

THE CHRISTMAS SPECIAL NUMBER OF THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE, (guaranteed circulation 15,000 copies) will be issued on Saturday December 18th. All advertisements for this issue must be sent in before Dec. 13th.

Port Rexton Boy Writes From Trenches

Jack Ploughman Writes His Mother a Cheery Letter—Parcel Sent Him Last August Hasn't Reached Him Yet

Gallipoli, Oct. 15, 1915. Dear Mother.—Just a few lines to say I received your letter a few days ago while I was in the trenches. I received your money at the same time; of course its unnecessary to say you cannot spend it in the trenches. I am quite well at present. I haven't any very narrow escapes to relate as yet, of course several bullets have passed very near me, but that's nothing. I am one of the lucky ones so far. I don't know how many have been wounded. I think there must be near forty, of course this is only guess work on my part. No doubt there is a list of casualties printed in the St. John's daily papers from time to time.

White went on board the Hospital Ship about a week ago, he was sick of pneumonia. I took his rifle and equipment and carried them to the red cross trenches and he walked over with me. He got a cold the first night he was in the trenches, of course it won't prove dangerous to him, but he's not likely to come back here for a long while.

Poor Billy Tibbs got wounded about a fortnight ago, no doubt you will have heard of it long before you get this letter. He was wounded by shrapnel in the hip and ankle; I don't think he will have to lose any part of his leg. The stretcher bearers who carried him to hospital said he had a heart like a dog. He started to unbutton his pants himself instead of having them cut off. I was in his dugout with him in the morning and left him my pipe. Twice in the afternoon I went to his dugout but he wasn't there, and two minutes after I came back the last time he got wounded. Had he been there when I went to look for him the chances are I would have got it with him. He still got my pipe poor boy wherever he is.

No doubt you will have heard good news from the Dardanelles before you get this letter. We are in rest trenches now, have been here for three or four days and we will soon be going in the firing line again. There are lots of stray bullets passing quite near over our heads this morning, but we are all well protected against them. We are in our dugouts and don't mind them in the least.

I am in a little dugout by myself and it reminds me of nothing else but a grave. Dugouts are just holes dug in the ground like graves and made the shape of a man, so that a person can lie down in it and be safe from shot or shell.

I certainly had to smile, mother, when I read a letter I had from a friend, saying there was only one of us to finish the 22 mile march. Who could have been silly enough to send that report home, do try and find out and let me know. I did the 22 mile march and I bet there wasn't two men of the whole regiment to drop out with sore feet. Newfoundland didn't send over a mob of chocolate soldiers but a hardy bunch of men. All the boys from around home are well, mother, except Whit and Billy and wish to be remembered to you, also Mr. White who taught school at English Harbor. Don't be uneasy about me, mother, I'll be a true soldier, I'll die at my post. If I happen to get wounded you would soon hear as there is a casualty list being sent home all the time. Please send me out a small writing pad and a pipe if you can manage it. I got lots of letters this last few days and was very glad to receive them. Miss Jessie Greenslade sent me a cake sometime in August, haven't got it yet.

Well, mother don't expect any long letters from me now, as long as you get field postal it will be alright, you will know then I am well. I know what it is to see Turkish shells pitching around, and I know the sound of a bullet singing over our head, but don't mind them in the least. I guess John Turk will have

OUR THEATRES.

THE CASINO. The beautifully historic and patriotic local pictures of the First Newfoundland Regiment commenced upon its second week at the Casino on Monday last and in conjunction with the remarkably film depicting the Great British General—Lord Kitchener—at the firing line in Flanders, continues to draw large audiences. These pictures are undoubtedly the finest military "movies" to have ever been exhibited, both having been taken by special permission of the war offices at their respective countries. To see "Our Boys" going through their drill &c. with such wonderful and clock-work precision is a treat in itself—added to this visit (official) of the world's greatest warrior to the trenches—in company with Generals Joffre, Juson, M. Miller and their staffs, is both highly entertaining and most instructive, giving one, as it does, an insight into the intricacies of trench work and the vast amount of skill and courage which must necessarily have been expended to finalize their ultimate completion. These great productions will be shown for the balance of the week.

ROSSLEY'S. How charmed and delighted were the patrons of Rossley's last night. Mr. Ballard Brown and his dainty little wife put over their numbers in splendid style. There never has been anyone seen at Rossley's to compare with Mr. Ballard Brown, with his fine stage presence and splendid voice, while Miss Madge Locke is positively charming. Everyone who can should see this act, and they will be well repaid, for it is very seldom one has the chance of hearing such singing and seeing the dances of such artists. The pictures, too, are fine, and are changed three times weekly. On Friday the great competition with several names already in. Look out for the great surprise and the pantomime.

