Items From Bonavista South

Since December arrived things are beginning to look more like winter. The ponds are frozen and the skating is good. Of late the spirit of Christmas seems to be in the air and the youngsters are beginning to wonder if Santa is ready to leave.

A topic of conversation lately has been Kidds Money, which reminds me that there is a song going the rounds. Who wrote it I cannot say, but a few of the several theories that are being advanced are:—A fellow who hoped to be taken into the confidence of the diggers was disappointed and out for revenge made the song. Again it is said that—

Well, never mind; I will give you the song as I heard it, and will go no further into details as to what is being said, beyond the fact that it is said, and said truthfully, that should the author's identity ever be known his fate will be even worse than that of the man who was supposed to be entrusted with the task of guarding the mouey. Here is the story:

DIGGING FOR GOLD.

In Tickle Cove Harbor attractions are few,
But it's lately being brought in the public view
And of late there's a rush to beat Stag Bay of old
And in Otter Gulch Cove now they're digging for gold.
'Twas late in Nov., the twenty-third day,
When the clanging of crowbars re-echoed o'er the bay,
When, well armed with shovels and Maddicks galore
The diggers arrived nearby Otter Gulch Shore.

It was just about dawn when the first on the scene
Saw loose papers flying all over the green,
And spread the report of the traces he found.
Soon the news it was wafted all over the town.
Two men from St. John's, that we all know quite well,
But it's not my intention their names for to tell,
With bundles of fuses and some dynamite,
Arrived on the bank to go digging that night.

They soon were dislodged by the Tickle Cove men,
Who taking their shovels to work did begin;
They threw off their coats and like miners of old
Soon had the sods flying in digging for gold.
They dug up great stones and charcoal also—
Much rust reached the surface, their hopes were aglow.
And to raise up their spirits with the joy of it too
A monstrous hatchet appeared in their view.

They dug up tarred paper right from the iron mine
And bright shiny gravel, old nails and birch rhine,
And water washed rocks that had long lain sideways,
Supposed to be buried in old pirate days.
It was Captain Kidd's treasure, of that they were sure;
They'd soon find the box, yes, perhaps three or four;
They dug with a vim that would shame a wild cat,
When all of a sudden they struck something flat.

It was iron, no doubt, and to scrape off the clay
Each man plied his shovel to haul it away;
The chest sounded hollow, 'twas certainly gold—
'Twas Captain Kidd's treasure, 500 years old.
Each man was jubilant to prize up the thing,
The pick handles bent as the shovels did ring;
But when it was raised up each man had to stop—
Instead of a chest 'twas the side of a pot.

Many hopes they were blasted that day all around,
Each man dropped his shovel to rest on the ground,
And many weird stories of what they had seen
Were told the next morning on Otter Gulch Green.
One man saw a Dutchman lean over the cliff,
Another saw crows sailing down in a skiff;
But the keen disappointment won't soon be forgot
Of the day they unearthed the side of a pot.

If you were in the district when they started the drive
It would cheer up your heart if you chanced to survive;
The merchants were fitting to beat Ridley of old
On the strength of your finding the Otter Gulch gold.
From a keg of molasses to a bundle of fuse
They'd hand it all out when they heard the good news;
From a stick of tobacco to a Waterloo stove
You could take on the money in Otter Gulch Cove.

It isn't all over, so I heard people say,
It's spreading like measles all over the bay;
They're coming from Red Cliffe in dozens and scores
To dig in the moonlight on Otter Gulch shores.
The Tickle Cove diggers joined up with the crowd,
There's a babel of voices most boisterous and loud;
The taking of Jericho was only a screech
To the digging for money on Otter Gulch Beach.

These verses I'll finish, the gold is not found,
There's a man very sore that they tore up his ground;
The merchants are regretting that they hadn't held down
'Till they saw old Kidd's keg lifted over the ground.
So take my advice and go home with your picks,
Or else they'll be stolen and you'll be in a fix;
Let the Faheys cellars rest, that the spirits may rove,
For there's nothing but beach rocks in Otter Gulch Cove.

CORRSPONDENT.

Bonavista South, Dec. 16, '25.

