

WEEK-END NOTES.

(J. C. MORRIS.)
CHAPTER XV.

For our own ships, there was a very large fleet of vessels which came from the west of England, and commonly known as English schooners. These vessels were small, and many of them registered more than one hundred tons. They were smart sailers, and made excellent time, and the home ports at which they were registered were very famous as St. John's and its people. Such places as Brighthelm, Salcombe, Plymouth, Falmouth, Dover, and Bideford were well represented by the ships annually trading to St. John's, as well as to other parts of Newfoundland. Most of these vessels carried three yards, but there were several sloops, which were reputed to be extra smart sailers. There was also a still smaller fleet called ketches, but they all seemed to fit in, and their place in the salt and fish trade of our country. These vessels usually left home early in April, and went to Cadiz, or some near-by Mediterranean port, and loaded salt, which they brought here to St. John's. At that time there was a great deal of shore fish caught near and about St. John's proper and around was a very busy month in the landing of shore fish at the wharves of St. John's. These schooners and ketches would all depart with new fish by the end of August, and be back here late in October, and secure a second freight, and get their cargo towards Christmas or New Year. On the second trip some of them went well up the Mediterranean, but the fleet usually got home by the old country about February. The cargo which they brought from the Mediterranean was usually fire-

a very go ahead appearance, and even at anchor in the harbour, she seemed to be like something anxious to get away. The second mast was very short, not more than two thirds the length of the mast proper, and like the mizen mast of the bark, it was more for the purpose of steering than of sailing. The small masts of those sloops were sometimes called jigger-masts; and sometimes called jigger-masts; though correctly speaking a jigger-mast is the fourth mast of a ship; but in those small sloops, the term was quite allowable. All those sloops and ketches were steered by the old-time tiller, which afforded but little protection for the hardy helmsman who did duty. They also had open galley's, or rather iron frames fastened to the decks, and in which a fire-proof bottom was placed, but the top and sides were open, so there was little or no shelter for the cook. But as those vessels had sometimes been used in the North Sea Fisheries, where the open fire-place was the custom; when they engaged in freighting, or in foreign service, the same old-fashioned way was continued. The cook of those vessels was usually a boy of about fourteen years of age. He was jack of all works, and was the object of much profanity, and occasionally a rope's end, for at that time profanity and rope's endings, formed a big part of a sailor's life; and more especially of the sailor lad's life. If men to-day attempted to do to "barn" at sea, what was done fifty and sixty years ago, they would be immediately arrested and held for trial. At best life on those ships was hard, and from the Captain down to the boy, they all paid a stiff price for being alive. The crews of those sloops were very small, usually four in number, and they were sometimes described as the captain, the mate, and the boy, and the old growl, with occasionally a worse qualification for the latter.

Newfoundlanders' Ball at Boston.

