

The Halifax Disaster.

HUNDREDS OF CHILDREN KILLED

HAIFAX, Dec. 9. The number of deaths is now estimated at 4,000. One thousand bodies have been recovered. It was found to-day that a large number of children were killed in two schools which were torn to pieces by the explosion, only 7 out of 550 escaping with their lives. Great loss of life is also reported at the Naval College. At the Protestant Orphan Home the Matron and every child were killed. Railway men and waterfront laborers were killed in large numbers. More than 4,000 homes were completely demolished. The weather cleared to-day after the heavy snowstorm and forty-mile gale of yesterday. There are two and a half feet of snow on the ground. Six large piers were destroyed, but the great new piers in the southern part of the city, used by the Government for freighters and transports, were practically untouched. The business section of the city sustained little damage and can quickly be restored when workmen and material are available.

SOMEBODY BLUNDERED—SOME DETAILS OF THE DAMAGE.

HALIFAX, Dec. 9. Took but a fraction of a minute on Thursday morning for Halifax to become the victim of a calamity which destroyed more lives and injured more men, women and children than the combined air raids upon London during three years and more of war. A complete story of the tragedy can never be written. The explosion of a great cargo of benzene, nitro-glycerine and the world's most powerful explosive blotted out in an instant thousands of lives and wounded and mutilated more thousands. Fire completed what the explosion started, and between three and four thousand homes were completely destroyed, thousands more rendered uninhabitable, and practically every window in the entire city smashed.

The Norwegian steamer with a cargo of relief was coming down out of the upper harbor or Bedford basin. The vessel approached each other, and as they drew into the narrows about opposite the old sugar refinery and only a short distance above the Canadian Government railway passenger depot, somebody blundered; the Belgian relief steamer kept over to port when according to the rules of navigation she should have kept to the starboard. Pilot Mackey says he gave the necessary signal and that a confused signal was returned from the vessel in charge of Pilot Hayes. The vessels by this time were so close together that the rolling of the waves laid over on the Frenchman was unable to put her clear of the oncoming relief ship. The collision was not serious in itself owing to the slow speed of both boats, but the impact

was sufficient to start a fire. Just how this fire started, whether by the overturning of a galley stove or by a jar on some detached part or still quantity of the explosives, may never be known; it may be revealed at the inquiry which is to be held in a few days. The engines of the steamer had been stopped, but with the headway she had drifted slowly inshore until she came hard on to Pier 6, only a short distance north of the sugar refinery.

There were two explosions, the first and minor one and then the great and reverberating one. The massive brick walls of the old sugar refinery collapsed like a house of cards. Gunn's mills, the Richmond printery and all buildings along Barrington St. as far as Richmond, and all the streets leading up the hill from the water burst asunder. The dense pall of smoke was underlying, and faced first with yellow and then pink and reddish tinges. Slowly there came the crash of falling metals, great plates crashed on top of the demolished houses. Almost the complete side of the ammunition ship was carried northward and eastward, piling up half a mile distant on the other shore. The gun on the ship has been found three miles distant by the force of the explosion. The Belgian ship which had gone a little farther southward was driven on the beach on the Dartmouth shore, just opposite North St. Depot, and set on fire. A number of her crew were killed, and the body of Pilot William Hayes was found on the shore not far from the ship. Over two thousand people are dead. The portion of the city from the waterfront west on Russell Street and north on Gittingen Street to the narrows is completely devastated to the extent of two square miles. Twenty thousand people are destitute. The hospitals and other large buildings are overflowing with wounded, many of whom have since died. The glass in practically every building in the city is smashed.

Relief is being rushed from various parts of Canada and the United States. The first relief special to arrive reached Halifax on Saturday afternoon from Boston, bringing doctors, surgeons and red cross nurses. The search for bodies among the ruins continues, and the death toll is hourly growing. Richmond refinery, Halifax Givers Dock, Hillis Foundry, Richmond School, Kaye Street Methodist Church, Trinity Church, St. Mary's Church, St. Joseph's Chapel, the Cotton Factory and other large buildings in the devastated sections are a mass of smoking ruins. The shipping destroyed includes two steamers beached on the Dartmouth side. Several other large freighters at anchor in the stream were wrecked. There is a great scarcity of food and building material.

