

The Lure of the Labrador

(By DR. WILFRED T. GRENFELL, M.D., F.R.C.S.)

ARTICLE I.

Only those who know by personal experience the northern coast of Newfoundland and the Labrador coast, and know from the point of view of personal comradeship, those who make their living from its fisheries and fur trapping, can understand why anyone really loves it, or ever believe that they really do so. Nowhere is there more common than in Newfoundland—they understand a willingness to live in St. John's or Harbour Grace or St. Lawrence, but I do not think I exaggerate when I say that the bulk of the people who live in St. John's itself cannot understand that there is any attraction to living in the North, even if I temper it and say "with occasional visits to so-called civilization." No day think any man who is willing to spend the larger part of his life in the North, or Labrador must go there to make money, to become famous, or because he is a fool, or a hero, not an ordinary man. To attempt to convince my readers otherwise through the medium of a newspaper, I realize would be an unjustifiable expenditure of time in a critical year like this, when all one's energies are called for day by day to meet the immediate problems of poverty and want, starvation amongst the friends of the largest part of our life. There must be a quota, however, in every British audience, who have that ineradicable British sense of character which makes them actually crazy to go and leave the fish pots and dwell in the uttermost parts of the Empire. There will always be some who will never understand and believe this, and they will, according to their temperament, class as "explorer" or Rudyard Kipling as a hero, a fool, or poitely, an "explorer" as their own measure of generosity and stature permits. The facts are not altered, and the real Englishman doesn't the least what you call him. It was the "English" on the heights of Allouez, who won that decisive world war, because the French commander-in-chief said, after his cavalry had ridden through and through their lines, they "didn't know they had been beaten." During the past thirty years many hundreds of English Canadian and Americans, who have stayed longer or shorter periods with us on these coasts, especially school teachers—a class who can judge—have discovered the lure of this coast and the characters of the kinds of people it evolves. They are carried back with them such vivid visions that the stream continually increases. It is only lack of imagination and of opportunity that keeps the numbers that come. To those hundreds have to be recalled yearly the privilege of a visit to their own expense does sound at first an "exaggeration," is so easy of proof from our prosaic record book that it offer it as a truth which my readers can rely on with quite as justifiable confidence as many states, that they will listen to from the lips of men in far more prominent positions in the Colony than that of a "medical doctor" in the far North.

This article would have to transcend all bounds of reason if it tried to illustrate the real lure of the North, sufficiently to satisfy my wish, beyond dispute. To sustain my contention, references to unprejudiced people, who know the facts, are considered in these busy days to be satisfactory a way as any. I must commend all the readers of this paper to all the hundreds of visitors past or present, or to those whose occupations as captains of steamers or fishing craft on our coast have brought them in contact with our visitors, a class well able to judge, for nearly all come from an entirely rich class, and have been able to buy, and have already sampled, those conventional joys of civilization that range from the moving picture show to the private aeroplane, and from Coney Island to the grand tour around this globe. They include scores from the highest heights of aristocracy and plutocracy from both sides of the Atlantic. To those who have ears and yet can't understand, it sounds only an exaggeration to say that as far as my memory goes every single one has through all these years developed only the Oliver Twistian passion for more, at whatever cost; thus, in a fisherman's cottage on the Straits Shore this winter is a young volunteer lady-teacher, at her own expense for a second winter, whose family are known from New York to San Francisco. Why? Because she likes it. Candidates this year came from such sources as the family of the president of one of the richest companies in the world has ever known, and from the British House of Commons from a millionaire's son to join our staff, the latter having sampled Eton and Cambridge has so far succumbed to the lure of the North that he, with others, one of the scion of a noble house, is wintering in Labrador on our volunteer staff. One doctor of philosophy who, for seventeen years has spent the summer teaching in the tiny schools as a volunteer to join our staff, the latter having sampled Eton and Cambridge has so far succumbed to the lure of the North that he, with others, one of the scion of a noble house, is wintering in Labrador on our volunteer staff. One doctor of philosophy who, for seventeen years has spent the summer teaching in the tiny schools as a volunteer to join our staff, the latter having sampled Eton and Cambridge has so far succumbed to the lure of the North that he, with others, one of the scion of a noble house, is wintering in Labrador on our volunteer staff.

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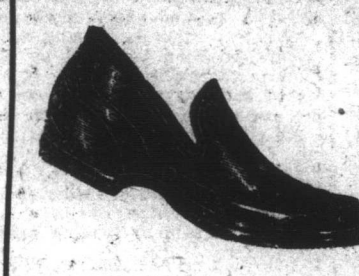
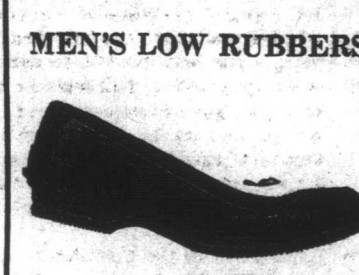



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Side Talks by Ruth Cameron

A COMFORT BOX

Having answered a letter the other day, I started to destroy it, as is my custom. And then I stopped. I couldn't bear to because it was such a terribly nice letter. It seemed like destroying something precious, even though I had read it and stored away the tenderness and kindness of it in my heart.

