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("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate

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ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., SEPT. 11th, 1916

Holland's Problem

IN the last two years Holland has had her experience of German high-handedness. The outrages committed on her shipping called forth protests which in ordinary circumstances would have been backed up by a threat of war. To that point indeed the Dutch Government was more than once brought very close, but such answers as were made by Berlin were felt to be not sufficiently unsatisfactory to justify hostile action. Holland succeeded in preserving her neutrality, and has had the good fortune not to be pounced upon by the grand enemy of the small nations. She will continue to enjoy her immunity from war after the Entente nations have carried out their mission of breaking the military power of Germany. She will then dwell in safety beside the German Empire. But should Germany ever in the future molest her, it cannot be expected that chivalrous John Bull will rush to her aid as promptly as he rushed to the aid of Belgium.

Can Holland look for much more than safety? She has taken no risks in behalf of the rights of small nations, but will be secured in those rights at the cost of the blood and treasure of the Entente Powers. Whatever the future might hold for her, she seems to think that it could be nothing worse than participation in the present war. At all events, despite great provocation, despite the fact that the cause of small nations for which the Entente Powers were fighting was her cause, she has so far kept out of the struggle. Her doing so has made the task harder for Britain and France. It is not so much the weight of her army that is thought of in this connection, but it is her strategic position. As long as Holland remains neutral she covers a vulnerable frontier of the enemy. More than that, her state of non-belligerency has been of great advantage to the enemy for trading purposes. The commercial enterprise of the Dutch has been very active in this war, and they have not scrupled to make the money they could make in the business of middlemen between enemy countries and other countries. In so far as they have been able to pass supplies to Germany, they have assisted the enemy in circumventing the British naval blockade.

Will Holland come into the Entente at the eleventh hour? She has not the same motives for doing so as Roumania had. Roumania desired certain Austrian provinces occupied by people of her own race. Unless she helped to defeat Austria she would not be on a footing to obtain these provinces. When she became convinced that the balance of power had passed into the hands of the Entente nations and that they were to come out victorious, she hastened to join

**VARIA
BY GALE**

WHEN, in 1859, England imposed a duty of six-pence per gallon on molasses, rum, and sugar imported from the West Indian Islands other than British, there was great excitement in Massachusetts and New England; the colonists declared they were being "ruined to appease the clamors of the British West Indian planters." But the Americans never paid any duty; they ran the gauntlet. In 1764 an Act was passed which gave the Admiralty Courts large powers, and enabled them to try cases without a jury; and the Custom House officers were given great authority under writs of assistance. The Yankees evaded this law by loading their vessels in the French Islands and purchasing clearances from the Governor of Anguilla, who acted as collector. Anguilla, which was a British possession, could not afford a cargo for a single vessel! This game was eventually discovered; a vessel put into Bermuda and was confiscated.

Certain writers insist that out of this difficulty grew the discontent which culminated in the American Revolution.

Out of this Act—the Molasses Act—arose the direct trade between Newfoundland and the West Indies, where sugar, molasses and the ever present rum could be imported free. The legitimate trade between Newfoundland and Newfoundland consequently began to decline though smuggling still continued. Within recent years our trade with America has advanced by leaps and bounds; and our imports from the United States at the present day are the largest item in our Customs' returns. Since the embargo on fish products was raised, we have been exporting large quantities of salt bulk fish; and from present indications, the American market must in future depend largely on Newfoundland for its salt fish supply.

From the earliest times to the present, Portugal and Spain have occupied a large place in the commercial history of Newfoundland; and we have records of Anglo-Portuguese trading voyages as far back as the early days of the XVIth century (1505); and during the century that followed we find them bringing wines, brandy, salt, oil, and linen which they traded for fish in the southern ports of the Colony. Oporto and Lisbon were even in those early days the greatest markets for our fish; and Oporto at the present day is the most promising market open to us.

The extent of the Portuguese trade with Newfoundland is thus stated by Rev. George Patterson, D.D.: "Immediately after Gaspar Corea's first voyage to Newfoundland—in 1500 or 1501—fishing companies were formed in Viana, Aveiro, and Terceira, for the purposes of founding establishments in Newfoundland. In 1506 the King of Portugal gave orders that all fishermen returning from Newfoundland should pay a tenth part of their profits at the Custom House. At different times Aveiro alone had 60 vessels sailing to Newfoundland, and in 1550, 150 fishing vessels. Equal numbers sailing from Oporto and other ports, gave a large increase of revenue."

