

## THE BADDECK TELEPHONE

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## THE BADDECK TELEPHONE

BADDECK, C. B., AUG. 3, 1898.

### Comments on the War

The sooner peace negotiations be-  
tween Spain and the United States are  
ratified the better for the former. Spain  
evidently holds out as long as possible  
hoping that the powers will interfere,  
but this hope is nearly vanished. The  
Imparcial, Madrid, says: "Although  
we are fighting the battles of Europe  
against America, Europe has left us alto-  
gether in the lurch. England has  
placed herself openly by the side of the  
United States, France looks on uncon-  
cerned, Germany remains in the shad-  
ow, Russia only tries to make a cat's  
paw of Spain for the purpose of her new  
diplomacy. Under these circumstances  
it is not possible for Spain to accept  
European mediation. Perhaps it would  
be better to treat with the enemy direct,  
especially as the Americans have shown  
that they can appreciate brave resis-  
tance."

Lord Salisbury certainly does not  
hold out the hope to Spain that Great  
Britain will interfere on her behalf.  
Germany never indicated that she would  
assist Spain, whatever she may do for  
her own sake when the war is over.  
France never thought Spain strong  
enough to warrant interference on her  
behalf. Hence the poor Spaniards get  
nothing from anybody but the barren  
advice to end the war at once.

The Weser Zeitung Bremen says:  
"Is there any hope for Spain? We see  
no signs of any. Not only is she likely  
to lose the whole or the half of her col-  
onial empire, but her dynasty is in  
danger. The revolution threatens on  
one side, the Carlists on the other; and  
all this while State bankruptcy is not  
far off. Honest friends of Spain must  
wish that the war may end in speedy  
defeat to prevent utter exhaustion." This  
wish seems near fulfilment—nothing  
can prevent the loss of the Antilles.

There are proposals of a South  
American Union to resist the hegemony  
over the entire continent which some  
papers claim as the United States  
birthright. The Spaniards are working  
for this scheme, as the following from  
the Correo Espanol, Madrid, shows:  
"When Spain has been driven from the  
continent she created, the possessions of  
other nations still holding colonies there  
will soon be disposed of. The dreams  
of the North American politicians will  
be realized. Mexico, already mutilated  
by the amputation of Texas and Cali-  
fornia, will fall an easy prey. Venezuela  
will next come under the talons of the  
American culture. Brazil, Chili, Ar-  
gentina, and the other South American  
republics would be succulent for the  
Anglo-American alliance. It  
is not only the Antilles that  
are threatened; the nations of  
Central and South America will also  
disappear before an Anglo-Yankee in-  
vasion more terrible than that of the  
Vandals and Goths." In principle no  
one could object to the Latin-Americans  
combining if necessary for their mutual  
safety against aggressive attack, but a  
federation of the nations indicated  
ought not to be contemplated  
unless under circumstances more con-  
clusive than any actually apparent,  
as its very creation would interpose an  
element of serious friction between the  
northern and southern divisions of the  
American continent.

A. A. Haliburton, Esq., has our  
thanks for late Nfld papers, from  
which we learn that there is some dis-  
satisfaction with Contractor Reid.  
Party feelings run high in the an-  
cient colony as elsewhere, and some  
statements should be received "cum  
grano salis." So far as one can gather  
the supposed trouble appears to be in  
giving Mr. Reid too much of the col-  
ony. It cannot be denied that he has  
largely extended the railway system,  
done much to develop Newfoundland's  
resources, put on a first class steam-  
ship to facilitate trade with the pro-  
vinces; and for this Mr. Reid has ac-  
quired large territorial rights. Now  
what is he going to do with the min-  
eral resources, timber areas and ag-  
ricultural lands thus obtained? Does  
any one suppose he will put them in  
his vest pocket and take them away?  
We think it is a pity Newfoundland  
had not more such men at an earlier  
period of its history.

## CURRENT EVENTS.

The Pall Mall Gazette, of London, re-  
cently asked its readers for a list of the  
twenty best books for children. The  
Academy also asked the leading book-  
sellers for a list of the six children's  
books which are in the greatest demand.  
It is evident from the verdict obtained  
by both the Pall Mall Gazette and the  
Academy that the books read by chil-  
dren of the present day are free from that  
deleterious element that formerly char-  
acterized them. "Robinson Crusoe"  
preserves its popularity, but ranks be-  
low "Alice in Wonderland." Anderson  
and Grimm's fairy tales are among the  
twenty favorites. "Treasure Island,"  
"The Jungle Books," "Pilgrim's Progress,"  
"Uncle Remus," "The Fishman," "Ivan-  
hoe," "Helen's Babies," "Little Lord  
Fauntleroy," are all included in the Pall  
Mall Gazette list. These books are  
read by adults with as much pleasure as  
by children and there is no doubt that  
the average parent when he buys them  
looks forward to the pleasure of reading  
them himself. Among the list sent to the  
Pall Mall Gazette by children there is  
one from a girl of thirteen whose taste  
is certainly eclectic. She likes "The  
Tempest," "Mr. Crockett's 'Sir Teedy  
Lion,'" and the "Encyclopedia Britan-  
ica." If the latter ever becomes a really  
popular "juvenile" parent of moderate  
means will find it difficult to present  
a complete copy to each child at Christ-  
mas. It is a healthful sign that the  
children never mention Miss Austin's  
works.

