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**J. J. ROSSITER**  
Real Estate Agent

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE."



(To Every Man His Own.)

**The Mail and Advocate**

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Editor and Business Manager  
**JOHN J. ST. JOHN**

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., DEC. 24th, 1915.

**THY WILL BE DONE**

FROM dark to dark; from sun to sun;

I strive to pray: "Thy will be done."

What in Thy eyes, seems good to Thee;

I try to say: "Is good to me."

And yet—O, Lord, he was so young;

He was my son, my only one!

So few the years it seems, since he His evening prayers said at my knee!

And now, somewhere 'neath Thy gray skies;

So low, so lone, so cold he lies;

He asked not, "Was it 'N or well?"

Just for his country honor fell.

"Thy will be done!" To say's my part;

Because a bullet found his heart.

—Margaret Erskine.

**Xmas**

THE old familiar greeting "Peace on earth; good will to men" is alas impossible of being fulfilled to-day. Instead of the hearty hand-shake and old but nevertheless time-honored wish quoted above, the roar of the cannon and the cries of wounded and dying will greet to-morrow's sun. The world, to-morrow, instead of being of a peaceful mood will boldly proclaim that the spirit of Christianity which for over two thousand years has come down from generation to generation is dead, and that man's brute passions have taken possession of his Christian instincts. Will future historians write of the present world war as an example of how the teachings of the Saviour were repudiated by nations in the years of 1915-1916? We too in our own time and generation have read of the rise of the pagan nations to the higher planes of Christianity and readers of early history have found joy in the fact that the Message of Christ had for over two thousand years stood all tests.

The world to-day, and our little island has had not escaped, is mourning the loss of millions of her sons. Many a mother to-morrow will offer a prayer to the Great White Throne for her first born now sleeping under an alien sky; many a home will be without a kind and loving father. The world to-morrow will indeed be sad; but in our sadness we can see a ray of sunshine.

The principals of "Peace on earth good will towards men" have been challenged by the German Emperor and the military machine of Germany. In reply to his challenge England (mistress of them all), France, Russia, Italy, Serbia, and Montenegro, have joined hand in hand in defense of the common rights of Humanity. The Iron Heel of Militarism which would dominate the world in such a manner as there could never be "Peace on Earth" has been checked; but checked at enormous loss of human lives, which has left pain and misery in its wake. It is the spirit of "Good will towards men" that has made this great sacrifice possible, and the blood shed by our fellow Britain and their brave Allies in defense of humanity, right and justice, will cement the old Christmas greeting of "Peace on earth: good will towards men" in the years to come.

Out of this great war now raging a new world will be born. The ideals of Christian teachings will be more easily applicable. The doctrine of the brotherhood of man will be more readily availed of, and those brave fellows who to-day, yesterday and to-morrow, laid down their lives on Europe's blood soaked fields must have felt during their last moments that their sacrifice was not in vain.

We here in Terra Nova, the oldest daughter of the Greatest Empire the world has ever seen, have too felt the horrors of war. Many a home in Newfoundland to-morrow will be with out some familiar face; many a mother's heart will pine for a favorite son, whilst many a maiden will think and pray for him whose blood has blotted perhaps for ever more, her pages of life's story.

Howbeit we have much to be thankful for, for whilst we have felt in many ways the agony of war, we have been spared the fate of the unfortunate people of Poland, Belgium and Serbia. Things might have been worse with us, and for such we surely feel grateful.

To the parents and relatives of our brave sailors and soldiers who have made the supreme sacrifice in order that "Peace on earth: good will towards men" may be secured for all future time, we tender our sincerest sympathy, and to our friends and supporters throughout our rugged Island Home we can only express the hope that by the time Christmas 1916 comes around we will find the world at peace, an enduring peace which will reunite all mankind and secure for generations yet unborn the fulfilment of that divine message issued on Christmas morn over two thousand years ago—"Peace on earth: good will towards men."

**The War**

**The Near East**

THE whole campaign in the Near East is still in the air. If the Huns do not attack Saloniki, they will hardly remain inactive, however, and we shall probably hear of them either on the desert routes of Arabia, on the borders of Bessarabia, or on the Italian frontiers. The building of the railway from Damascus to the Suez Canal has portentous significance, and it would seem that the Hun-Turk alliance has designs upon the great waterway.

