitted to hospital.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

Forgotten.

"I think our dead who now abide God's trumpet-call, each side by side, Have one regret—that they have died For Huns at Home."

It moves along the city streets, A lonely hearse, and questioning, The people look, some sign to find Of who the coffin form may be.

"Some outcast of the town maybe? Some alien of a foreign shore Whom no ones knows or cares to know?"

Some taller aged, forgot and poor? And thus they asked till some one near Vouchsafed an answer and who said,

"This is a soldier's funeral here— Behold how honoured are the dead. Who life and youth, his Hope, his Love,

"Unto his country's service gave— Behold! there's not a man, alas, To march beside him to the grave!"

And yet, 'tis but a little while Since he was told—oh patriot boy! His name in characters of gold Was written, never more to die.

Lone and deserted—destitute— No flag upon his coffin spread, No token, not a sign to tell That for the Union Jack he bled.

Where were his comrades of the trench Who kept with him, the Hun at bay? Is there no remnant of the brave To march beside his bier to-day?

Where are the blattant prayers, pray, Who lauded valiant deeds of yore? Men of the Royal Newfoundland Regiment, Was it but hollow mockery?

They blamed the Prussian lust That gorged on innocence—and yet, They emulate the Prussian when They brave the thought of death and forget.

Shame, shame upon the charlatans— The flatterers, who lately yearned (?) To take the soldiers to their graves?

But now their O. B. E's are earned. But is he unattended quite? Is there no comrade soldier nigh? He has ingratitude alone To mark the patriot's passing, by?

Ah, no! I see a pale platoon "With arms reversed and muffled drum,"

With hearts of lead and martial mien Behind their slighted comrade come.

Resentment burns on every brow And from each eye a flash of pride, With quivering lips they seem to ask: "Is this the land for which we died?"

D. C.

"B in The Newfoundland Quarterly.

"Ours" On Active Service.

Cheerful Note From "Eye Witness" in France.

B. E. F. France, Nov. 25th, 1918.

Two years ago I sent a message from the trenches in France! It was written in full knowledge of the Somme offensive—written in the thoughts of bitter experiences just past and more intensive action in the future. I was then a young man, a friend still green in my memory, and the recollection of a recent visit to a certain mound, a cold, clear November afternoon vividly impressed in my mind.

To-day I send a similar message, but it is under different circumstances. True, the poplar-lined roads of France were close at hand the shell holes made by an enemy force were not far away, but there was a remarkable difference. We have passed through familiar villages and have seen places reminiscent of hard fighting and bitter sacrifices; we have marched along the same paved roads with the dead leaves of a late autumn still fluttering down; but there was a wonderful transformation! We have memories of towns and villages where families and very old men were the only occupants; we are acquainted with cafes where an isolated light flashed through a half curtained window, but it is different to-day!

French troops, men from the British Isles, Colonials and American Forces throng the streets; brilliant lights flash out from seductive abeyers and cafes, from early morning to late at night there is activity and there are crowds on the thoroughfares! The darkened shops have given way to bright saloons, and although the afternoons are cold, there are gatherings around the little tables so conspicuously displayed outside the French hotels on the boulevards.

Meanwhile, the military organization moves along the same avenue; there are lines to be held and posts to be relieved—we are moving into a hostile country where only a few weeks ago the hand of everyone was against us, save those who were held hostages under the Prussian yoke, but as we move forward we are receiving greetings on all sides—every village, every home that is undamaged, flies a Tri-colour or an Allied flag; the few sacrifices, the forced murders, are nothing now, for we are advancing over conquered territory.

The air is full with the feeling of victory; it is apparent on every side, and we feel instinctively that the sacrifices have not been in vain—a ruthless foe has been conquered; a bullying ruffian has been brought to his knees!

(Sgd.) L. C. MURPHY.

Shipping News.

The steamer Neptune left Charlotte-town yesterday with a load of oats, etc., for Harvey & Co.

The s.s. Adolph is leaving to-night and will go direct to Halifax.

The s.s. Sablo L. is due here Monday morning. From here she will go to Halifax and take a general cargo to Bonine Bay and from there return to Halifax with a cargo of herring.

Afterwards she will resume her route between Halifax and this port.

PHONOGRAPHS.—New improved Tame Arm. Plays all make Records. RYAN SUPPLY CO., 227 Theatre Hill.—dec20,tf

G. KNOWLING, Ltd.,

East, West and Central Shoe Stores.



G. KNOWLING, Ltd.,

East, West and Central Shoe Stores.

Practical Christmas Gifts.

While wishing everybody a "Merry Christmas" we desire to call your attention to the fact that Christmas Day is very near, and that it is now high time to consider just "What to Give"! This is always the problem of the Christmas Season.

WE COME TO YOUR RESCUE AND SAY GIVE FOOTWEAR.

There's nothing that will make more practical Gifts, and nothing that will be appreciated more!

HERE ARE A FEW SUGGESTIONS:

FOR MEN.

Comfort Boots, Business Boots, Storm Boots, Slippers, Black and Tan, Romeos, Black and Tan, Rubber Shoes, Boots and Gaiters.

FOR CHILDREN.

School Boots, School Rubbers, Slippers, Gaiters, Strap Slippers, Snugglets, Red, Black and White.

We'll make any exchanges desired after Christmas and do it with the greatest pleasure.

G. Knowling, Ltd., East, West and Central Shoe Stores.

dec14.

Genuine French Ivory Manicure and Toilet Sets, \$9.00 to \$65.00,

Solid Silver Toilet Sets, \$11.00,

—ALSO—

Signet Rings, \$3.50 to \$12.00; Birthstone Rings, \$2.50 to \$5.00; Cameo Rings, \$6.50 to \$12.00; Cameo Brooches, \$4.50 to \$10.00; Baby Rings, \$1.00 to \$1.50; Baby Bracelets, \$1.40; Ladies' High-Grade Wrist Watches, \$16.50 to \$24.00; Earrings, latest styles from Paris, \$1.00 to \$6.00, etc., etc.

SEE WINDOW DISPLAY.

If the "Xmas Present" you require is not in the window, please come inside, and we'll try and give you a satisfactory purchase.

D. A. McRae, Jeweller.

Holidays Are Kodak Days.

Put KODAK on Your Christmas List.

We have a complete line of Kodaks, Premo and Brownie Cameras, from the little Vest Pocket up to the big brother 3A.

PRICES:

Kodaks from \$8.60 up.

Brownies from \$2.30 up.

Premos from \$2.70 up.

There are lots of other Christmas suggestions at our store. Come in and let us show you.

TOOTON'S, The Kodak Store, 320 Water Street, St. John's.

PICKED UP.—The owner of a child's carriage wheel (tyred), picked up on Gover St. East this morning, can receive same by calling at this office.

ROOM PAPERS from 25c roll up.

THE WEST END BAZAAR, dec20,41 51 Water St. West.

To the

THIS S these day OUS FIL serve yo



Boxed Braces Sleeve Liner Merch

GIFT NE for

We have one of selections of G men that ever as A variety embel leading market every new design Prices: 4c

Have Yo to pl

GENTLEMEN It is intende solve the questio they are interest of

DRESSIN In some of the please nine can Prices ran

A Nice

A Carpet Sou Xmas gift. I bought his w body understan there can be a rug or square equally divid it. It gives b you cannot f the one. No t give years of We have b in the count ent nation HEART CARP

DAINTY

Our dispo ceptionally p mand for gift Fine Mus with narrow variety of cou gift-giving. Three, up

A Most App

The use of ble gift. The ing selection the handles m most elabora