

Shipwrecks and Loss of Life on the Coast of Newfoundland.

(BY JAMES MURPHY)

Many ships have come to grief on the headlands of St. John's, and many lives have been lost time and again. In 1861, the brig, Salmak, Capt. James Crowe, having left New York on Oct. 28th, arrived in a few weeks afterwards, near Cape Spear. A big breeze of wind was in at the time, but at mid-night it had died away quite calm, but the heavy tide drew the vessel towards the shore on the eastern side of Cape Spear. Her anchors were dropped, but the wind springing up at once from the North East, her anchors parted, and she went ashore on the rocks near Cape Spear. The ship's boat was lowered but she was unable to withstand the heavy seas. Mr. Cantwell, the light-house keeper, and his crew threw a small line on board the doomed vessel, and a hawser was made fast, but unfortunately two men and one boy were washed away while trying to reach the shore. The captain and the remainder of the crew were saved by jumping on the rocks. They were then hauled up the cliff by strong and willing hands. After a while the vessel was smashed to pieces by the heavy seas.

The same year, the Dart, of Trinity, came to grief off the north head of Petty Harbor, in a dense fog. In 1865 the gun boat Rollish, H. M. Ship of War, ran down a boat's crew at St. Shotts. The men were fishing, one man was saved by clinging to the wreck. He was picked up by Patrick Foley of Fermeuse, who landed him at Trepassy. Tobias Nash owned the ship. Her crew were William Daley, master; John Tremblott and James Quigley. The man saved was named English. In a song composed shortly after the disaster there appeared in it the following verse:

"English stood the morning watch,
And he let out the light,
Which caused the loss of boat and crew,
That dark and stormy night."
Quigley was a native of Torbay, and

one. She was consigned to DeGrouchy, Renouf, Renouf, Clements & Co., and halled from Jersey in the English Channel.

Seventy years ago, a ship called the Indian Lass, from Pictou, N.S. to Carbonear, came to grief near Horse Cove, Conception Bay. She let go both her anchors and after a while she struck on the rocks, the long boat was hoisted out, but she broke adrift. The master and crew took to the tops to jump on shore, this they managed to do, but the Capt., whose name was Stabb, two women and a boy were lost.

Fifty years ago, a very sad drowning took place, the May, Capt. Pike, left St. John's for Green Bay, to load lumber. She was driven ashore at Flower's Point, between Catalina and Cape Bonavista. One of the crew named Barnes, jumped ashore, on the cliff. Where Barnes stood was a very small footpath, but he managed to climb the cliff. He thought all the others were dead, so he started for Sandy Cove. Pearce and Taylor, two more of the crew were discovered in the lower part of the cliff, and were drawn on top with ropes. Pike, who was in a dying state, was rescued by the brother of Pearce, who lost his life in the attempt. Poor Pearce volunteered to go and tie a rope around Pike's body, and after this had been done a heavy sea washed Pearce away, and his last words were about his wife and children. Pike's body was brought into St. John's, and was interred in the General Protestant Cemetery at Riverhead.

(To be continued.)

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MAKES PLEA FOR CONSTABLE VAIL

(To the Editor.)

Dear Sir,—Through the medium of the Mail and Advocate I would crave a little space to draw the attention of the Department of Justice and the head of the Police Force to a worthy officer now doing duty here in St. John's, I mean Constable Vail of the West End.

This young man, if I mistake not, has been over two years on active duty, is a veteran of the Dardanelles campaign, and of the Western front, and spent more than six months in the firing line, being in hospital later for nine months as the result of wounds and illness. This young officer who resigned from the force to go and fight for King and country and who is again on duty in the force, has not yet properly recovered from the effects of the casualties of the engagements through which he passed and I hear though he is desirous of remaining in the force; that if he is retained in the City, with the hardships it entails, he will be reluctantly compelled to resign. Vail is anxious I believe to get an outpost station, where conditions would be less exacting than here. It is men of this kind who should receive anything in the way of a benefit, that might be going and I would again respectfully ask the Inspector-General or Minister of Justice to give his case the consideration it deserves.