Organising Relief Here

LARGE COMMITTEE FORMED.

At five o'clock Saturday evening a joint meeting of the Board of Trade and City Council was held at the rooms of the former, there being present Messrs. R. C. Winter, E. A. Bowring, C. R. St. John, J. Edens, J. S. Ayre and J. V. O'Dea, representing the Board of Trade, and Councillors Morris, Mulhally, Brownrigg, and Vinnicombe. Mayor Gosling presided with Mr. J. L. Slattery as Secretary. The Chairman stated the object of the meeting, namely, to consider the most practical steps of raising subscriptions; also that the disaster was of greater magnitude than was first believed. Mr. E. A. Bowring read a cable from G. S. Campbell and Co. to the effect that 20,000 people were destitute, that the loss was appalling and that financial aid would be appreciated. Mayor Gosling thought that the most desirable way to secure funds would be by popular subscription. He said the support of the business people was assured and a special appeal would be made to wage-earners, who, he had no doubt, would respond liberally in view of the fact that it was they who had benefited mostly from generous Halifax when St. John's was smitten in 1892. It was also suggested by him that the Committee to collect subscriptions have power to add to its number as this would greatly facilitate the work of making a call on every one. It was decided by the meeting to divide the city into wards for the purpose of making collections to be arranged later by Messrs. Slattery and Vinnicombe. The collectors will be appointed at a meeting to be held to-night. The following will be added to the collecting committee, the Editors of the newspapers, Presidents and Secretaries of all Societies, Hon. J. R. Bennett and Mr. W. J. Higgins.

members for St. John's West and East, respectively, and Mr. A. G. Carnell. The Committee will be known as the Halifax Disaster Relief Committee. Details of the work will be finalized at to-night's meeting and collecting will be commenced to-morrow. As the work of collecting continues, the Red Cross thermometer will be displayed in the Board of Trade window, showing the progress made. In reply to the message of sympathy sent, Secretary Payne of the Board of Trade received this message on Saturday evening from the Halifax Board of Trade: "Appreciate sympathy and offer of help. Official statement will be issued Monday on Tuesday. Loss of life estimated at from fifteen hundred to two thousand. Two thousand families homeless."

E. A. SAUNDERS."

Awaiting News.

Mrs. J. Rice, of Halifax, but formerly of this city, and who is at present visiting here, has a husband and sister in Halifax, both of whom were employed in that part of the city which has been demolished. Mrs. Rice wired her husband on Thursday last but as yet has not received any reply.

Mr. Charlie Meehan, formerly of this city, who was visiting Halifax, sent a message to his parents stating that he had come through the disaster safely.

Private Messages.

The subjoined message has been received by Mr. R. M. Pidgeon, Manager of the Imperial Oil Co., this city. This Company has extensive property particularly along the waterfront at Halifax, and their big oil refinery plant is on Dartmouth. "Side warehouse blown out. Two drivers killed with horses. House staff all right, but all practically homeless. Refinery plant O.K. City

LET US FILL YOUR ORDER FROM FRESH SUPPLIES.

ELLIS & CO., Limited.

203 Water Street.

Fresh New York Turkeys.
Fresh New York Chicken.
Fresh New York Ducks.
Fresh N. Y. Corned Beef.

FRESH BLUE POINT OYSTERS.

Ripe Tomatoes.
California Celery.
Fresh Cauliflower.
Local Cabbage.
Parsnips, Carrots, Turnips.
Spanish Onions.

FRESH SMOKED FINNASH HADDIES.

Tangerines.
Green Grapes.
Blue Grapes.
Pineapples.
Navel Oranges.
Palermo Lemons.
Bartlett Pears.
Dessert Apples.
Grape Fruit.
Ripe Bananas.
Cooking Apples.

AMERICAN BEAUTY BUTTER.

