

**--JUST IN--**  
**No. 1 King APPLES**  
**Florida Sweet ORANGES**  
**J. J. ROSSITER.**

Our Motto: "Suum Cuique."  
  
 ("To Every Man His Own.")

**The Mail and Advocate**  
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**Too Much Cocksurenness**

WE are all wishing for good news from the theatre of war. What hurrahing there would be were it to be officially announced that a crushing defeat had been inflicted upon the enemy by the British or by the forces of any of our Allies! May we soon have such true message!

But we must take the war news as it comes. If we have to wait long for reports of victories shattering to the power of the enemy let us do so not only patiently, but resolutely. Much is said about the fine moral effect of favorable war news. But has not the lack of favorable war news a moral effect that is something to the purpose? It ought to be a stimulus to the will to conquer. We have had some good news, and we have had abundance of optimism as to the eventual issues of the struggle. Has that been as bracing to our war spirit as it ought to be? The present rate of recruiting does not warrant a reply in the affirmative. If, instead of feeling perfectly safe, instead of securely relying on the men now in the field, we were apprehensive of the outcome, there would be more men coming forward to enlist. If we were doubtful instead of confident about the issue our eligible men would behave as the man usually does whose back is in a corner and whose only chance lies in fighting for all he is worth. "The inspiration of good news" is all very well as a phrase, but it does not amount to much as, a fact. The real test of the spirit of a man is reverse. The man who loses heart when affairs are not going well with him is certainly not in fighting trim. The note of alarm seems to be all that is lacking in the appeal to men to come forward for the defence of their country.

It will therefore perhaps be as useful if less is said about the certainty of our winning and if the danger of our losing is dwelt upon more often and more earnestly than it has heretofore been. One thing is clear—that fine buoyant feeling of optimism which leaves the stern business of war to other men while we take our comfort, will not win any battles, will not save the Empire.

Let us get the right idea about the enemy power that is most to be dreaded. As it is not doing our side much good to be hugging the notion that we are certain to win, so it will not do our side much good to keep on believing that the German people and the German troops are fighting against their will or against their conscience. To suppose the rank and file of the German army and the German people know, and are hampered by the knowledge, that they are waging a war of aggression upon the lives and liberties of unoffending peoples, would be to deceive ourselves. The German people are completely under the influence of the German Government, which uses the press as an organ of misinformation. They are convinced that the aggression is the other

**FRANCE TO HAVE A NEW GOV'T**

PARIS, Dec. 7.—Following the example of Great Britain changes of moment can be foreseen also in France, in fact the coming to a head of the British situation has only hastened in France developments which were before practically certain. The secret session of the Chamber Deputies, at which the demands of the French "knockout" group are being urged, has now almost reached its end. It probably would have lasted several days longer, and there is little reason to doubt that the result would have been the same, but after the British action, further decision has become practically impossible. The resolution presented by the "knockouts" for decision of the Chamber reads as follows:

"In the interests of the national defence it is urgent that a secret session of the Chamber of Deputies be held as soon as possible, and that in a precise memorandum the people's representatives point out to the Government the demand of the country."

There is no doubt as to what this means, and there is no doubt as to what will be the result—a complete change.

**OFFICIAL**

**FRENCH**  
 LONDON, Dec. 6.—The following is officially reported to-day from the Franco-Belgian front:—Aside from intermittent shelling in the Ancre area, there was nothing to report last night.

**SERBIAN.**  
 SALONIKA, Dec. 7.—An official from the Serbian headquarters to-day reads:

"There was a violent artillery duel on the whole Serbian front yesterday northeast of Budimirsa. By a brilliant assault we carried strongly fortified positions, defended tenaciously, and took a large number of prisoners."

**ITALIAN.**  
 CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 7.—A War Office communication issued to-day says an attempt by the enemy at a landing near Akabah (on the Sinai Peninsula) was frustrated. Our advance in the direction of Vandan and Hezza continues.

**French Gunboat Sunk By Submarine**

LONDON, Dec. 7.—The French gunboat "Surprise" has been sunk by German submarines off Funchal, Madiera, according to an announcement by the Portuguese Minister of Marine. A wireless despatch received from Lisbon says 34 of the crew of the gunboat perished.

A few Portuguese were also killed aboard the steamers Kangaroo and the Daira which were torpedoed.

According to a despatch to the Exchange Telegraph from Lisbon which says news has been received from Maderia that 34 persons were killed during a bombardment of Funchal. The submarines shelled the shore for two hours, especially the English cable station and other public buildings. Only small damage was done, and the steamers Kangaroo and Daira were torpedoed.

**Investigation Has Been Ordered**

ATHENS, Dec. 7.—The Greek Government has replied to the representations of the neutrals' Ministers regarding the maltreatment of Venizelists giving assurance that an investigation has been ordered.

way about, that the Allies were the beginners of the war and that the sole motive of the Allies' hostility was the desire to crush Germany. The Berlin Government's success in thus misleading the German people has been of great military value. It has wrought up the German masses to the highest pitch of patriotism and has roused in them the spirit of sacrifice and fury of fighting that are usually to be encountered in a nation that is making a stand against powerful oppressors who threaten its life.