I have no personal motive for writing as I do in this connection, merely wishing to see justice done to a loyal soldier of the Empire and a zealous and faithful servant of the Crown.—I am, etc., WELL WISHER.

OUR THEATRES

AT THE CRESCENT.
The Crescent Picture Palace presents a big all-feature programme today. Velma Whitman and L. C. Shumway features in "The Stool Pigeon," a great Lubin drama of the underworld. Mrs. Wallace Erskine, Lillian Devere and Harold Meltzer in "Friend Wilson's Daughter," a Quaker story pictured by the Edison Company, a beautiful scenic picture. "The Artful Dodger," a Kalem comedy riot. Professor McCarthy plays a program of the newest and best music. Don't miss seeing this splendid show today.

COMPETITION AND VAUDEVILLE AT ROSSLEYS

There is another complete change of beautiful pictures at Rossley's British Theatre to-night. Just arrived by express from New York. On Friday night the big competition will take place, trusting the weather will be finer than last Friday night and besides the competition will be a big display of vaudeville. Singing, dancing, jokes, stories and contortion fun without vulgarity. In preparation the big Christmas show. Don't miss Friday night or you will be sorry. Mr. Rossley wishes it distinctly understood he is not in any way connected with the Star Hall.

S. U. F. ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of S. U. F. Lodge, No. 5, was held in the British Hall last night with a goodly gathering of members present. Amongst those who attended was Bro. Hy. Stone, a veteran of Gallipoli and France and who received a cordial welcome, as well as Pastmaster Rendell of Badger's Quay, who addressed the meeting. Pastmaster House conducted the election of officers which resulted as follows:
W.M.—J. J. Coaker, re-elected.
G.O.—Robert LeDrew, elected.
S.O.—Geo. Cook, elected.
Q.M.—P. Summers, elected.
Secretary—A. Withycombe, re-elected.
Chaplain—P. Joyce, elected.
Lookout—Wm. Duffett, re-elected.
Committee—W. J. Coveyduck, W. Butt, W. P. Rogers, A. Mills, H. Hynes and J. Learning.

FISH AND BREWIS FUND.

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| Previously acknowledged | \$2,100.00 |
| M. Chaplin | 10.00 |
| Employees St. John's Gas Light Co. | 10.00 |
| E. Brian Shears | 50 |
| Mrs. Robert Molloy, Torbay | 50 |
| F. Woodman, New Harbor | 5.00 |
| Friends from Mobile | 7.50 |
| G. Neal | 20.00 |
| A. F. Buffett, Grand Bank | 5.00 |
| Conroy & Higgins | 10.00 |
| Bert Trickett, Spout Cove | 1.00 |
| Methodist Minister | 2.00 |
| Choral Class, Foggo, per Miss Ethel Scott | 2.00 |
| | \$2,174.45 |

The Prospero left King's Cove at 7.15 a.m. and is due here at 9 to-night.

BIG BLAZE LAST NIGHT

Shortly before 6.30 p.m. yesterday an alarm of fire was heard in the city, while the lurid rays of a conflagration could be seen on the higher levels. The blaze emanated from the Springdale Street Commercial School, of which Mr. P. G. Butler is principal, and the Western and Central firemen turned out with their usual promptness but saw on arrival that the blaze already had made much progress and that hard work lay ahead of them. The men quickly had three streams of water on the burning fabric and had a plentiful supply, but it was difficult to get at the seat of the blaze, which was immediately above the furnace room. Citizens and police rendered all the aid possible also but despite the excellent efforts of the firemen the flames quickly spread through the building, the dry varnished wood work of the school rooms being eaten up quickly by the destructive element. After a stiff fight of nearly a half hour the fire was under control but not before the schools were badly gutted and most of their contents destroyed. The janitor locked up the building at 5.30 p.m. yesterday and when he left everything was practically o.k. The belief is that the heat from a radiator set fire to the wood work, which quickly spread over the varnished surface of the walls. The loss is a great one to Principal Butler and the 450 day and 52 night pupils whom he is educating. A splendid library, school records, school books, teachers and scholars' requisites were destroyed but fortunately eight almost new typewriters were saved. The place was not long since practically rebuilt at a cost of about \$8,000 and only half was insured.