A Holiday Necessity

A BOX OF

Kayler's
UNEQUALLED
CANDIES
Fancy Boxes & Baskets in all Sizes & at all Prices in large variety of Designs

from North Street north demolished. South end loss consists of blown in windows and doors. Mr. Leeson, Principal of the Deaf and Dumb School, Halifax, wires that all Newfoundland pupils are well. From the same source, Mrs. Otto Emerson has word that her son Lewis is well.

Rev. J. B. Dwyer, who was studying at Holy Heart Seminary, telegraphs that the building was damaged and that he was staying with a friend of his and would probably be coming to St. John's. Later he wired that he is not returning, but was going back to study and that all was well.

The following has been received by the Colonial Secretary from Mount St. Vincent:—

"Girls and Sisters all safe. No one injured. Building hurt."

SISTER DESALES."

The Halifax Tragedy.

Oh, Halifax, dear sister, we are mourning for you now. For a cloud of grief and trouble lies overshadowing your brow. Oh sister, we remember when we were in trouble too, And the heartfelt ministrations which we then received from you.

When the fire's devastation had swept o'er our native town, Oh Halifax, dear sister, then relief you sent us down. To reciprocate your kindness now by sending you relief, It is our obligation while to-day you weep with grief.

With you we all are weeping, and with you we're hand in hand, For you have the heartfelt sympathy of the whole of Newfoundland, And for you we all are praying that the Master may soothe thee As He did His twelve disciples in the storm on Galilee.

Oh Halifax, dear sister, He'll soothe thy sobbing breast, And though your heart be breaking 'tis He can give it rest; Though death's cold hand hath taken your sons and daughters fair— Look up to Him in Heaven and He'll send you aid from there.

Qurs is the right, dear sister, to help you while you're thus, For when we were in sorrow sure you gave your best to us; And not only words of comfort now But we'll open our purse most freely while your head lies bowed with woe.

JAMES MURPHY.

Dec. 10th, 1917.
C. L. B. CONCERT.—Secure your tickets for the C.L.B. Band Concert, Methodist College Hall, New Year's Night. Reserve Seats, 50c, on sale at Gray & Goodland's. General admission, 25c.—dec10,11

Here and There.

When you want Minceed Collops, try ELLIS'.

SALE OF WORK.—On Friday afternoon next a sale of work will be held in the Presentation Convent school room.

When you want Steaks, Chops, Cutlets, try ELLIS'.

LEFT FOR HALIFAX.—By yesterday's outgoing express a number of Halifax people left here for the wrecked city.

When you want Roast Beef, Roast Veal, Roast Mutton, Roast Pork, try ELLIS'.

CAPE RACE, To-day. Wind W. light, weather dull and heavy sea raging after last night's gale; two schrs. were sighted bound in yesterday. Bar. 29.55; ther. 44.

Stafford's Liniment cures Rheumatism, Lumbago, Neuralgia and all Aches and Pains.

REACHED SYDNEY.—The steamer owned by Jas. Baird, Ltd., has reached Sydney, after a trying passage in the St. Lawrence. A message from the captain of the ship states that the storm was still raging at Sydney yesterday.

Most things can be anybody's Gift. Your Portrait is distinctively, exclusively, yours. J. C. PARSONS, Bank of Montreal Building.—nov17,18

FOGOTA SAILED.—The s.s. Fogota left yesterday morning for the northward, taking a full freight and the following first class passengers: J. Miller, W. Robinson, W. V. Duggan, Joseph Locke, John Barbour, Sidney Jones, Joshua Parsons, Capt. S. R. Winsor and eleven second class.

Stafford's Prescription "A"—Cure for diseases of the Stomach: Indigestion, Dyspepsia, Catarrh, Gastritis and Nervous Dyspepsia.—nov6,18

CHRISTMAS TREE.—The Cathedral Women's Association are holding their annual Christmas Tree in the Synod Hall, opening to-morrow afternoon, at which there will be a grand variety of plain and fancy goods. The affair closes with a concert.

Between friends, the Gift that conveys the most of personal thoughtfulness is your Photograph. J. C. PARSONS, Bank of Montreal Building.—nov17,18

EXPRESS PASSENGERS.—The following passengers are on the incoming express: Mrs. Annie Russell, B. P. Wood, T. Moulton, Col. Cunningham, Major E. J. Hargrave, Miss Oke, A. T. Wheatlan, H. and Mrs. Winter and daughter.