THE CRESCENT. The Crescent Picture Palace presents to day Bessie Learn in a great Edison feature "An Unpaid Ransom" adapted from Scott Campbell's great story: "The Under Secretary." Alex Ridgely appear as the girl detective in "The Trap Door," a 2 reel Kalem feature: "The Puny Soul of Peter Rand" is a story of how Mother Love refines a Braggart. "Si and Sue, Acrobats" and "It Happened on Wash Day" are two laughable comedies. Mr. Dan Delmar sings "My Little Grey Home in the West." This is a favorite number of Mr. Delmar and you should hear him sing it. Altogether this is a great show, one that is sure to please Crescent patrons.

"PRAEBENDA REGIS" King George, like the Duke of Orleans, can claim ecclesiastical authority, for besides being the nominal head of the Established Church, he actually holds "orders" as prebendary of St. David's Cathedral. From time immemorial the "first curial prebend" of St. David's has been appropriated by the Crown, and the Sovereign drew the annual pension of £3 appertaining to the office. Since the days of Queen Elizabeth this remuneration, still known as the "Praebenda Regis," has been handed over by the Royal Prebendary to the Principal of Jesus College, Oxford.

to fire a few more yet before he makes it pay. I have popped off a few shots at the Turks and I am expecting to get a few more soon, its great sport using them as a target. Don't be uneasy about me, Mother, I will be alright. How is Jim and family. Give father lots of tobacco. Must close now, but will write every week, with love to all at home.

I remain, Your soldier lad, JACK PLOUGHMAN. [The above named is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Ploughman of Port Rexton, now serving with the Nfld. Regiment at the Dardanelles.]

ADVERTISING IN THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

Mr. Longly and the Water Pipes

What About the Pipes Marked With a Red Cross. What's the Whole Fizzle to Cost the Taxpayers?

Citizens generally are asking as to the result, if any, of Mr. Longley's visit a few days ago, and what it has cost for his experiment in Gills and Job's Coves. Some of the spectators remarked that even as far back as the days of Captain Reardon they saw far better pressures and better streams of water from the nozzles of the antiquated hose lengths then in use. It is up to the Commissioners now to give these enquirers the information wanted as to the result of Mr. Longley's visit and as to the meaning of the red crosses on the 20-inch water pipes.—Com.

SONS OF ENGLAND ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Sons of England Benefit Society was held last night when the following officers were elected:

- W. President—Bro. F. W. Pike, elected.
Fin. President—Bro. W. J. Pike, elected.
Chaplain—Bro. P. P. Williams, elected.
Rec. Secretary—Bro. Hunt, elected.
Fin. Secretary—Bro. W. J. Strong, elected.
Treasurer—Bro. C. K. Miller, re-elected.
Surgeon—Bro. Dr. T. Anderson, re-elected.
1st. Guide—Bro. G. F. Pike, elected.
2nd. Guide—Bro. R. Stevens, elected.
3rd Guide—Bro. Sellars, elected.
4th Guide—Bro. Winsor, elected.
5th. Guide—Bro. H. Sexton, elected.
6th. Guide—Bro. E. Frampton, elected.
Inside Guard—Bro. R. Morris, elected.
Outside G.—Bro L. Rose, re-elected.
Auditors—P. P. Chaffey, Bros. W. J. Pike and E. T. Snow.
Trustees—P.P.'s Thompson and Chaffey.

Removal Notice.—F. A. Mews, Barrister, Solicitor, & Notary. Address: CITY CHAMBERS, WATER STREET (over Royal Bank of Canada—1st Floor.)—dec4,2w,s,tu,th

Mr. F. Crane of Job Bros. & Co's office accompanied by his wife, left here by the Stephano for New York on a holiday trip to the United States.

SHIPPING

The S.S. Florizel left Halifax at noon yesterday here to-morrow afternoon.

The schr. Margaret McClashin sailed yesterday for Barbados with 1324 qtls codfish, 429 brls. herring and 19 qtls salmon from the Smith Co. Ltd.

The boys of the Christian Bros. Schools, St. Patrick's and Holy Cross, were given a holiday to-day, this being the 50th anniversary of the entry into the order of Rev. Bro. Whitty, who has several times visited St. John's.

Nfld. Fox Exchange at 276 Water Street, pays highest prices for all kinds of Raw Furs.—nov23

WOMEN'S MISSIONARY MEETING.

Last night the semi-annual meeting of the Wesley Auxiliary of the Women's Missionary Association was held in the basement of Wesley Church. Mrs. Royle presided.

After the Doxology and Invocation, reading of the Scriptures and prayer, Mrs. E. Lindsay gave an illustrated address on the work of the W.M.S. Miss Pike gave a recitation, "Christmas is coming" and Mrs. Hunter, President of the Branch, spoke of its excellent work. Miss Goobie and Miss L. Taylor rendered a beautiful duet, Miss Wornell recited "The Changed Cross" and Mrs. Payne delivered an address, urging all to work for the Auxiliary.