LOCAL ITEMS

Daine, Johnston & Co.'s new purchase, the "John", came off dock yesterday and will soon begin to load codfish for Brazil.
The schr. Annie L. Warren, from Halifax with a general cargo, arrived to Harvey & Co. yesterday after a run of six days.
W. Greene, of Old Perlican, who was recently the victim of a shooting accident, arrived by the Shore Train last night for the Hospital. He is not seriously hurt.

SCENE IN COURT.

Today in the Magistrate's Court a city resident of Willis' Range was before Judge Morris at the instance of a neighbor on a charge of using lewd and abusive language towards her. There was a large audience present and a comedy was presented to the halliains which was worth the levying of an entrance fee. Even the brave and dignified occupant of the Bench was not proof against the ludicrous situation nor the stern lawyer acting for the complainant. The defendant, a sturdy matron from the Emerald Isle, conducted her own defence, cross-examined the complainant, and had the place to herself for quite a while, nor could the repeated calls for order in court kindle the facile and witty tongue of the Irish woman. The lawyer for the complainant suggested to the Judge that the woman be bound over to keep the peace, but His Honour wittily remarked that the tongue of such a clever female could not be stopped by any such process. She was fined \$2 or 14 days.

REID'S STEAMER REPORT.

Argyle leaving Placentia today on Bay route.
Clyde left Horwood 5 p.m. yesterday inward.
Dundee left Salvage 3.15 a.m. yesterday, outward.
Ethie leaving Humbermouth today.
Glencoe left Burin 11.30 a.m. yesterday, going west.
Home left Piller's Island 11 a.m. yesterday, outward.
Neptune due at St. John's today from North Sydney.
Kyle due at Port aux Basques this morning.
Sagona left Port aux Basques 11.30 p.m. yesterday.
Meigle due at St. John's today from North Sydney.
Wren left Trinity early yesterday morning, going out.

XMAS SALE IS BIG SUCCESS

A most successful Xmas Tree and Sale of Work was that held yesterday afternoon and last night at the Synod Hall by the Cathedral Women's Association. There was a very large attendance and the formal opening was assigned to Rev. Canon White, who in a short address eulogized the work of the Association and complimented the members on their activities. The large Xmas Tree erected contained 20-cent gifts which were quickly disposed of. Mr. Arthur Burgess at the close announced the numbers of the winning tickets, one of which was attached to each article. Teas were also served and much plain and fancy needle work was sold. A very enjoyable concert took place at 8 p.m., when songs, recitations &c. were given by Misses Ferneaux and Bartlett, Mrs. Dr. Smith, Rev. C. Moulton and Messrs W. Earle and F. Seymour. Mrs. Smith and Misses L. Earle and Olive Wood were the accompanists. The proceeds were substantial and part will go to the Red Cross Fund.

A BEAUTIFUL MONUMENT TO ARCHBISHOP HOWLEY

A beautiful monument was recently erected at Belvidere cemetery to the memory of the late Archbishop Howley, the great ecclesiastic who guided the destinies of the Catholic Church in Newfoundland for many years. The monument takes the form of a beautiful Celtic Cross of marble, with Irish interlacings and is appropriately and beautifully inscribed in Latin and English. The work was done by Mr. John T. Kelly of Muir's marble works and is a testimony to his artistic talent and his ability as a mechanic.

OFFICIAL CASUALTY LIST

FIRST NEWFOUNDLAND REGIMENT
Received 11.30 a.m. December 6th.

