

Telephone Sketches

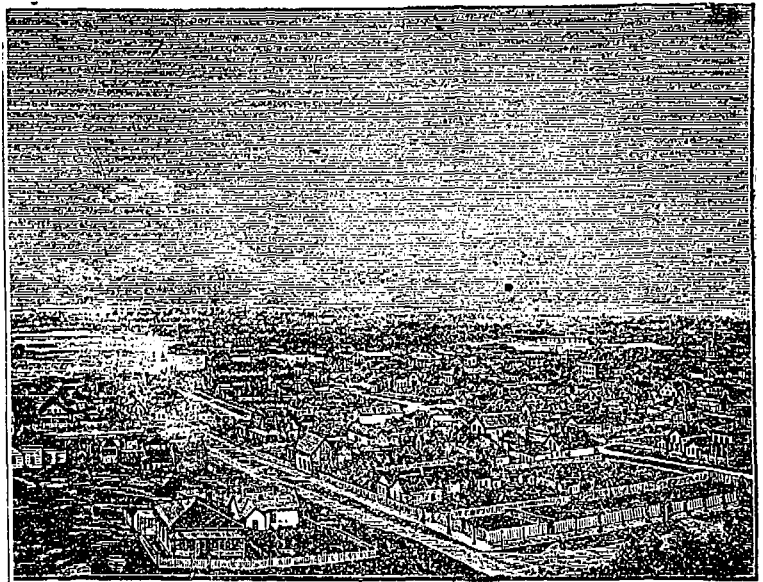


'HELLO!' 'Lennoxville wants you.' 'All right, Lennoxville.' 'Is that you, Didymus?' 'Yes, why?' 'Its Charlie McDougall talking. Say! I want you to put an ad. in your paper, Collego Hotel, giving a good description of its position. Got up a good one and cheap. Business opens up first rate. Me and Lon. get along tip-top. I guess if you saw us you'd think we were running the shebang in partnership. Come up and see a feller when you've got time. Hold on half a minute, Martin Luther wants you.' 'Is that you, Didymus?' 'Yes, an' its asy recognizing you by the potheen. I didn't know Charlie kept anything to encourage Irishmen.' 'Never you mind. How's every inch of you?' 'First rate. I want to see you. Can't you come down?' 'Indeed I can't, I've got to take the express for Ottawa. McKenzie Bowell wants to see if we can't arrange to have one day fixed for both parties, instead of keeping up the seventeenth of Ireland and the twelfth of July.' 'Well, can you stay over here on your way back?' 'No, I've got to come in by the morning train, and take the Quebec Central to investigate some matter out Beauce way. You see, as a magistrate, my jurisdiction extends over the whole Province.' 'Well, when you get back from there?' 'Then I've got to see the chief, Mr. Hamford, about putting in a culvert on the Quebec line, to give the Dudswell Lime Company's Railway a connection with the Grand Trunk.' 'Well, when you get through with that can't you spare half a day?' 'No, the Premier wants my assistance in selecting a batch of good Liberal men for justices of the peace. He sees I'm overworked, and he believes in a division of labor.' 'He don't propose a division of spoils, does he?' 'No, he didn't say anything about that. But hold on! If Bowell and myself don't come to terms, I've got to be in Sherbrooke to fix a programme for the seventeenth, and I'll give you a call then.' 'All right. Good boy.' 'Hello!' 'Is that the Gazette office?' 'Yes.' 'Will you tell Wilcox to send over.' 'Toll Mrs. Cox what?' 'Oh, bother! Wilcox! your press foreman.' 'Confound it, what is it?' 'I want proof.' 'What proof?' 'Hurry up, I can't stand here all day.' 'Toll Wilcox to send over proof.' 'Dash it, I can't understand a word you say. I wish people wouldn't bother me when I'm busy. Dash the thing anyway.' 'Hello.' 'Is that the Gazette office?' 'Don't bother me anymore. I can't understand you.' 'Have you got those new time-tables ready? Canadian Pacific! Time-tables.' 'I say, don't talk to me again. Dash it. I won't answer another call.' 'Hello! Central. Give me the Gazette office. What's the trouble? Can't you get there?' 'No, I don't understand it.

They just rung off a second before you called. I'll try them again. No, I can't get them. 'Hello! Is that Molly McGinnis?' 'Faith it is.' 'Well then, its Johanna that's talkin'. The munter and mistress is gone to Montreal, and if ye'll come over it's a five o'clock tay we'll have, an' we'll ax some of the b'ys in for a bit of supper an' a game of forty-fives.' 'Och, masha, then! I'll be wid ye in sayson. I'll hurry and finish up mo wurruk, an' its on time I'll be sure.' 'Hello!' 'Compton wants you.' 'Go ahead Compton.' 'Mr. Saultrey wants to talk to you.' 'All right.' 'Can't I have a release drawn up for my wife to sign that'll be good?' 'Yes, if she signs before two witnesses, and has it sworn to before a magistrate.' 'What's that again?' 'Let her sign and have it sworn to.' 'I'm going down to-morrow, and I'll get you to make it out.' 'All right. Bring all the papers.' 'Bring what?' 'Papers! deeds!' 'Yes, I see, all the titles. All right. I can understand you better now. I couldn't make you out very well at first.' 'Hello!' 'Will you come out to Key Pond to-day? The signs are right for fishing, and I've got the provisions. It's Gordon that's talking.' 'What time do you want to leave?' 'Three o'clock will do, so we can get to Isidore's before dark.' 'Very well, I'll be on hand.' 'Say, I want you to get what supplies we want. Just have them packed at Fuller's, and I'll call there and get them. You needn't get any snake-bite remedy, because at this time of the year we'll be more likely to see snakes with it than if we don't take it. Take plenty of line and hooks.' 'Hello!' 'Is that Parker's store?' 'Yes.' 'What sort of oysters do you call those you sent up?' 'First rate. Didn't you find them so?' 'No, I didn't find them so.' 'We got them in this morning.' 'What's the use of talking like that; they were nearly rotten.' 'Perhaps they hung up on the road to make them tender.' 'I'll make you tender if you play me such a trick again.' 'Keep



cool! Keep cool! No great harm done. We'll send up another lot in place of them next time the team goes up. Sorry they turned out bad.



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