PICKED UP WITH \$270 IN POCKET

Yesterday an old man, a planter on Conception Bay, who had taken "too much" with some friends, fell on the Street and was not able to get up, when a policeman passing brought him to the station. It was well for him such occurred as in the lock up it was found that he had more than \$270 in his pocket.

OPORTO STOCKS.

Table with 4 columns: Stocks, (Nfld), Past Week, Prev. Week, Consumption. Values range from 18720 to 470.

We advise trappers to send their Furs to Nfld. Fox Exchange, 276 Water Street.—nov23

Syrians Fight With the Allies

Recent Letters Here say Turks are Making Many Efforts to Force Maronites to Join Them.—People of Mount Lebanon Badly Off.

People of the Syrian Colony in St. John's who have sons studying in the American College at Beirut, had letters from them recently via the United States, in which they tell of the hardships and sufferings of the Maronites of Mount Lebanon since Turkey entered the war. Though to a certain extent secure on the Mount, the Turks are trying by every means to induce these brave people to fight against their former protector, France and her great ally, England; but they refuse absolutely to do so. The partial fracture of their crops, added to secret persecution by the infidel enemies, have oppressed them severely, but up to date they have remained firm.

They have been approached with bribes by the Guosi-rebel Kamil Pasha but they remember the treachery of 1863, and his blandishments and bribes are futile. Kamil has the Druids with him and this renders them more suspicious of his promises. They fear he wishes to get them to commit themselves, so that when later he has an understanding with his friends, there will be a good pretext for a massacre.

Since the war began and before Turkey declared for the Huns thousands of the men got over to Egypt threw in their lot with the British and French forces. The Maronite Patriarch has sold all his vast property and distributed the cash it realized to feed the poor under his spiritual charge, the letters received here say:

He was to be taken as a hostage to Damascus but his people threatened a revolution, he appealed to the Austrian Ambassador to Turkey and Austrian influence saved him from persecution if not death at the hands of the Turks. A fund for the relief of the Maronites of Mount Lebanon was sent to the Patriarch has been started in New York and other American cities and is growing to great proportions.

All the Syrian people here are subscribing liberally to it. Quite a number of priests went forward with the men who joined the Allied forces, especially with the French, and are fighting valiantly, one of them being now in New York after being severely wounded. The Syrians are brave soldiers and are delighted to get a chance to even up, in a measure, old scores against their Turkish persecutors. The letters say that a win for the Allies means the salvation of Syria.

LOCAL ITEMS

We are glad to hear that Mr. John Henderson who has been ill the past few weeks is improving.

Four boys were arrested last evening by Const. Tobin on a charge of the larceny of a purse from a woman passenger on Monday's train. A drunk who had a lot of money in his possession was also brought in.

Mr. M. E. Condon returned a couple of days ago from Trinity and Bonavista Bays. Mr. Condon has invented and is preparing a trap for the catching of cod, herring and squid which will, he is assured, revolutionize the method of catching cod especially and will be of great value to our fishermen.

The funeral of the late Mrs. Marshall took place yesterday afternoon and was attended by a large number of citizens, including the employees of Marshall Bros. Interment was at the General Protestant Cemetery, where the service was conducted by Revs. Payne and Whitmarsh.

The annual sale of work of the St. Thomas' Womens Association will be held in Canon Wood Hall this afternoon and will be continued tonight. The object is a worthy and part of the proceeds go to the W. P. A. The sale, we feel sure, will be largely patronized by the public.

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

DECEMBER 8th.

Feast of Immaculate Conception. Polls officially closed this day in first general election in Newfoundland, after 74 days from nomination. The reason for the delay was because there was only one returning-officer in each district, and he had to visit and record the votes in each booth. The following men were returned in the first Parliament: St. John's, John Kent, William Thomas, Patrick Keough; Conception Bay, Robert Pack, Peter Brown, James Power, Charles Cousins; Fogo, Thomas Bennett; Trinity Bay, John Bingley Garland; Ferryland, Robert Carter; Placentia and St. Mary's, R. F. Sweetman, John Willis Martin; Burin, Wm. Hooper; Fortune Bay, N. W. Hoyle; Donavista, William Brown, 1832.

Sons of Temperance first organized here, 1850.

Governor Bannerman left Newfoundland, 1863.

Burning of a cathedral and two thousand people at Santiago, Chili, 1863.

Catholic cathedral, Harbor Grace, dedicated, 1868.

Rev. John E. Kinsella ordained, 1869.

Ecumenical Council opened at Rome 1869.

Sir Thomas Brassey died, 1870.

Melendez, the Malay cook, who killed a British sailor in the harbor, received first lashes in Penitentiary, 1876.

Governor Maxse died, 1883.

Jefferson Davis died, 1889.

