

New Year's Night Concert, St. Patrick's Hall

(Under the distinguished patronage of His Excellency the Governor and His Grace the Archbishop.)

The programme will be sustained by a number of our leading singers and musicians. Particulars later.

Reserved Seats, 50 cents. Tickets can be secured at Atlantic Bookstore and at St. Patrick's Hall after Saturday. General admission 30 and 20 cents. dec27,21,w.s

WAR TIMES---100 YEARS AGO.

H. F. Shortis.

COMMERCIAL AFFAIRS.

IN my recent letter, with extracts from Baine Johnston & Co.'s Letter Books of one hundred years ago, I gave some interesting facts of Military affairs from a business-man's point of view. It gave us a chance for an excellent comparison of Napoleon's exploits in Europe, as compared with those of the Kaiser's to-day.

"Every dog has his day," and sooner than many expected, Napoleon was deposed from the throne of France, and it will be a remarkable coincidence if the Kaiser meets the same fate.

I am now going to draw a few more comparisons that will bring facts and figures right before us.

April, 1806. A petition has been sent from this (Greenock) and other British ports connected with the Newfoundland trade to the (British) Government requesting that the bounty on fish to the West Indies may be raised from 2½ to 3½ per cwt., and that a bounty of 4½ may be granted on fish imported into this country.

(The probability of the Portuguese ports being closed against us is the cause of the last part of this petition.) What a different view we take of these things to-day! What answer would we get if our Newfoundland trade asked for a bounty for being shut out of the Greek market? Our Newfoundland merchants should send a petition requesting the British Government to ask the French Government to reduce their prohibitory duty of \$6.00 per cwt. on Newfoundland codfish entering France.

Newfoundland to-day is being driven from the Greek market by the French Admiral, and notwithstanding that, the Newfoundland exporters, and therefore the fishermen have to suffer for French interests. We must get the French Government to take Newfoundland interests into account and treat us properly. It is time that this matter was brought before the French Government in a clear and energetic manner by our authorities. Here is the answer the Newfoundland merchants received from the British Government one hundred years ago. These facts are indeed most valuable, and should give method of procedure for our merchants to-day.

March 18th. "A bounty of 1½ per cwt. is promised by the Government on all fish imported into British possessions from June 1st."

August 28th. Fishery promises to be very abundant. The insurance on goods from England to Newfoundland is five guineas per cent. The insurance on goods to Demerara is eight guineas per cent. without convoy, or four guineas per cent. with convoy.

Sept. 15th. Freight from Newfoundland to Gibraltar, Cadiz, Lisbon, Oporto, Liverpool or Clyde, 3½ per cwt. or 24 per ton for oil.

If Gibraltar for orders then Cadiz or Lisbon 4½ per cwt.; Oporto, 4½ per cwt.; Malaga, 5½ per cwt.; Alicante, 5½ per cwt.

It will make a very interesting comparison to give the rates of Freight and Insurance to-day as compared with the above figures. Before the war started in 1914, freights to Gibraltar or Spain were about 2½ per cwt. by either steamers in casks or sailing vessels in bulk.

To-day we find that Freight has advanced to as high as 7½ per cwt. for Spain by sailing vessels, and about 12½ per cwt. by steamer.

Marine Insurance to-day by sailing vessel to Demerara would be about 1½ per cent. With Risk Insurance one per cent. (without convoy). This Insurance is less than one-third of the cost one hundred years ago, but to-day England has the command of the seven seas that was never dreamed of one hundred years ago.

1809, February. Pork selling in Greenock, 105—\$25.20; butter selling in Greenock, 112—24 cents per lb.; hard bread selling in Greenock, 31—

\$7.40; cordage selling in Greenock, 138—\$32.40.

Fish sold at 17½ to 18½, exclusive of bounty (say fifty cents more). Great advance in Cod Oil, £38—\$185.00.

March 1st. Letter to Mr. William Johnston who is evidently in charge in St. John's:—"Owing to losses the firm talks of giving up business at the end of the year." We are all down-hearted sometimes, but the best was yet to come.