- 2nd. Lieut. Alexander B. Baird, "Brynmaur," Portugal Cove Rd. At 4th. London General Hospital, gastritis—slight.
- 2321 Corporal Arthur L. W. Carter, 5 Colonial Street. At 6th. General Hospital, Rouen, Nov. 27th; gunshot wound in hand—slight.
- 1566 Private Herbert L. Vaisey, 41 Cabot Street. At Netley Hospital; mental.
- 2516 Private Benjamin Bowers, Nipper's Harbor, N.D.B. At Netley Hospital; mental.

JOHN R. BENNETT,
Colonial Secretary.

THE KYLE'S PASSENGERS.

The Kyle arrived at Port aux Basques this morning, bringing A. Berry, J. E. Wood, Dr. and Mrs. Grenfell, Dr. and Mrs. Chamberlain, Dr. Moore, Lieut. J. Clift, C. F. Clift, A. Petrie Mrs. A. Snow, Mrs. J. Harris, R. Lambert, E. Bidel, Miss E. M. Hartley, Mrs. D. J. Greene, Capt. M. Burke, J. Maunder, W. Party, L. F. Follow, W. P. Manchester, M. F. Abbot, P. McDonald, Miss D. Wilcox, Miss L. Squires, Miss O. Rodgers, Major Paterson, S. K. and Mrs. Bell, L. LeDrew and Miss E. Neill.

Soldiers and Sailors Had Jolly Time

The Daughters of Empire, in the B.I.S. Club Rooms, last night gave the men of the Army and Navy who had returned from active service a right jolly good time. Abundance of refreshments were served by the ladies, after which they were regaled with an excellent concert. Numbers were given with much acceptance by Messrs. J. L. Slattery, C. J. Fox, J. Devine, P. Halley and J. Sullivan, as well as Sgt. Edwards, Sgt. Mercer, Ptes. T. McGrath and O'Keefe. Each item on the programme was loudly applauded and much enjoyed. Sgt. M. Nugent, the hero of many fights, at the conclusion of proceedings, addressing the gathering, congratulated the Benevolent Irish Society for its kindness extended the Soldiers and Sailors, and cheered called for him were heartily responded to. A hearty vote of thanks to the Daughters of Empire was proposed by Sgt. Moore was passed by acclamation, and Mr. J. L. Slattery on behalf of the Society thanked Sgt. Nugent and the other soldiers for their expressions of appreciation. The hearty singing of the National Anthem concluded proceedings.

EXTENDING RECRUITING EFFORT

It has been decided by the Recruiting Committee to make an effort to obtain volunteers in the places outside St. John's. At Petty Harbour to-morrow night a meeting will be held, at which Mr. F. J. Morris, K.C., will preside. The speakers will be Lieut. H. Ross and Mr. J. W. Morris.

INSURANCE AGAINST LOSS BY FIRE.
We are prepared to issue policies insuring property of almost every description, wherever situated in Newfoundland, against loss and damage by fire. Our rates are the same as all other Companies doing business in Newfoundland. We aim to settle losses as promptly as possible. If you are not covered and want insurance write to or see our Agent, MR. J. A. CLIFT, Law Chambers, Duckworth St., St. John's.
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NOTICE!—Councils in the District of Bay-de-Verde who have not yet paid their Assessments for 1916 and 1917 to the Bay-de-Verde District Council please do so by forwarding same to WILLIAM BURSEY, District Treasurer, Caplin Cove, B.D.V.—daily, dec4,31,wkly,dec16,11

FOR SALE!—A large interest of Mineral Claims at Foggo Isld., Little Seldom Come Bye, No. 5, No. 8, No. 9. Any person interested please apply to JAMES ELSWORTH, Laurenceton, Exploits River, N.D. Bay. dec6,8,11,31,dy,dec9,11wkly

WANTED IMMEDIATELY!—A Doctor. Reside at Western Bay. Practice from Broad Cove to Burnt Point, both inclusive. Valued at \$3000; prerequisites external. Apply EDMUND BUTT, Western Bay.—dec2,tif

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