James Mosedale, formerly of the firm of Muir and Mosedale, and for sometime buyer for the firm of Job Bros., died at Halifax. He made sixty trips across the Atlantic, 1888.

Messrs J. and W. Stewart's business closed, 1892.

New Catholic cathedral, Hr. Grace, dedicated, 1899.

SOLDIER SUFFERS FROM DEBILITY.

Private Gordon Snow, son of Mr. George Snow, who formerly worked in the F. P. U. Clothing Factory and also with L. and M. Trask, the motor engine manufacturers, and who has been in the trenches with our boys on Gallipoli, writes his friends saying that he is in hospital suffering from general debility, though his name does not appear in the general casualty list. He is a plucky lad and is only hoping that he soon will get better to go back to the firing line.

He says there are some others in the same hospital as he is, and he wishes to be remembered to his friends and chums here. Mr. Snow, his father, we are sorry to hear, is very ill of pneumonia.

Our Volunteers

The volunteers are beginning to show excellent marksmanship as the result of the training being given to them with the rifle. A few days ago they held an inter-section competition at the 200 yards range when the men showed a very creditable average.

The possible number of points was 40 and the averages excellent, as the section scores show. On Friday last shooting at the moving figure target, Corporal E. Baird and Pte. E. Ellis made the maximum number of hits and are two fine riflemen. The figures of the competition were as follows:

Table with 4 columns: Sec., Pts., Men, Aver. Values range from 1 to 320.

Yesterday the Volunteers were put through the various drills in the armoury and received their kit at the hands of Mr. O'Rourke and his aides. The roll now contains 2622 names with these additions:

Ian Dick-Graham, St. John's. Geo. Poole, Burin. Harry Clarke, Whitbourne. George Pike, Bristol's Hope. John Oliver, Grand Lake.

An eccentric woman is one who perters comfort to style.

With "Ours" At Gallipoli

Extracts From Letter Received From Private Fred Snow, Son of Mr. Geo. Snow, Pleasant St.—Had Encounter With Turks

"There were nine of us sent out on patrol, we had to go upon a hill from 7 o'clock in the night until we were relieved at 7 o'clock the following night. We arrived there about two or three minutes before the Turks, and with what time we had, we built ourselves a little barricade with rocks. There were quite a number of them when they attacked us. At the start we wounded a Turk, he was moaning all night; he must have been creeping up to us, for he was not more than 10 yards ahead of us. Then a big Turk with plenty of pluck walked up to him. I threw two bombs but neither of them seemed to hit him. So he got into the little dugout where the wounded Turk must have crawled, and when he was getting out Lieut. Donnelly said to me "there he is." I whipped my rifle to my shoulder and fired; it dropped him before you could say "Jack Robinson." So he has gone to the happy hunting grounds.

About five minutes after I got a crack on the head, it was then 1 a.m., they bound me up and about 5 o'clock I went in. They threw about 35 bombs at us; it lasted until 8 o'clock the next morning. We could not go back because if they got us down in the gully we were finished.

We began to run short of ammunition, so they rolled me over, took mine and slacked their fire. Anyhow, we came out of it alright, it was just luck, as they could have rushed, as they were so many of them, but if they did they would have to pay for it.

Now another party started out to try and find us but the Turks caught them in the gully, killed one and wounded two, one of the two a chap named Murphy, died coming over to the hospital ship. He was two beds from me. I forgot to say we also had another chap wounded in the neck."

Mrs. S. Ebsary of the South Side had a letter from her son a couple of days ago written at Gallipoli. He is in good trim and says that near him is Pte. Alder Whiteway, son of Mr. Eli Whiteway, who is also in excellent health and spirits. Both wish to be remembered to their friends here.

We hear from good authority that the Investigating Committee appointed to enquire into the short age at the City Club has all but completed its labours and that the Club has been "stuck" for several thousands of dollars, which it will be unfortunately impossible to recover. It will be remembered when The Mail and Advocate exclusively referred to this matter, the little "know-all" of The Herald asserted the Club was not "stuck." Will the little busy-body make the same assertion now?

We learn that within the past few days a most sensational affair has cropped up in connection with a certain mining property in Conception Bay. As far as we can hear the shareholders have been, it is alleged, victimized to the extent of several thousands of dollars by an official of the syndicate which had the mine running. Some prominent clerics we understand are amongst the victims and it is asserted that sensational developments may soon occur.—Com.

BIG GERMAN OPERATIONS SPOKEN OF IN MESOPOTAMIA

GENEVA, Dec. 7.—The Germans are preparing on a large scale for operations in Mesopotamia, under Field Marshal Baron Kolmar von Der Goltz, who has just been appointed Commander of the Turkish forces in Mesopotamia, according to private information received here, although it is not impossible that they may make their principal efforts this winter from Bagdad towards the Persian Gulf.