Keep Them to Look at When You're Down.

I said as much to the Authorman and he answered at once, "Don't keep it."

"But," said I, "I don't keep an answer letter. I can't very often because I have so many that I should soon have to move out of the house to make room for them if I did."

"Start a file," he said, "for extra special nice letters and things of that sort. Keep it to look at times when you're down. You know how I feel."

It seems to me one might also keep in one's Comfort Box little notes on some of the kind things people have said.

If the above-mentioned woman had had a Comfort Box to look into with records in it of some of the high lights of her life, might it not have helped her in the climb back to courage and cheerfulness?

If you had one, might it not some day help you?

Household Notes.

Rubber household aprons are excellent for bathing baby, laundry work, and dish washing.

Asparagus tips and hard-cooked eggs make a good combination for the Sunday night supper.

Little tarts are nice filled with cranberry sauce, baked in a hot oven, and sprinkled with sugar.

If sweet-scented grass baskets lose their fragrance, immerse them in instant boiling water.

If you wrap your cheese in a cloth moistened with cold vinegar, the cheese will neither mold nor dry.

A Luxurious Laundry.

One of the most wonderful laundries in the world is to be found in San Francisco.

The main building, which is two hundred and seventy-five feet square, is divided into two immense rooms by a fireproof wall, and it has been arranged so that all the washing ends at the extreme left of the building, and is discharged, ready for use, on the right.

The garments are handled almost entirely by labour-saving devices, which have been installed at the cost of about £20,000. One hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds of soft soap are used every week. This is made in a special plant, so situated that the liquid soap is delivered to each battery of wash-wheels by special piping.

All water is secured from artesian wells on the premises, and that used for washing purposes is softened by a specially-constructed apparatus.

Every machine in the laundry is operated by electric motors, the current for which is generated in the laundry's own power-house.

Stafford's Phoratorine Cough and Cold Cure for all kinds of Coughs and Colds. Price 35c. Postage 10c. extra.—oct27,12

Fish That Chews the Cud

If someone asked you, "What is that which has a beak like that of a parrot and cheek pouches like those of a monkey, lives in the sea, and chews the cud like a cow?" you might imagine it was some kind of catch riddle. Yet there is a custom which answers this description perfectly. It is called the parrot fish.

It inhabits the warm waters of the Mediterranean, where it lives by browsing on the weeds that flourish on the sea floor.

The upper and lower jaws have become hardened into a sharp curved

A Sealskin Church.

The world's queerest church was discovered not long ago by a missionary in the Arctic. It stands on Blacklead Island, Cumberland Sound, and is constructed entirely of seal-skins.

Wood and other building material not being available, the missionary responsible for its erection sawed the skins together and stretched them over whalebone "girders."

Another Eskimo missionary built a church of snow, with seats, altar, and pulpit complete. He stated that his snow-built edifice was warmer than most churches he had visited in England.

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MINARD'S LINIMENT FOR GARGET IN COWS

New Cure for Blindness (?)

THE SUNLIGHT, HOT SALT, AND ICE-WATER BATHS.

Senator Thomas P. Gore, of Oklahoma, after being totally blind for forty years, is now believed to have a fighting chance to recover his vision owing to extraordinary treatment applied by Dr. Samuel Harris, of Boston. Senator Gore lost his left eye at the age of eight, when he was accidentally struck with a stick by a playmate (says a cable to the "New York Herald" Paris edition). Three years later he lost his right eye in a similar accident. Dr. Harris decided that blindness was due to improper circulation. He prescribed a simple treatment, including looking directly into the sun, so as to let the bright light filter behind the lens of the eye, and the application of massages alternating with hot salt and ice-water baths. The senator's secretary telegraphed to Dr. Harris a few days ago saying that the senator's eyes were becoming extremely sensitive to the sunlight.



Headaches Gone

Perhaps you can imagine what this means to one who has suffered terribly with headaches for ten years.

Read about it in this latter.

Mrs. Tena A. Smith, Country Harbor Cross Roads, N. S., writes:

"I feel that if anyone can recommend Dr. Chase's medicine I certainly can. I suffered for ten years from severe headaches, and although I took all kinds of headache powders they just relieved me at the time. I became very nervous and run-down, and everything seemed to trouble me. I have taken eighteen boxes of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food and it has made an entirely new person of me. I felt that I could not have lived without it. I do not have one headache now, for every hundred I used to have, and my nerves are good and strong. I just weighed 105 pounds when I began using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, and now I weigh 121. Knowing what this medicine has done for me, I cannot too highly recommend it to others."

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