"The Art of Taxidermy," by John  
Rowley, chief of the department of tax-  
idermy in the American Museum of  
Natural History is a most fascinating  
book. Taxidermy means more to-day  
as an art than it ever did before. It  
takes the dead bird, an animal, a fish or  
a reptile and restores the living form,  
the characteristic pose and attitude and  
so far as externals go, it presents an ap-  
pearance as perfect as the skill of the  
operator permits. Mr. Rowley takes  
his readers off on a collecting trip and  
the story is invested with all the charms  
of the wild camping out life of the  
woods. The processes and methods of  
trapping are faithfully portrayed and  
the subjects put through all the neces-  
sary stages of preparation and the value  
of careful study is apparent. The  
mounting of large mammals constitutes  
the most difficult part of taxidermy.  
Plaster casts, made from the carcasses of  
the animal are used as models in con-  
structing the figure on which the skin is  
finally to be stretched. The reader is  
taken in easy and interesting stages suc-  
cessfully through the complex work of  
mounting the different varieties of spec-  
imens. There seems to be a growing  
tendency on every hand toward amuse-  
ments of a scientific nature and to all  
those interested in this direction this  
book will be most useful.

Y. L. C.

A curious discovery is announced. At  
Adria, not far from Venice, between the  
lagoons and the marshland, there is a  
small village, Donada by name. Last  
year, in digging the foundation for a  
pottery, a large number of objects hav-  
ing to do with ships, as rings, bolts and  
nails were found, and finally a small  
vessel in good preservation was unear-  
thed. As the ground was peaty, the hull  
was in fair preservation. The commis-  
sion sent to examine and report declares  
it to be a vessel of the early part of the  
fifteenth century. The hull is to be  
carefully worked over, and is to be  
carried to the Arsenal in Venice. If not  
considered too much of a curiosity, an  
Italian paper suggests, the purchase of  
this ship by the Spanish government for  
active service.

Those unfortunate people who write  
in Russia, authors of journalists, are  
having an uncommonly hard time of it.  
The screws have come down with such  
a pressure, as applied by the censors,  
that the Society of Russian Authors has  
prepared a special draft of complaint.  
This is said to be the new practice of  
the Russian literary police. It is an  
order that when a publisher or an ed-  
itor is not liked by the censor, or deem-  
ed "undesirable," he shall be at once  
dismissed, and that another publisher  
or editor shall be taken from a list fur-  
nished by the police. The nice make-  
believe is that the new man or the new  
men shall occupy their positions only as  
"temporary substitutes" until another  
editor or writer or publisher is selected,  
but then the new hands never satisfy  
the Government, and once the police  
elects have their places they are never  
moved.

In Japan the industrious reporter  
makes from \$10 to \$15 a month, and an  
editor as much as \$25. For a historical  
novel, say of 200,000 words or more, the  
liberal Tokio publisher will give 50 yen,  
but part is paid in books, which you  
must peddle yourself. Literature, says  
that the Napoleonic craze has reached  
Japan, and that the Corsican is in  
fashion. Bismark is also in demand,  
the Japanese understanding at once  
what "blood and iron" means.

FOR RENT.—A House of ten Rooms  
furnished—for the summer—together  
with Stable and out-buildings, and  
grounds consisting of three acres.  
Apply to McKAY & Co.

## CAPE BRETONIANS ABROAD.

### A Letter From Mr. Kidston.

DEAR TELEPHONE:

You can't think how pleased I have  
been to get the first two numbers of  
this very promising new Baddeck paper.  
If you care to have my opinion of it, I  
think it capital and if it can be kept up  
in the style in which it has started out,  
it should and doubtless will receive a  
very liberal patronage.

I have just come east from a visit of  
something over a year to California and  
at another time may write of some of  
the noteworthy things I observed while  
there, as relating to government, social  
life, climate, etc., etc. At present I will  
only say that this country has been  
greatly over-boomed in its best days and  
that the California of to-day and of  
thirty years ago are vastly different.