The Spaniards were likewise them. Holland is not seeking territory, but she must desire to share in such other fruits of the war as will be at the disposal of the victorious nations. None of the powers will mark with more interest the arrangements the Entente nations are making for the post-bellum status. Their Economic League is of peculiar interest to her, for she is a trading nation. It is of the highest importance to her that she be admitted to its privileges. She may come to the conclusion that it is to her interest, not that the odds are so much against Germany, to strike a blow on the side of the Allies. She must realize that they cannot be grateful to her for the part she has so far played in the war. As the war progresses towards its end the world will be more and more impressed with the value of the Economic League for drawing strength to the Entente side and increasing the number of Germany's enemies. It will make the war more telling against her, and will penalize her after the war. As Holland thought so much of the trade with Germany in wartime, she may be left to depend upon it largely in peace-time.

early in the field; and such was the ascendancy of Spain as a maritime nation at the time (1511) that Ferdinand actually claimed Newfoundland as a Spanish possession. By the time that England had awakened to the value of the island, the Spaniards had become firmly established as a fishing nation, with its chief areas of operation around our shores.

In 1585, we are told that "half the sailors of the Peninsula (Spain and Portugal) went to Newfoundland each year" and that Sir Bernard Drake received a commission "to proceed thither to warn all vessels about the seizure in Spain (England and Spain being now at war), and prevent them making sale of their fish there, and to take all Spanish ships and subjects, and to bring them into some of the western ports of England, without disposing of any parts of the lading until further orders."

That he was successful is vouched for by an English Minute of Council, October 10th of the same year: "Council to Sir John Gilbert advising of the capture of Spanish ships and sailors at Newfoundland. Returns allowed to 600 Spanish prisoners; allowance reduced from three shillings and four-pence per week to 3d. per day per man in consequence of ill-treatment of Englishmen in Spain; to be paid out of the fish taken and the rest distributed in prize money."

This was an excellent policy for England to adopt to-day with the Huns in view of the atrocious treatment accorded to British prisoners in Germany. We doubt if they fare even so well as the prisoners who were held in Spain during the period in question.

The defeat of the Armada gave a serious blow to Spanish fishing in Newfoundland. It does not seem to have ever recovered, though we have had commercial relations with the Spaniards at repeated intervals since then. The Spaniards, however, rarely came to Newfoundland waters to fish; but they came as freighters of cargoes.

In the early days of the last century a large number of Spanish vessels came to Newfoundland bringing salt and other commodities which are produced in Spain. Between 1840 and 1860 trade between Newfoundland and Spain was brisk, the direct cause being a bounty paid on fish brought in Spanish bottoms to Spain, amounting to about one dollar per quintal. Nearly a hundred vessels were in the trade. The captains of these vessels paid for their cargoes in gold.

In 1850 there were seventy Spanish vessels in St. John's, aggregating 8,673 tons, with an equipment of 678 men, and they loaded 154,415 quintals of fish, and 378 tons of oil. When the bounty was withdrawn this trade ceased practically, though for some years afterwards Spanish vessels came to St. John's and Harbor Grace. In those days Spanish was taught in several of our schools, in St. John's, at Harbor Grace, and at Carbonear; and several of our young people knew the language fairly well. Even in the school days of the writer Orlendorf was still amongst the text books.

Our trade with Spain nowadays is comparatively small; but we still send fish to Alicante, Cartagena, and Malaga, and import large quantities of salt from Cadiz.

Newfoundland's largest foreign trade item to-day is our trade with Brazil, the beginning of which we noted in a former communication. Brazil is in reality an offshoot of Portugal, and the Portuguese language is used there. A rather serious handicap to our Brazilian trade is the expense of the transportation of our products, as our vessels as a rule do not bring return cargoes. This is due to the fact that we are but small customers of the great products of the country, viz.—coffee and rubber.

Our trade with Italy is of very ancient date; and we find first mention of it, though in a rather undesirable association with piracy. Piracy was quite a respectable business in bygone days, just as it seems to be to-day, in certain quarters. It was part of the trade of the "erring captains" as Whitbourne euphoniously called the buccaneers of the early XVIIth century.

In 1618 we find a record to the effect that a part of Sir Walter Raleigh's fleet returning from an expedition to South America captured French vessels on the Newfoundland coast, fish laden, and Capt. Wollaston, the commander took their cargoes and sold them at Leghorn, "to the value of three thousand pounds." The pirates also levied a tax of some two

thousand pounds on some fishermen in Newfoundland. The modern system of plundering our fishermen is somewhat less ruthless; it is now done by an Act of Parliament which imposes a duty on motor-engines and other things necessary for the satisfactory prosecution of our great industry. Our trade with Italy is not very extensive of late, though Naples, Genoa, and Palermo, in Sicily, purchase a certain amount of fish, mostly Labrador cure, if we are not mistaken.