HOLLY LEAVES.—10th issue of this number is on sale at all the Bookstores for 10c. Outport friends desiring copies, send name and address to any Bookstore.—dec10,11

MESSAGES RECEIVED.—Mr. W. B. Fraser has received the following messages from S. M. Brookfield, Esq., and Rev. Robt. Laing, President Halifax Ladies' College: "No one hurt. College, your daughter Kathleen left for New Brunswick this afternoon." This telegram was dated at Halifax the 7th.

BORN.

On Sunday, the 9th inst., at their residence Pennywell Road, the wife of Police Officer Michael Vall, of a daughter.

DIED.

Passed away last night, at Mundy Pond Road, after a long illness, the beloved wife of Wm. Blackler; left to mourn her husband, 2 boys and 3 girls besides 4 step-children. Will friends who cannot go to the house please meet the funeral near St. Clare's Home, head Casey Street, at 2.30 p.m. to-morrow, Tuesday.

On the 10th inst., after a long illness, Mary Fitzgerald (nee Babe) only daughter of John and Mary Fitzgerald, aged 14½ years; funeral on Wednesday, at 2.30 p.m., from her late residence, 52 Hamilton Street.—R.I.P.

On the 8th inst., Harold West Pippy, aged 26 years, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Pippy; funeral from his late residence, Torbay Road, on Tuesday, the 11th, at 2.30 o'clock.

Died of wounds, on December 1st, 1917, at the 5th Casualty Clearing Station, France, 2nd Lieut. Arthur J. Herder, aged 35 years.

Died of wounds, Nov. 29th, 1917, at 21st Casualty Clearing Station, France, No. 3516 Pte. Ernest Flewler, aged 17 years and 5 months, leaving father, mother, 3 brothers and five sisters to mourn their loss.

At Harbour Grace, on December 8, Annie, beloved wife of George Kennedy and youngest daughter of the late John and Mary Murphy, leaving a husband and 5 children, a mother and one brother and sister and a large circle of friends to mourn their sad loss.

WINARD'S LINIMENT CURES GADGET IN COWS.

G. KNOWLING, Limited.

We are now showing a very varied assortment of CLOTHING in our Men's Clothing Dept.,

but at present are featuring a large selection of TWEED, BLANKET CLOTH, BLACK VICUNAS, etc., in

MEN'S WINTER OVERCOATS

in Single and Double Breasted with Chesterfield Collar and Belt to match.

Prices range from

\$7.50, \$10.00,

Up to

\$22.50.

We can do the \$7.50 line in Black Vicuna only, the PRICES FAR BELOW anything we could secure on present day values.

Men's Clothing Dept. | **G. KNOWLING, Ltd.** | Men's Clothing Dept.
nov15,19,26,dec3,10,17

Specially for Men

This week we are giving good value in the following:

Men's Soft Felt Hats, \$1.80,
Men's Tweed Caps, 80c. to \$1.20,
Men's White Silk Hdks., 80c, 90c, \$1.
Men's Hdkf. Mufflers,
in Blk. Silk and Blk. & White Check
Men's Wide End String Ties, 45c.

Also, a few boxes of Patriotic Xmas Cards, at 25c. and 45c. box.

A. & S. RODGER.

Wedding Bells.

MORRISSEY—O'LEARY.

All Hallows' Church was the scene of a very pretty wedding on Thursday afternoon, Nov. 29th, when Miss Annie O'Leary was united in matrimony to Mr. Philip Morrissey. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Murphy, Frs. Walker, Ashley, Finn and O'Brien. The bride was handsomely attired in a suit of white silk with wreath and veil and carried a bouquet of chrysanthemums. The bride was given away by Mr. John Casey, and was attended by Miss Kathleen Casey, whilst Mr. Brendan Morrissey acted as best man. After the ceremony the guests motored to Bay Roberts and thence proceeded to All Hallows' Hall where a reception was held. After the reception a dance was held and a very pleasant evening enjoyed by all those who attended the wedding ceremony. The bride was the recipient of many handsome and valuable presents, including many large cheques. The gifts in themselves show how highly Mr. Morrissey was esteemed by all who knew her. In the past she has been noted for her pleasant appearance and smile of welcome, and we hope that in the future, her life may be as bright as she has endeavoured to make the past of

those with whom she has been associated. Mr. and Mrs. Morrissey are taking up their future residence at North River and the whole community joins in felicitations and in wishing them many happy years of wedded life.
North River, Nov. 6th.