Ladies' and Gent's Signet Rings in various designs, from $4.00 to $15.00, at TRAPNELL'S.—dec21,5i

THE FORECASTER.

WALT MASON

We have a prophet in our town who tells what weather to expect; by guessing well, a wide renown he somehow managed to collect. To trees, to birds, to clouds o'erhead, to all the omens he gave heed; he had nine groundhogs in his shed, and all the goosebones he might need. While yet his guesses hit the mark, we hailed him as a man of brains; we jammed around him in the park, and gave him large gold-headed canes. He as a safe and honest guide in all things touching atmosphere; we pointed to our seer with pride, when strangers from the east were here. Adjacent towns might have their points, might have some things of which to boast, but couldn't find in all their joints a prophet known from coast to coast. At last he seemed to lose his grip, when he said "Fair" there'd be a flood, and folks who started on a trip would stall their autos in the mud. He called for rain and there'd be drouth, he banked on heat, and 'twould be cold; and every word that left his mouth got him in worse, a hundred fold. He used to have a noble mien, he paced the town with haughty stride, he had the bearing of a queen, his breast was filled with honest pride. But now he slinks along the street, an abject figure, worn and sad; he's roundly cussed by Mike and Pete, and all the voters of the grad. So often mortals make a hit, and gain renown that soon decays; Alas, they don't know when to quit, and so they lose their wreaths of bays.

Knives, Forks and Spoons, and many other pieces of flat ware to select from; at TRAPNELL'S.—dec21,5i

When planning a new frock the fashionable woman plans everything to go with it.

Discovery of the Tank

MAN WITH AN INVENTION 20 YEARS AGO.

Judge and counsel in the "tank" case brought by petition of right against the Crown made the interesting disclosure at the conclusion of evidence in the King's Bench, that they have been bombarded by inventors ever since the proceedings began. Capt. Bede John Francis Bentley, of Finchley, is claiming £200,000 as the inventor of the tanks which played so important a part in the latter years of the war. He has stated in the witness-box that his idea received the warm commendation of Lord Kitchener when first submitted to him, and alleges that his lordship promised "to look after his interests" at the appropriate time if he kept the matter secret and took out no patent rights. At the resumption of the hearing Mr. Justice McCardie intimated that he had been handed a telegram, sent to the Lord Chief Justice by a man who wished to be called as a witness.—Mr. Jowitt, for Capt. Bentley: I am receiving a large number of letters each day and inventors call on me day and night.—Judge: I have received letters and photographs, and many bulky packages.—Sir Thomas Inskip, Solicitor-General: I have been rung up by a man from America, who wants me to take notice of what happened in Minneapolis in 1883.—Judge: I have in my room a document sent to me relating to an invention for an armoured car in 1855. It appears to be a genuine invention. Sir Thomas Inskip, addressing the Judge, submitted that no such promise as alleged was made by Lord Kitchener; that the promise, as alleged, was so vague and indefinite as to be unenforceable, and that the information supplied by Capt. Bentley was valueless. "Capt. Bentley's story," he added, "is rather remarkable, and is ill to fit in with what is known of Lord Kitchener's character, desires, and habits at that time. My suggestion is that the story of Capt. Bentley is a fabricated one."—Mr. Jowitt contended that there were one or two fundamental points which would prove that there was no element of bad faith or fraud on the part of Capt. Bentley. "I say nothing," added Mr. Jowitt, "to detract from the extreme material service of Mr. Churchill, General Swinton, and other men. If Mr. Churchill and General Swinton had not pushed, in the face of official opposition, lethargy, and lack of interest, this country would never have had the tank as it is now known, and what the effects of that might have been is too horrible to contemplate."—Mr. Justice McCardie eventually reserved judgment.

French Ivory, Military Brushes and Comb, in beautiful cases. See them at TRAPNELL'S.
dec21,5i

Improved Barbed Wire is Easier to Handle

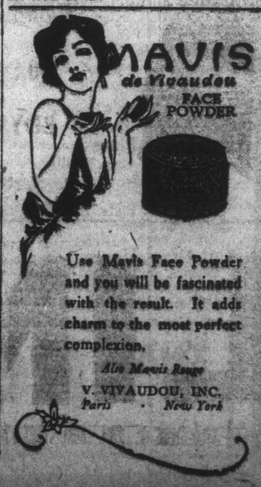
Shipping and putting up ordinary barbed wire takes a great deal of time. The wire tangles easily, and on account of the barbs it cannot be wound tightly on spools. When it comes to stretching it, torn hands and clothing so often result that stringing barbed-wire fences is counted one of the mean jobs on a farm.