The Newfoundlanders' Mutual Benefit Association of Boston held its thirty-second annual ball on February 9th in Odd Fellows Hall. The Newfoundland residents of Boston and adjoining cities and towns namely Cambridge, Chelsea, Somerville, Brockton, Maynard, Gloucester and many others to numerous to mention attend this annual social event in large numbers to renew old and make new acquaintances. This year, however, surpassed any and all previous undertakings, along social lines; the attendance exceeded our most cherished expectations. The Association in charge that over 1500 guests were admitted, and he felt sorry the building laws prevented him from admitting any more, consequently many of the guests had to return home disappointed. The ball room was handsomely decorated with many varieties of bunting and colors, the stage especially, where an orchestra of fifteen pieces rendered the latest music, was filled with plants and palms. Many of the invited guests occupied seats on the stage, and were as follows:—Patrick S. Fiddle, President of Boston Terra Novian Association; James Wilcox, President of Newfoundland Charitable Society; Mrs. Devereaux, President of Ladies' Auxiliary; Richard S. Johnston, President Intercolonial Club Commissioners; Theodore A. Glynn, who represented his Honor Mayor James A. Curley, who was unable to attend owing to a previous engagement. His Excellency Governor Channing Cox sent his regards as he was unable to attend because he was obliged to be absent from Boston on that date. Commissioner Glynn delivered a spirited address congratulating the Newfoundlanders' Mutual Benefit Association on its wonderful progress and praised the meritorious work they are performing in aiding the sick and caring for the relatives of its deceased members. He was accorded a hearty reception upon the conclusion of his address. The most notable feature of the evening, however, was the grand march, which was led by President John Fitzhenry and his daughter, Miss Fitzhenry, followed by Floor Directors, Vice-Presidents William Lane and John Molloy; Fin. Sec'y, Patrick S. Fiddle; chief of aid, James A. Scully. About 75 couples took part in the grand march. The gowns worn by the ladies were the admiration of everyone present. It was a wonderful exhibition to see those fair ladies and their escorts marching around the spacious ball room to the accompaniment of the orchestra, and at its conclusion dancing was enjoyed by all those who desired to dance. It was a gratifying and a pleasant sight to observe the older folks moving about amongst the guests, greeting old friends whom they had not seen since leaving Newfoundland. President John Fitzhenry presented a beautiful ladies gold wrist watch to Miss Margaret McDonnell, as she had been accorded the honor of being the most popular young lady. Suitable prizes were also presented to Misses Fiddle, Stapleton, Murphy, and Mrs. Desmond. Those young ladies assisted the committee in making preparations and in a very large measure due to their activity was such a success. The Officers of the Association are:—President, John Fitzhenry; 1st Vice-President, William Lane; 2nd Vice-President, John Molloy; Rec. Sec'y, Simon J. Hogan; Fin. Secretary, Patrick S. Fiddle; Treasurer, William B. Somerville; Chairman of Visiting Committee, James A. Scully; Chairman of Investigating Committee, W. Molloy; Chairman of Auditors, John Tracey; Sergeant at Arms, Wm. Haggie; Trustees, Jeremiah Halliwell and W. Duggan. The Ball Committee was headed by President John Fitzhenry, Chairman; William Healy, Secretary, and W. B. Somerville, Treasurer, assisted by a large number of the

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members The Association holds
monthly meeting in St. Rose Hall, 9
Worcester St., Boston, on the 1st
Tuesday of the month and extend an
invitation to any Newfoundland
visiting Boston to drop in and re-
ceive a welcome.

Death of an Old
Newfoundlander.

JOHN T. WALSH.
News was received in town Thurs-
day announcing the death of Mr. John
T. Walsh, of Montreal, which occurred
on April 4th, fortified by all the
rites of the Catholic Church. Mr.
Walsh was born in St. John's 64
years ago, near the historic Barking
Kettle in the West End, and will be
remembered by the older portion of
the citizens of that neighborhood.
The deceased was the son of Mr.
Robert Walsh, who, for many years
sailed out of Tack's employ, as
Chief Officer with Capt. Timothy Cum-
mins. On retiring from sea Mr. Walsh
became chief rigger in the employ of
Messrs. P. & L. Tessier. His wife was
Mary Potter from Cochrane Street.
Before leaving St. John's the deceased
was tallyman at Tessier's and also
sailed out of that employ on several
voyages. The funeral was held from
his late residence, 217 Chapleau St.,

Montreal, to St. Mary's Church, where
a solemn Requiem Mass was celebra-
ted by Father Brady, assisted by Fra.
Conney and Johnson as Deacon and
sub-Deacon. The chief mourners were
James R. and Frank Walsh, of Mon-
treal; and Richard P. Thomas J., and
Richard P. Walsh, Jr., of New York.
Scores of friends, including officials
and employees of Alexander McAr-
thur & Co., the well-known Manufac-
turers of Roofing Paper, in which
firm he held the responsible position
of Foreman for 30 years, followed the
remains to the Church and thence to
Cote des Neiges cemetery. The de-
ceased leaves a widow but no chil-
dren. Requiescat in pace.

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