We must get something of the thought that is actuating the German masses who are throwing their whole all into this struggle. When we do, there will be nothing more for the recruiting agents to do, and there will be nothing to prevent the eventual result, we now too unquestioningly take for granted.

**REVEILLE**  
 BY CALCAR

EACH ONE of our city dailies has in turn given space to a news item to the effect that "Game is scarce."

From hunters returning from Gaff Topsails and other famous hunting grounds along the railway line the same tale is heard of scarcity of caribou. Along the Southern Coast people are optimistic enough to find consolation in the thought that a change of weather will yet bring the deer along.

It is supposed by the people living along the South Coast that mild weather is prevailing north and as a consequence the herds have not begun to migrate from their summer haunts. This is a fool's paradise to live in, and the idea can only be entertained by very poorly informed people. We must know that there has been considerable of what might be truly termed wintry conditions prevailing north for quite a long time.

With the first snow flurries the deer begin their march southwards. These we have had in volumes amounting to good sized snow storms. There were considerable snow falls early in October sufficient to start the deer out, and that they have not come trooping out along the southerly trail is because they are not there to troop. That is all there is to it, and the sooner people get this same consideration into their heads the better, for on this depends whether they are to demand an official pronouncement on the matter or not, or whether they will demand action in the way of preserving the remnant of our once immense herds that we once possessed.

We have been hammering at this subject of game preservation a long time, but so far there has been little effect noticeable among those responsible for our game laws. Unless we are backed up by a strong public opinion there is little hope that anything is going to be done in the matter. The Game Board is a public nuisance and the first thing the people should demand is the dismissal of that body of incompetents.

Game is being slaughtered right and left, wherever it is met with, this is well known. That caribou are becoming scarce is also coming to be a well recognized fact, yet we find the Game Board doing nothing in the premises. The question resolves itself down to this: either the Game Board is aware of the slaughter that is going on, or it is unaware of it.

If aware (and we cannot see how they can be ignorant of it) they are guilty of treachery towards this Country by sitting down in inactivity while the herds of caribou are being decimated and the partridge, hares, etc., are being reduced to the vanishing point. If they are not aware then there is very good reason for the dismemberment of that Board for their ignorance offers no palliation circumstances that can in any way plead excuse for them. The Game Board is there receiving \$20,000 a year to carry out conservative measures tending to the preservation of our game. The whole tenor of their encumbrance of office has been stupidity and supine inaction.

In respect to our salmon and trout streams they have been as stupid as stupid can be. The funny thing about the matter (if anything pertaining to levity may be permitted to vex so weighty a question) is that no matter what good intentions you may approach the Board on these matters you are received with the rankest discourtesy. Are we living in an age of freedom or are we mere vassals that we dare not speak of what we know to be absolute fact without encountering the ill will or worse of a set of men who are armed with a power they are so poorly equipped to exercise with common sense.

What is the Game Board doing anyway? Why to be frank about the matter were it not for this column most people would soon forget their existence except of course those who directly are effected in their hunting pursuits by the lop sided regulations of the Board. What is the Board doing in the matter of holding an investigation into the game resources of the country? What is the Board doing about this question of selling game in the market?

To our mind it is time that we put an end to this selling of caribou

**VARIA**  
 BY GALE

resume our articles under this heading after having had some very interesting experiences—experiences which have enabled us to realize how interesting some of our former lucubrations were appreciated by readers of *The Mail and Advocate*. Our subject now is one of a very interesting nature—Money.

A famous discipline of the Apostle of the Gentiles terms money "the root of all evil"; but it is, unfortunately, in these strenuous times (when the Reids are bleeding the toilers of this country of every available dime by freight charges, the Red Cross magnates gathering in our loose quarters and the coal barons fleeing the wage earners of the last dollars, an "evil" so necessary that we must have it if we wish to remain as denizens of this nether sphere over winter.)

If ever the expression "money talks" had a meaning, it has special significance now. By the way in bygone days, money not only "talked"; it even "walked," and a man who had collected an account in terms of sheep and oxen could stroll homewards, while the currency he received walked on ahead. The Latins called a herd of cattle "pecus," and wealth expressed in cattle was called "pecunia" (a word found frequently in connection with the Newfoundland Government and some of its officials, as

**GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS**

DECEMBER 7  
 General Sir Redvers Buller born, 1839.  
 Big fire near old chapel; over twenty houses burnt, and fifty families rendered homeless, 1859.  
 Governor Maxse left for England in ill-health, 1881.  
 Schr. Queen of Swansea sailed from this port for Tilt Cove with Dowsley party, 1867.  
 Very Rev. Dean Ryan lectured for Star of the Sea; subject, "True Cause of Civilization," 1875.  
 Corner stone of Alexander St. Methodist Church laid by Hon. C. R. Ayre, 1886.  
 Rutherford B. Hayse elected President of United States by one majority, 1876.  
 Bishop Power was buried this day; the funeral was a large one, and was attended by all classes and creeds, 1893.  
 Employees of Bishop & Monroe presented Walter S. Monroe with silver set, on occasion of his marriage, 1899.