July 6th. Molasses quoted at 26½ to 28½ including 7½ duty at Greenock.

July 20th. Pork in Newfoundland £6—\$30.00; butter in Newfoundland, 116—30 cents.

"Aug. 26th. A considerable rise in the price of oil. London paid for Seal Oil £50—\$243.00; Cod Oil £45—\$220.00.

1810, April 27th. Mr. Wm. Johnston offered 1-3 share in the business.

Oct. 28th. Fish in great demand in St. John's.

Nov. 26th. Madeira, 16½ to 16½; West Indies, 13½ to 14½. Prices advanced, Madeira, 18½; West Indies, 15½.

1811, Feb. 14th. A petition to the King in Council for a license to export 30 tons biscuit from Greenock to Newfoundland.

1812, Feb. 20th. Prices at Greenock:—

Pork, 85 per cwt.—\$20.00.

Butter, 125 per cwt.—27 cts. per lb.

Bread, 32½ per cwt.—\$7.70.

Flour, 63½ per cwt.—\$15.20.

Sugar, 68 per cwt. (including duty, 27½).

I have often heard of the wonderful prices for fish during the Napoleonic wars. Judge Prowse tells us that a common hand at the fishery obtained \$300.00 and even \$350.00 wages for the summer, whereas a splitter obtained \$450.00 to even \$700.00 wages.

James Macbraire impressed on his brother merchants that while they had been making money it could not last when the war ended. He was wise enough to sell out to them and retire to his home in Ireland, but the other merchants continued the race, and the crash came in 1814 when nearly all the merchants were ruined.

The "Year of the Rals"—the winter of 1815—was probably the very lowest ebb our country has ever experienced.

These old records show that fish sold here in St. John's for \$4.30 per cwt., and a severe cull at that.

To-day the fishermen are getting \$3.00 per cwt. and over for their fish, and I understand, Mr. Coaker told them at Catalina, a few days ago, that it was going to be \$10.00 per cwt. next year.

The fishermen got their flour for \$3.00 to \$10.00 per barrel all the summer, whereas, I have shown from these old records that it was \$15.00 per cwt. one hundred years ago.

The country was never so prosperous as it is to-day. Let us hope that the merchants are making something out of present values for undoubtedly they are paying prices to-day that our great-grandchildren will speak of in years to come.

There are some very interesting facts mentioned in these old records to which I would ask special attention.

Baine Johnston & Co. of Greenock refer to the opening of the Brazil market with great expectations. It is wonderful what foresight these old merchants had—they had an eye for every possible opportunity. Just compare that with the item I have already quoted about getting, at the present time, into the French markets for our codfish. Do you think for one moment these old merchants who procured a bounty from the British Government for all the fish sent to England or the British Colonies would let the opportunity pass of securing concessions from the French Government under the present conditions? It shows how slack some of our men are to-day compared with our business men and politicians of those early days—one hundred years ago.

1809, February. Pork selling in Greenock, 105—\$25.20; butter selling in Greenock, 112—24 cents per lb.; hard bread selling in Greenock, 31—

William Johnston, March 1st, 1809, wherein the Head Office at Greenock writes of going out of business owing to the heavy losses. Were they putting a spur into Mr. Johnston? They were certainly looking to him to push the business. He certainly showed his faith in the trade of the country when he took one-third share in its fortunes within a year of that date.

How little any of us can tell what is ahead of us! Just imagine the firm of Baine Johnston & Co. going out of business in 1809! Why the whole History of Newfoundland from that date would have to be re-written. When we come to think of Newfoundland History without Walter Baine Sr. and Jr., William Johnston and his nephews James and Walter Grieve, not to mention the present energetic and gentlemanly principal of that historic old firm, Walter Baine Grieve, it would appear as if the most important pages had been torn from the book.

If the firm had gone out of existence in 1809, in all probability we would never have heard of John Munn and all he and his relatives did for Harbor Grace as the great firm of Puntin & Munn, as it was an offshoot of Baine Johnston & Co., and they still fly the same flag—the well-known blue and white.