A Good All Round Liniment

that seems to go straight through the skin and reach the pain. That is a good description of

Stafford's Liniment.

We believe there is no more generally useful liniment. It seems to reach the spot every time. No home should be without a good liniment for use in those emergencies common to all homes calling for a reliable liniment. Keep a bottle of "Stafford's Liniment" in your medicine chest.

For sale everywhere.
Manufactured only by
DR. F. STAFFORD & SON,
St. John's, Nfld.

Our unusual success in the production of Children's Portraits has been very favourably commented on. Come in and see them. J. C. PARSONS, Bank of Montreal Building.—nov17,18

Had Tempestuous Trip.

The grave fears expressed for the S.S. Ranger were relieved yesterday when Messrs. Bowring Bros., Ltd., received a wireless message from Capt. James, saying that the ship was running for shelter to St. Mary's, where she arrived yesterday afternoon. The Ranger left Halifax the day previous to the awful explosion with a general cargo for this port. A succession of storms was encountered and, as Capt. James intimated in his wireless, the ship was slightly damaged and he was compelled to jettison some cargo. It is expected that the steamer will reach here some time to-night.

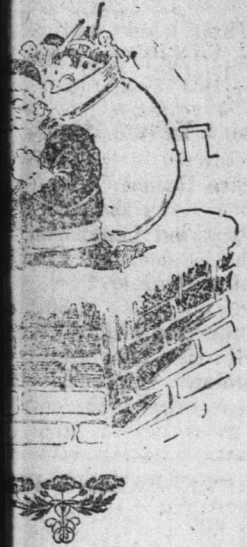
Here and There.

Stafford's Phorator for all kinds of Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma and various Lung Troubles.—nov6,18

W.P.A. SENDING HOSPITAL SUPPLIES.—To consider the sending of hospital supplies to the Halifax sufferers a meeting of the Women's Patriotic Association is being held this afternoon at "Sutherland Place."

Every Saturday evening after 7 o'clock, Choice Ends of Beef, Mutton, Lamb, Pork will be sold at cost. ELLIS & CO., LTD., 203 Water Street.—nov29,18

angers of the



early
ill not be
appointed.

God Save Them.



God save the divers kings for whom the anthem rings, from loyal throats; may they with wisdom choose all policies they use, and may they never lose their royal goats. God save all kings and queens, princesses and horse-marshals, whose are right; let us not choose and God save the lowly hick, dig where bombs are thick, there in light. God save the nameless buried at dead of night, on shore, buried in crimson mud, like a ceaseless flood wavelets human blood flow evermore. God save our noble boys, going where wars rages; guard them from light and day, send them, from away, when ended is the fray, home again. God save the widows all, widows in hut and hall, and brides! Waiting for him or John, who is forever gone; the red stream flows on, in sob-lidies. God save the little lads of their loving dads, children keep; kids at their mother's knee, saying, "Where's the daddy, he's lined up with such as these, who are cheap."

Faithful Servant.

TO WORK NIGHT OR DAY, is your ever ready helper right at home—no begging for delivery, no delays in getting it. One gets used to it that one is apt to forget how helpful it is. Take a little time. Study its uses; get to understand how to obtain every particle of you can from it.

Remember that for Light, Heat or anything it has no equal. If you have little difficulties with it, bring them to the Gas Office. Our advice will be most readily given.

John's Gas Light Co.

Everyday Etiquette.

That is the proper way to word announcement card when only the bride or the bride is living?—queried.

card may read as follows, "My aunt: Mrs. Charles Horace has the honor of announcing the marriage of her daughter Frances to Harry L. Frank, on Thursday, the sixth, nineteen hundred and one, at St. Margaret's chapel."