In connection with the Italian markets, there is a rather good story which we heard many years ago from a clergyman who took a very great interest in the Newfoundland fisheries. The chief actor in the scene was the late Bishop of Harbor Grace. A well-known fish merchant called on His Lordship one evening in the year — when Catholics had a dispensation to eat meat on days of abstinence during Lent on account of the gripe epidemic, and in a very excited manner said to His Lordship that he "would be ruined if the Pope of Rome allowed this sort of thing to continue; it was spoiling the Italian fish markets." It so happened that the Bishop was then preparing to make a visit to Rome and he very gravely informed Mr. — that he certainly would "make it his business to discuss the fish situation with His Holiness!" The merchant felt "deeply grateful," and seemed relieved.

Shortly afterwards (whilst the Bishop was actually in Rome or en route), the dispensation was rescinded, and the regular rule of the Catholic Church regarding abstinence days again came into force. On the Bishop's return to Harbor Grace, Mr. — called upon him "to thank him for the kindly services he had rendered to his firm in having the embargo of fish removed!" He had sold four or five cargoes, and at remunerative prices. The good Bishop regarded the incident as one of the "biggest jokes" in his repertoire, and it was extensive.

The Greek trade with Newfoundland is of comparatively recent date, as far as we know; and Zanthos, Patras, and Piraeus are the chief markets. Just at the moment Piraeus (the seaport of Athens) is in a rather parlous condition, and it is doubtful if we shall find the Greek market a profitable one just now. Piraeus takes a large quantity of Labrador fish, chiefly cask.

NOTES FROM CATALINA

Not much was done this week so far with fish as bait was scarce.

Very little fish is being shipped here as yet.

Mr. O. K. Nelson of the Newfoundland Specialty Co. is making a short stay in Catalina.

The weather here has been fine for days back. Our lady friends have been busy berry picking as a result.

Our genial and popular friend T. T. Cartwright is with us again. T.T. is always a welcome visitor to Catalina.

Mr. Malcolm Parsons, travelling in the interests of the Newfoundland Boot and Shoe Co., is in town at present. He is finding business good.

Mr. W. Colderidge is home again. We understand he will engage in business here in the future.

Catalina has had quite a few visitors the past week. We expect that when the Union premises is in full swing hundreds of people will visit our town.

The Union trader Hattie A. Heckman arrived at 2 p.m. from Sydney via St. Pierre. She called at the latter place for some baulks for the new Union premises.

Mr. L. Moore, representing Sherman Williams Paint left by Prospero last night to visit the northern cities in the interests of his firm. He spent a few days here and reports business good.

The schr. Plebiscite of St. Jones Within arrived here this morning from Battle Hr. with a full cargo of fish. Capt. Price reports several Catalina schooners as doing very well.

The schr. F. Severn Capt. Walter Randell, arrived to-day from Labrador en route to Port Rexton. May he soon get it made up as well as get the benefit of the big price now offering.

MY MOST THRILLING MOMENT

Famous Detectives Tell of Incidents That Impressed Them and Prove That it is Not Always Melodrama That Most Interests a Sherlock Holmes.

When Secret Service Chief Flynn Found John Davis

WILLIAM J. FLYNN is Uncle Sam's big chief of police. He is chief of the United States secret service.

Several years ago a little Russian walked into a Grand street bank in New York and asked for exchange on £140 worth of Bank of England ten and five-pound notes. The clerk field them to the light, and the watermark showed clear-cut and beautiful in its delicate tracings. But the clerk could understand how a shabby stranger came to have \$700 worth of paper of that sort, so he phoned to Flynn.

Flynn, as he entered the bank, saw a whiskered man watching intently from the opposite side of the street. He kept the man in mind, heard the clerk's story, colored the Russian who had presented the notes, and then slipped out to capture the sentinel. He was gone with £100,000 of spurious notes in his pockets. The man caught swore he had found the notes in a wallet which he had picked from the gutter. They were on the Bank of England. There was not enough evidence on which to hold the man so he was let go.

A little later Flynn learned that John Davis was arrested for a set of forgeries, and also that Davis had made the notes the Russian tried to pass in Grand street, and that the capture of Jacob Stern, reported by the whiskered sentinel, had demoralized the gang. Davis, an artist with pen and brush, confessed.

Some time later the secret service chief broke down the door of a house in Revere, a suburb of Boston, and nabbed a set of counterfeiters and about the nearest perfect plant that had ever fallen under the eyes of the federal agents. As the door went down a little man with red whiskers burst out of the kitchen. He ran into the muzzle of Flynn's revolver.