A new product called "barbed band" eliminates most of these difficulties, for it is collapsible. In other words, its barbs are folded like knife blades for shipment, and show up only when the wire is stretched. The wire consists of strong hoop iron punched on both sides, leaving a small barbed band that can be stretched easily.

A ring of about 22 yards of the punched band, weighing about 20 pounds, showing no barbs, and taking little room, contains more than 127 yards of the barbed wire. The sides of the band are very sharp, giving additional protection.

The band may be used not only for fences, but makes a good substitute for wire grating.

A slip-on metal cloth blouse over a velveteen skirt fashions a pretty afternoon dress.



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Minced Suet .. .. ..25c. lb.
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Finest Table Butter, 1's, 65c. lb.
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Strictly Fresh Caught Codfish .. ..9c. lb.
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Boneless Flaked Cod Fish 40c. box.
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Smoked Salmon Fillets 30c. box.
Smoked Cod Fillets, 20c. box.
Smoked Caplin .. ..15c. box.
Smoked Kippered Herring 60c. doz.

Swift's Bacon .. ..65c. lb.
Adanac Corn Meal Bacon, Delicious .. .. ..60c. lb.
Fresh Cooked Frozen Tripe 20c. lb.
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English Broadcloth, White, Powder Blue, Grey, Ecru, separate collar to match 5.00
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For sport or general dress wear.

Brown Lined Cape 3.00, 4.30, 5.20, 6.00
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In smart patterns that will give him a sense of the luxurious.

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Recent Pattern Ideas—Fabrics for all occasions.

Fancy Wool Cashmere 1.10, 1.40, 1.70, 2.00, 3.00
Ribbed, Heather Mixtures 95c. 1.40, 1.65
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In Gift Boxes 80c. 1.30

RUBBER BELTS

Brown, Grey, Black. Boxed singly .. ..90c.

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40c. 45c. 65c. 70c.

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Gift Boxes 40c. 45c. 65c. 85c. 1.10

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White Linen .. .. ..45c. 50c. 65c. 75c. 90c. 1.10 each
Coloured Border Lawn .. ..25c. 40c. 45c. each
Fancy Coloured Lawn .. ..45c.
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Fancy Silk 1.10, 1.30, 1.65, 2.00, 2.20, 2.60

NECKWEAR

Quality uppermost—Prices moderate.

Fancy Silk ..59c. 90c. 1.20, 1.50, 1.60, 1.80, 1.95, 2.10
Silk and Wool Crepe—Special, Uncreasable 1.50
Fancy Knitted—
18c. 23c. 39c. 70c. 1.00, 1.20, 1.60 to 4.60

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An opportunity to give him a bit of finery.

Newest patterns .. ..2.60, 4.50 a set

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A welcome gift for a dressy man.

Silver Mountings 2.10, 2.50, 3.00, 3.60, 4.50, 7.80

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A Practical Gift .. ..2.60, 3.30, 4.20, 4.60 to 9.60

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(Cigar Boxes) 6.60, 10.00, 11.00, 11.50

Ayre & Sons LIMITED.

dec22,2i

A very large flat frame bag of soft kid or suede is used in colors to match the costume.

Sports frocks for the south are made of tussor silk, shantung or washable men's shirtings.

A pretty footwear is a grey suede shoe combined with black leather and worn with dark grey stockings.

The evening mode is glowing in velvet and gleams of metal and sparkling rhinestone and crystals.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Fidel Labarba, conqueror of the United States flyweight champion, Frankie Genaro, will not face Joe Lazarus of New York in the Christmas Fund boxing bouts, Dec. 23. Lazarus has reported ill.

Pineapple and rice baked together is so good, and it is a fine way of serving a bit of left-over rice. A layer of rice and a layer of pineapple, and the dish is full. Moisten with a little apple juice and bake.