**Change of Officers**

SIR JOHN (now Viscount) French has been transferred from the Western Front to the command of the home army. What caused the transfer is, of course, an official secret, but the Press generally ascribes it to "his own request." The New York World commenting on Sir John's transfer says: "General French's displacement as British Commander-in-Chief on the Western front has been in the air for several months. What it may be due to in particular is not apparent. What it is due to in general

may probably be summed up in the costly blunders which prevented the spring aggressive and the September drive from getting much of anywhere, and in the fact that while the striking power of the British line has been enormously increasing, its strokes do not visibly improve. Britain is only repeating our own early experiences in the Civil War."

Be this as it may, encouragement must be taken from this evidence that the British Government is alert and capable of vigorous action, no matter what the reasons were for the transfer. The Government has shown an equal initiative to that of the Russian Government and General Joffre.

The new Commander-in-Chief—Sir Douglas Haig—has an excellent record and comparative youth to his credit. Sir Douglas is a Scotchman, was born in 1867, the youngest son of John Haig of Cameronbridge, Fifeshire. He was educated at Clifton, and joined the 7th Hussars in 1885.

He has had a meteoric military career; and for his work in Flanders and France, he has been several times mentioned in Field Marshal French's despatches. He was Chief of Staff with Sir John French during the Boer War, and gained several distinctions. He has had experience at the War Office, where he had been Director of Military Training, and in India, where he was Chief of Staff to Lord Kitchener's successor. For the last two years before the war he commanded those divisions concentrated at Aldershot, which, under Lord Haldane's scheme, were known as "the striking force," that is to say, a force always mobilized and always ready at a few hours' notice to go abroad.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS  
LIEUT. COLONEL OTWAY—SALVATION ARMY

ONCE more we are in the throes of the Christmas season and the spirit of Christmas appears to take possession of all—that is, the desire and determination to make others happy.—Good-will towards men.

The spirit of Christmas is in particular a spirit of giving. Is not this the outcome of the ever glorious fact that God gave His son, and Christianity is the result, we therefore at this time, "Give thanks for His unspeakable Gift."

The first recorded act of homage, the worship of the wise men from the East, was associated with the presentation of gifts, gold, frankincense and myrrh, and since that time Christmas giving has been the good habit and practice of the world.

Millions of parcels will be sent this week, each bring joy and gladness. Our boys in the trenches are not forgotten. In hundreds of thousands of homes the Salvation Army in the great cities of the world will be sending the Annual Christmas Hamper, and other of God's people will be doing sim-

ilar acts of kindness. The Christmas trees will be laden with presents for the children, and all over the world there will be joy, cheer, comfort and happiness because of the Christmas gift.

Let us however not be content with merely giving a dollar or sending a present and then try to satisfy ourselves that we have participated in the great outflow of love towards mankind. Let us rather present ourselves as living sacrifices and offer our lives upon the altar of God's love, and accepting His great Salvation, dedicate our lives, strength and talent for the good of others, in the words of that beautiful verse:—

Take my life, and let it be  
Consecrated Lord to Thee.  
Take my moments, and my days  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

May 1916 be a year of great rejoicing, victory for the Allied forces, and an enduring peace to the world.

**AMERICAN PRESS ON WORLD'S WAR**

Washington Star:—The maxim of modern war is, "One atrocity deserves another."

Chicago News:—Russia has again enlisted the services of its oldest ally—winter.

The Pathfinder:—Bulgars can now boast that they were the ones who put the finish on Nish.

Washington Star:—Serbia is suffering as much as if she had really meant to start the war.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch:—Europe has long been noted for cheapness. Now she has made human life the cheapest thing.

The Pathfinder:—While the Russians and Turks are fighting in the Caucasus, the Democrats and Republicans in congress are fighting in the caucuses.

The Pathfinder:—Nature seems to be doing her best at Panama to defeat Uncle Sam in his purpose of making two continents grow where only one grew before.

Cleveland Plain Dealer:—The people in Europe are for peace, declaring an American suffragist returning. And an increasingly large number of men are finding it.

Detroit News:—The average life of an automobile in war service is 30 days. And what is left of a car after a shell hits it cannot be traded in on the purchase of a tire-chain.

New York Journal of Commerce:—In our position of watching from a distance and listening to the confusion of voices, it seems as though somebody in this great conflict were getting weary, if not worn out, and anxious for some way out without humiliation.