The late Sir Robert Thorburn, the Premier of our country, who enforced the Bait Act against the French Government, was another offshoot from the parent firm. Where, I ask, would Newfoundland be to-day if the Bait Act had not been enforced?

When we remember the miserable manner we were handed over to the tender mercy of the French by those in power at Downing Street, in London, at that time, we may well thank our stars that Newfoundland is not a French colony to-day.

I am fully convinced that Newfoundland history and its outlook to-day would be very different if the firm of Baine Johnston & Co. had carried out their intentions, as mentioned above in that short paragraph, March 1st, 1809.

In conclusion the very best wishes of the whole community, the whole country, are due to this great firm, and may they have happy and prosperous years, finding stalwart and trusty men in the future, as they have had in the past century and a half, to carry on the extensive business of our country for another Hundred Years—and still go on.

THE FIRST PAIR.

Don't make any mistake this year. Let your first pair of rubber shoes be Bear Brand. Times are too hard for anyone to take chances of being out of work for two or three weeks with a cold which could have been avoided by getting satisfactory rubber shoes. The good old BEAR BRAND shoes, which are becoming more widely known every day, are being sold in St. John's by:

John Anderson.
W. R. Goobie.
Nicholle, Inghen & Chafe, Ltd.
Royal Stores, Ltd.
F. Smallwood.
Steer Bros.
Jesse Whiteway.

Wholesale by
CLEVELAND RUBBER CO.,
New Martin Bldg.
nov11,w.s.t.f

In Milady's Boudoir.

If your lashes are thin and straggly, or do not grow properly, your eyes will become inflamed, for your eyelashes are protection for your eyes. You cannot have a luxurious fringe of eyelashes if you don't keep your eyes and eyelids in a healthy condition. If the eyes are weak and strained, the lashes are generally irregular, with tiny bald spots here and there. So the first thing you must do to acquire the desirable fringe is to keep your eyes as free from strain as possible.

Just before you retire at night and again in the morning bathe the eyes in boric acid solution. Use an eye cup for this.

For inflamed lids and short, scant lashes yellow vaseline is one of the best applications. Melt a little of the vaseline, dip the point of an orange-wood stick around which a tiny wad of cotton is wrapped into this, and rub gently along the roots. Apply the vaseline at night, and allow it to relieve any soreness slowly. Be careful that not the slightest particle of the vaseline enters the eye as oil irritates it.

The growth of the eyelashes is greatly promoted by clipping them at regular intervals for a few months. As the task requires a firm hand, it is the easiest done by another. Yet, if necessary, you can do it yourself. Only the tips should be clipped, and the work done with a pair of curved scissors.

Rubbing the eyes is a pernicious habit. Almost invariably when you rub them you remove an eyelash. Bathe the eyes in the morning first thing when you arise, instead of rubbing them, to get rid of that crusty substance in the corner of your eyes.

Scarfs are important. One should have one of wool for sports and one of filmy chiffon for evening wear.

SUNLIGHT SOAP.



Reproduced from the original drawing by Bert Thomas and S. E. Scott.

IN France you called this "Savon," Tommy, dear! And the meaning of the word is very clear.

What saved the shirt you have on?

Why, good old Sunlight Savon.

It's the SAVON that you SAVE ON—Tommy, dear!

£1,000 GUARANTEE OF PURITY ON EVERY BAR.

The name Lever on Soap is a guarantee of Purity and Excellence.

LEVER BROTHERS LIMITED, PORT SUNLIGHT.

Marvellous Swordsmanship.

Colonel Barras Tells of Wonderful Feats of Indian Sergeant.

Indian swordsmen are acknowledged to be unrivalled. An extraordinary performer, who was a sergeant in one of the native regiments, is thus spoken of in Colonel Barras' book, "India and Tiger Hunting": "He was a fine-looking fellow, in the prime of life, and, notwithstanding the frightfully critical nature of what he was going to do, he moved about with perfect ease and calmness. In one hand he held a very long double-edged sword, sharp at the point with edges like razors. With the other hand he led his little son, a child aged about six years, who was also clearly accustomed to what was about to follow.