Mr. P. J. Fitzgerald of the Marine and Fisheries Dept. came by Prospero. He is en route to Port Rexton in connection with proposed work for the dredge "Priest man."

Mr. J. J. St. John, Editor of The Mail and Advocate, is making his first visit to Catalina. He is the guest of Mr. J. G. Stone, M.H.A. Mr. St. John has visited the new premises and is quite enthusiastic over the project.

The F.P.U. store is doing a fine business here. Our popular representative, Mr. Stone, is the presentative, Mr. Stone, is making matters hum and the F.P.U. are fortunate in having such an energetic man in charge of Catalina branch.

Work on the Union stores and docks at the N.W. Arm is going ahead rapidly under the supervision of Mr. Miller who should certainly feel proud of his work. This place is now the centre of attraction for all. Quite a few visitors from St. John's have visited the site during the past two days and were agreeably surprised at the magnitude of the work.

COR.
Catalina, Sept. 5, '16.

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

SEPTEMBER 11

LORL Palmerston died, 1869.

Bishop Power preached his first sermon here, 1870.

William Davey, carpenter, died, 1879.

Thomas Power, Bell Island, died, aged 89, 1882.

Rev. Edward (Archdeacon) Botwood's exhibition, for St. Mary's Church, opened in Victoria Rink, 1872.

Advertisers' Gazette registered, W. J. Herder, proprietor, 1883.

Prof. Danielle's carnival and Oriental ball, City Rink, 1888.

James P. Fox first called out for St. John's East, 1890.

Fifty-mile walking match in Parade Rink, go-as-you-please. The principal contestants were:

ers burst out of the kitchen. He ran into the muzzle of Flynn's revolver.

"Why, John Davis," said Flynn with a laugh, "John Davis, you ought to be ashamed of yourself." The little man crumpled, and soon began to whimper. Scotland Yard had turned him loose with a hint for him to lose himself in Belgium, but he soon grew lonesome.

"The old game pulled 'John back," said Flynn, "and he came here to print beautiful \$10 bills."

His plant was ready to turn out \$1,000,000 when Flynn broke in.

Next: Inspector Dougherty and the Taxicab Robbery.

R. Stephenson, John Stapleton and R. H. Collins; the last mentioned won, 1885.
Rev. Archdeacon Forristal buried, 1894.
Admiral Erskine, Sir J. Bramston, and Earl of Westmeath—French Shore delegates—arrived here, 1898.

SEVERE LIGHTNING STORM.

A severe thunder and lightning storm swept over the head of Conception Bay, Saturday, and came down the South Shore. The storm occurred under peculiar conditions, for the Eastern sky was quite clear and the moon shone brightly, but away West the dark storm clouds rolled up and were shot with electrical flashes at frequent intervals, while the rumbling of distant thunder could be heard. At 8.30 torrents of rain fell on the South Shore and the most vivid lightning possibly ever witnessed there was noticed. "Heaven's artillery" shook the earth and the storm continued for over an hour. Yesterday morning the electrical storm was repeated but not with such intensity, though all day it rained hard with a piping N. E. wind and a heavy sea running on Conception Bay. In the city 8 a.m. there was a good deal of heavy lightning which lasted for a couple of hours, but the thunder was not heavy. Heavy rain also occurred and this continued all yesterday.

Some Pictures.

"Well Bobby, how did you enjoy the movies?"
"Fine, I saw six people killed for only five cents."

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MAKE YOUR DOLLARS INCREASE

\$100 left with The Canadian Bank of Commerce at the present rate of interest will amount to

- \$103.01 in one year
- \$106.14 in two years
- \$109.34 in three years
- \$116.05 in five years

Other amounts will accumulate in the same proportion. Accounts may be opened with \$1 and upwards. Interest will be added half-yearly.

Deposits may be made and withdrawn by mail. Out-of-town accounts receive every attention.

THE BANK HAS BRANCHES THROUGHOUT CANADA AND IN LONDON, ENG., NEW YORK, MEXICO CITY AND OTHER IMPORTANT FOREIGN CITIES

Thousands of people use this Bank as the custodian of their money, and their combined deposits now amount to over \$190,000,000

OPEN AN ACCOUNT, KEEP ADDING TO IT, AND ENSURE YOUR INDEPENDENCE

ST. JOHN'S BRANCH - WATER STREET

Reid-Newfoundland Co.

**GENERAL HOLIDAY,
September 13th, 1916.**

For General Holiday, Wednesday next, Excursion Tickets will be sold between St. John's and Carbonear, Placentia, Heart's Content and Trepassey. Good going on Tuesday and Wednesday, and good returning on all trains up to Thursday following.

ONE WAY FIRST CLASS FARE.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.