**A DUAL WEDDING AT GOWER STREET CHURCH**

Last evening a double wedding took place at Gower Street Church, when Captain W. Foote, one of Burin's best known and successful bank captains, led to the altar Mrs. H. Hiscock, the popular stewardess of the S.S. Portia, and Mr. W. Collins of the same place was united in Hymens Bonds to Miss Susan Inkpen. Capt. Joseph Kean of the Portia acted best man for Capt. Foote and Mr. Ken Blair attended in the same capacity for Mr. Collins. The weddings were celebrated by Rev. T. B. Darby and only the immediate friends of the contracting parties were present. A sumptuous wedding supper was later partaken of at Woods' and the health of both brides and grooms heartily honoured. Both the brides were the recipients of many valuable presents and with their husbands leave by the Portia to-day for Burin. In common with many friends *The Mail and Advocate* wishes them every happiness.

**they are frequently in pecuniary difficulties).**

"For a pecuniary consideration" was an expression freely bandied about in connection with a certain iniquitous transaction consummated by the Newfoundland Government in the annus mirabilis set down in the local Calendar as "the year of the Railway Deal."

To understand the meaning of certain terms used in connection with business transactions, we must remember that the first members of the human race were a pastoral people, and values were estimated in the number of cattle and in the produce of the land. Thus we find what we now call money, or more accurately "currency" derives most of its terminology from things associated with husbandry. The English word "fee" originally meant cattle which were the medium of exchange among the early English people, the Germans, Dutch, and Scandinavians. By the way we notice that the last mentioned are now reverting to iron coins owing to the embargo placed by the British Government on copper. The Indian "rupee" comes from the Sanskrit *rupa* which means cattle; and to this we may also refer the shekel (Kesitah) of the Book of Job rendered by interpreters as "jamb."

In olden times, among the Indian tribes, the universal ratio of value between sheep and oxen was ten to one. At the present day cattle are the circulating medium among the Zulus and the Kaffirs of South Africa; while ponies have been current among redskins in large transactions for generations.

Various other commodities have been used as a medium of exchange, or currency. Tin was employed in ancient Syracuse and Britain, iron in Sparta, a preparation of leather among the Carthaginians, platinum in Russia, lead in Burma, nails in Scotland, pieces of silk among the Chinese, cubes of pressed tea in Tartary, salt in Abyssinia, cowrie shells on the coast of Africa, tobacco in Virginia (United States), and soap in Mexico. We must not overlook our own former medium of exchange (the quintal of fish). Time was, and we believe it exists in certain sections to-day (where the trader plies his huckster business), when the quintal of fish was the standard of value of everything from a wedding to the clergyman's dues. We have witnessed some rather ludicrous incidents in this connection. But happily times have changed in this respect, and barter is no longer brought within the domain of religion.

In the writer's early days the clerjymen of the various denominations were accustomed to start out on a quest for their fees during the early Fall months, and in conjunction with clerical paraphernalia, each clergyman usually carried a steelyard (later supplanted by the spring-balance) in order to gather in his annual stipend. Should there be a wedding

during the itinerary, the prospective groom boarded the clerical craft bringing his fee with him in the shape of a quintal of "prime merchantable" (some of the old clerjymen were expert "cutlers.") After these requisite preliminaries, the clergyman went ashore and tied the nuptial knot. Church subscriptions, doctors' fees, blacksmiths' bills were adjusted through a codfish medium. It most a pity that this system is not in vogue at the present time when fish is selling at \$8 to \$9 per quintal! It would materially help the ministers of the various denominations to meet the high cost of living.

Nowadays the money of the world is coined from gold, silver, and copper metals which are intrinsically valuable. They are in requisition for purposes other than coinage, notably so since the beginning of the War. Besides, they wear out very slowly; they are very easily divisible and malleable, and can be readily alloyed and refined. Gold and silver especially are largely distributed over the globe, and yet are of sufficient scarcity; they are of the same quality wherever found, and are subject to fewer fluctuations in value than any other commodities known—a quality which is a prime requisite in money. In exactly the degree in which the value of money were unstable should it cease to be a trustworthy standard of value, while in the same degree exchanges would be made difficult and unstable.

**Reid-Newfoundland Co.**  
**SOUTH COAST SERVICE.**  
**S. S. "GLENCOE"**  
 will sail from Placentia on Monday, Dec. 11th, and will call at the usual ports of call between Placentia and Port-aux-Basques.  
**Reid-Newfoundland Co.**

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