While out there, I met lots of Nova  
Scotians and not a few Cape Bretonians,  
this last goes without saying for where  
is the spot of earth that you don't find  
them! and it is well for the world that  
it is so. We have every reason to ex-  
pect that when Peary reaches the pole  
he will meet them and be welcomed  
with the old familiar "Ge mar a tha  
sibh an diugh!"

Some of those that I have met here,  
in bygone years have been known to  
many of your readers, and if I just men-  
tion their names I think it will be in-  
teresting to many.

Samuel McKeen, brother of Thomas  
McKeen, came out here some years ago  
and has been in the employ of the  
Southern Pacific R. R. C. ever  
since his arrival. He has a very  
nice property in Oakland and is quite  
comfortable. Two of his daughters got  
married since they came out, one to the  
captain of a ship, the other to a Mr.  
Munro, a man with a nice property, he  
is on the Yukon just now. The other  
daughter (Cassie) lives with her father.

John McLean, son of Big Philip, who  
used to own the property that is now  
Mr. Blanchard's, has been for twenty  
years on the San Francisco police  
force, where he is known as "Big John."  
His pay is \$1200 a year. I suggested  
that it would be safe to put down \$500  
more for "tips." John is not emotional;  
he can't accumulate enough emotion to  
go all over him at once. However at  
my remark on "tips" he looked very  
stern and said I was mistaken, mistaken  
entirely. "Why," said he, "you could  
no more corrupt one of our men than  
you could a police court judge, a super-  
visor or a senator." That settled the  
matter. I guess John's income is about  
\$1700. I saw Mrs. Atwater several  
times and was pleased to see her look-  
ing so very well. She is staying with  
her daughter Mary, (Mrs. Matheson).

These are all the Baddeckers I met  
except my own sons. One of them  
(Earnest the youngest) has been in  
Klondike for a year. Men who came  
out this spring said that he could have  
come out with \$20,000 at one time, but  
wasn't satisfied, speculated and lost, and  
is now working up again. Another  
son, John, went in this spring. Another  
is an officer with his brother, Capt. Kid-  
ston, on the S. S. Roanoke; this is the  
finest ship in the North Pacific fleet.  
She is 2354 tons. My son met another  
Baddeck boy in Seattle, a son of Mc-  
Kay, the tailor. He was mate of a ship.  
He also saw a McNeil, of Watchabuck,  
a son of Michael Ewen—I think also a  
mate or a captain.

Yours truly,

WM. KIDSTON.

Hudson, Mass., July 28, 1898.

We are glad to note the arrival of  
Neil McNeil, Esq., of Boston, on Satur-  
day last to spend some time at his sum-  
mer residence. Besides doing much to  
beautify the town architecturally and  
otherwise, Mr. McNeil takes a great  
interest in local industry. He is one of  
Cape Breton's energetic and successful  
sons of whom every citizen is justly  
proud, and possesses those personal  
qualities that in private life make him  
respected by all.

## MARRIED

On the 12th inst. at St. John's Newfound-  
land, by the Rev. Andrew Robertson, John  
Syme, to Lizzie, only daughter of the late Theo.  
A. MacKenzie, of Baddeck, C. B.

On the 12th inst. at the above place by the  
Rev. Andrew Robertson, Anderson McKeen, to  
Mary, only daughter of Mr. M. Mullally.

## DIED

At Baddeck River July 28th, Mr. Thomas  
Rice in the 92nd year of his age. The funeral  
took place on Saturday, when his remains were  
interred in the Forks Church Cemetery.

## BADDECK

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for same.

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Boys' Youths', Missis', Children's and  
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Daylight.

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Sydney 6, North Sydney 6.30 a. m.,  
every Monday and Friday, for Big  
Bras d'Or, New Campbellton, Boulard-  
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Mulgrave and Hawkesbury. Leaves  
Mulgrave early Tuesday and Saturday  
Mornings for the Sydneys, calling at  
Whyocomaugh Saturdays.

Leaves Sydney 7, North Sydney 8 a.  
m., Wednesdays, for Big Bras d'Or, New  
Campbellton, Boularderie, Baddeck,  
Little Narrows and Whyocomaugh.  
Leaves Whyocomaugh Thursdays at 7  
a. m., and Saturdays at noon for the  
Sydneys.

The Marion makes close connection  
with S. S. Halifax at Hawkesbury Mon-  
day evening from Boston and for Char-  
lottetown, P. E. I.

For information apply to  
J. J. MOFFATT, MANAGER,  
North Sydney.  
Or to A. S. McDONALD, Baddeck.

## Victoria Steamship Co'y.

## S. S. "BLUE HILL"

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