"From the little fellow's evident enjoyment of the scene it was plain that failure on the part of his father was quite beyond the limits of his imagination. As soon as the usual preliminaries had been gone through, such as walking round and saluting the commanding officer and principal guests, the father placed his little boy in the centre of a circle, with a small lime (a kind of lemon), about twice the size of a walnut, under his heel.

"Then, taking up his stand at a few feet from the child, he grasped firmly the hilt of the sword and began brandishing it rapidly in the air. The blade was thin and finely tempered, so that it could be seen to quiver and undulate throughout its entire length as it flashed in the rays of the setting sun. Suddenly the muscles of the athlete might be seen to stiffen themselves; an instant's pause, then a sudden and lightning-like swoop, and the lime under the boy's heel was safely severed.

"Then, the boy having taken up his position as before, a small open box, about the size of those we use for tooth-powder, was placed on the ground at his feet. It was filled with a black powder called soorma, used by the natives for darkening eyelashes. Round this little box and about the boy's head the sword was now made to play with redoubtable velocity. In the midst of the most dazzling passes the weapon would dart

towards the little box, and then reappear, steadily poised at the full stretch of the performer's arm, in front of the eyes of the child; then a sudden turn of the wrist, and a very dark line of powder was lying on one of the boy's lower eyelashes, placed there by the sharp point of the long sword. The same was then done to the other eye. This feat was performed weekly, always with undeviating success, and was the most wonderful instance of nerve and steadiness ever witnessed."

Monsieur: For 15 days in the month of January I was suffering with pain of rheumatism in the foot. I tried all kinds of remedies but nothing did me any good. One person told me about MINARD'S LINIMENT; as soon as I tried it the Saturday night, the next morning I was feeling very good; I tell you this remedy is very good; I could give you a good certificate any time that you would like to have one. If any time I come to hear about any person sick of rheumatism, I could tell them about this remedy.

Yours truly,
ERNEST LEVELLE,
216 Rue Ontario East, Montreal,
Feb. 14, 1908.

A substitute for gold is obtained by combining 94 parts of copper with six parts of antimony and adding a little magnesium carbonate to increase the weight. It is said that this alloy can be drawn, wrought, and soldered very much like gold, and that it also receives and retains a golden polish. It is worth something like 25 cents a pound.

President Wilson Explains

Washington, Dec. 21.—Secretary of State Lansing to-day authorized the following statement:

The reasons for the sending of the note were as follows:

"It is not our material interests we had in mind when the note was sent, but more and more our own rights are becoming involved by the belligerents on both sides, so that the situation is becoming exceedingly critical.

We mean by that, that we are drawing near the verge of war ourselves, and, therefore, we are entitled to know exactly what each belligerent seeks in order that we may regulate our conduct in the future.

"No national note has been sounded. No consideration of the German overtures or of the speech of Lloyd George was taken into account in the formulation of the document. Only thing the overtures did was to delay it a few days.

It was not decided to send it until Monday. Of course the difficulties that face the President were that it might be construed as a movement toward peace and in aid of the German overtures. He specifically denies that that was the fact in the document itself.

The TOOTON PHOTOGRAPHIC STUDIO

Will be open for business Monday, New Year's Day. Begin your new year by having your Photo taken at our Studio.

Our aim is a perfect Photograph.

The Tooton Photo Studio, 310 Water Street.

Theatre!

ALL NEW SHOW.

CHANGE.

OF THE CHORUS.

PARTS.

WORDS & PICKLES.

THINKING

allow on at JOSEPH consisting of all kinds

and other Cut Glass, Electroplate

weeding reductions.

a chance to secure prac-

infons and New Year

is.

ST GO

ON.

301.

Assignees.

HUBBARD

Motor Engines.

Big, Sturdy, Reliable Motors operating cheerfully on Kerosene.

The Hubbard is the merchant's Engine. Easy terms.

R. S. John's.