The Pathfinder:—Tramps found

**GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS**

DECEMBER 24

**CHRISTMAS EVE.**

John Morley born, 1838.  
Four hundred lbs. of beef and sixty loaves of bread distributed at St. Thomas's school-room, fed fifty families, 1860.

Bernard Duffy, bookseller, died, 1862.  
W. M. Thackeray, novelist, died, 1863.

Felix Dowsley's twelve days' diary concluded this day, 1867.  
Richard Ward, clerk at O'Dwyer's, died, 1872.

Miss Maggie Higgins died, 1872.  
Rev. A. Heygate, C.E., ordained, 1876.

Mrs. T. C. Kennedy died, 1881.

DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day.  
Joseph Elliot, seaman of H.M.S. Drake, died on board ship by suffocation from drink, 1821.

Richard Howley's stable, Torbay road, broken into, and two cows stolen therefrom, 1852.

J. Parnell, buyer at Bowring's, died, 1869.  
Mrs. Hammond (Ann Pennington) died, 1878.

William J. Henderson, died, 1882.  
Patrick Farrell died, 1893.

First Mass at midnight in the Catholic Cathedral, 1895.  
John Sktoch died in Scotland, 1894.

New Catholic Church, Carbon-car, first opened by service of midnight Mass, 1892.

Postage from Newfoundland to England and Canada reduced to two cents per half ounce, 1898.

DECEMBER 26

St. Stephen's Day.  
Chamber of Commerce, St. John's, instituted; Newman Hoyle, first President; John Boyd, first Secretary; 1823.

Weston Carter, barrister, drowned in Deadman's pond, Signal Hill, while trying to save two girls, Brewin and Martin; the girls were also drowned, 1869.

Thomas Mullins, Southside, died, 1891.

Corner stone of present Mechanics' building laid by Sir Terence O'Brien, 1892.

L. Windsor's photograph gallery opened, 1895.

Mudge & Co.'s premises, Southside, destroyed by fire, 1847.  
Burin bazaar opened, 1893.

First Orange Parade in St. John's, 1899.

Late Archbishop Howley appointed Vicar Apostolic of West Coast, 1885.

In New York city this winter will be forced to help in construction work. The authorities have decided to discourage the thousands of vagrants who flock there seeking food and shelter with no idea of making themselves useful.

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

**Reid-Newfoundland Co.**

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR EXCURSIONS.**

Return Tickets Will be issued between all Stations and Ports of Call at **ONE WAY FIRST CLASS FARE**, good going Dec. 23 to 25th, and good returning up to Dec. 27th, also good going Dec. 30th to January 1st, and good returning January 3rd.

**ONE WAY AND ONE THIRD FIRST CLASS FARE**—Good going from Dec. 21st to Jan. 1st, and good returning up to Jan. 4th.



PROBABLY no money invested in any way gives such satisfactory returns as that spent in CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. If spent in the right spirit "It blesses him that gives, and him that takes." Our CHRISTMAS STOCK is just as large as ever, but different kinds of things, and with few exceptions the prices are as low as in previous years.

Battle Ship and Submarine, Aeroplanes, Trains, Washing Machines, Motor Cars, Water pistols, Cannons, Guns, Pistols, Swords, Uniforms, Drums, Soldiers, Puzzles, Books, Games, Dolls, Stoves, Houses, Carriages, Tea Sets, Sad Irons, Rocking Horses, Wheel Barrows, Snow Shovels, Blocks, Tops, Steam Engines.

COME AND SEE OUR DISPLAY.

**ROBERT TEMPLETON,**  
333 Water Street.

**NOTICE!**

**EXPERIENCED Woodmen**  
wanted for lumber woods at Badger.

**A. N. D. Co.**

**FERRO ENGINES**

We have made special arrangements to import New FERRO Kerosene Engines or any other Model FERRO Engine direct and will now offer special prices, cost, insurance and freight with all fittings necessary.

3	H.P.	\$ 95.00
4	"	125.00
5 1-2	"	145.00
7 1-2	"	180.00

We can offer large sizes of any model. We have these engines in stock and also have a full stock of repair parts.

We deal direct and can therefore give lower prices.

Also GRAY, FULTON and MEITZ & WEISS Engines.

**A. H. MURRAY,**  
St. John's.