

THE STEVENSON MEDAL.

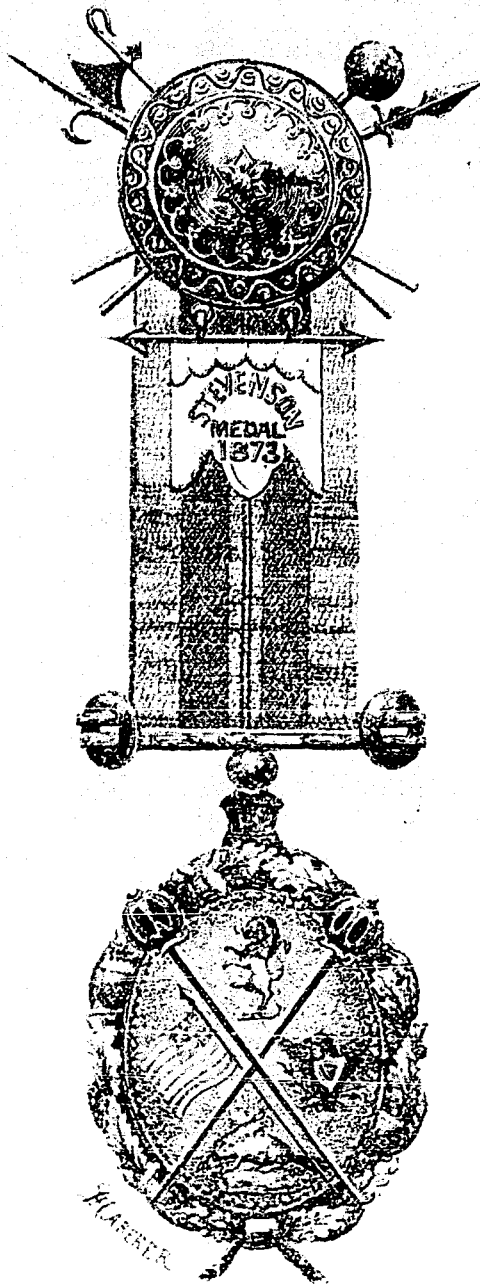
This medal—it takes its name from Col. A. A. Stevenson, of Montreal, one of the past presidents of the United Caledonian Association of North America—was presented by the Philadelphia Caledonian Club to the N. A. U. Caledonian Association for competition at the gathering which took place in the latter city on the 11th inst. Only *bona fide* members of a Caledonian Club were admitted to the competition, and the winner must carry it off a second time in three years before it becomes his property. The medal is made very much after the style of that presented last year by the Caledonian Society of Montreal to the N. A. U. C. Association; and it was owing to the beauty of design and the exquisite workmanship of the latter that the maker, Mr. Miller, of Montreal, received the order from Philadelphia to make one after a design which was sent through for the approval of the Association. It will be seen that the implements in use at Scottish games, such as the hammer, caber, quoits, etc., enter largely into the ornamentation of the medal. The obverse is a medallion in dead gold, quartered with broadswords crossed saltirewise and bearing the Scottish Lion, the American flag and arms, and the arms of Canada; the whole enclosed in a thistle wreath. The reverse presents a plain burnished gold surface with the following inscription:—

PRESENTED
BY THE
CALEDONIAN CLUB
of
PHILADELPHIA
to the
N. A. U. CALEDONIAN
ASSOCIATION.
August 11th,
1873.

The whole forms a price of workmanship which is a credit to the maker and to the city.

HEART'S CONTENT, NEWFOUNDLAND.

The little harbour of Heart's Content, now so famous as a landing site of Atlantic cables, is formed by an indentation on the southern shore of Trinity Bay. This Bay is one of the noblest estuaries in Newfoundland, being thirty-five miles wide at its mouth and stretching inland upwards of seventy miles. The scenery around its shores is magnificent. The harbour is about thirty miles from the mouth of the Bay. No finer site for the landing of cables could be imagined. The entrance is narrow but deep, and is guarded by two small headlands. The harbour is an irregular oval in shape, and about two miles and a-half in circuit. It is completely land-locked, and has ample depth of water to float even the "Great Eastern." Cables landed here are safe from icebergs which, with their grinding keels, would crush the slender rope of wire in shallow waters. Around the shores of the harbour are scattered the wooden cottages of the fishermen, the total



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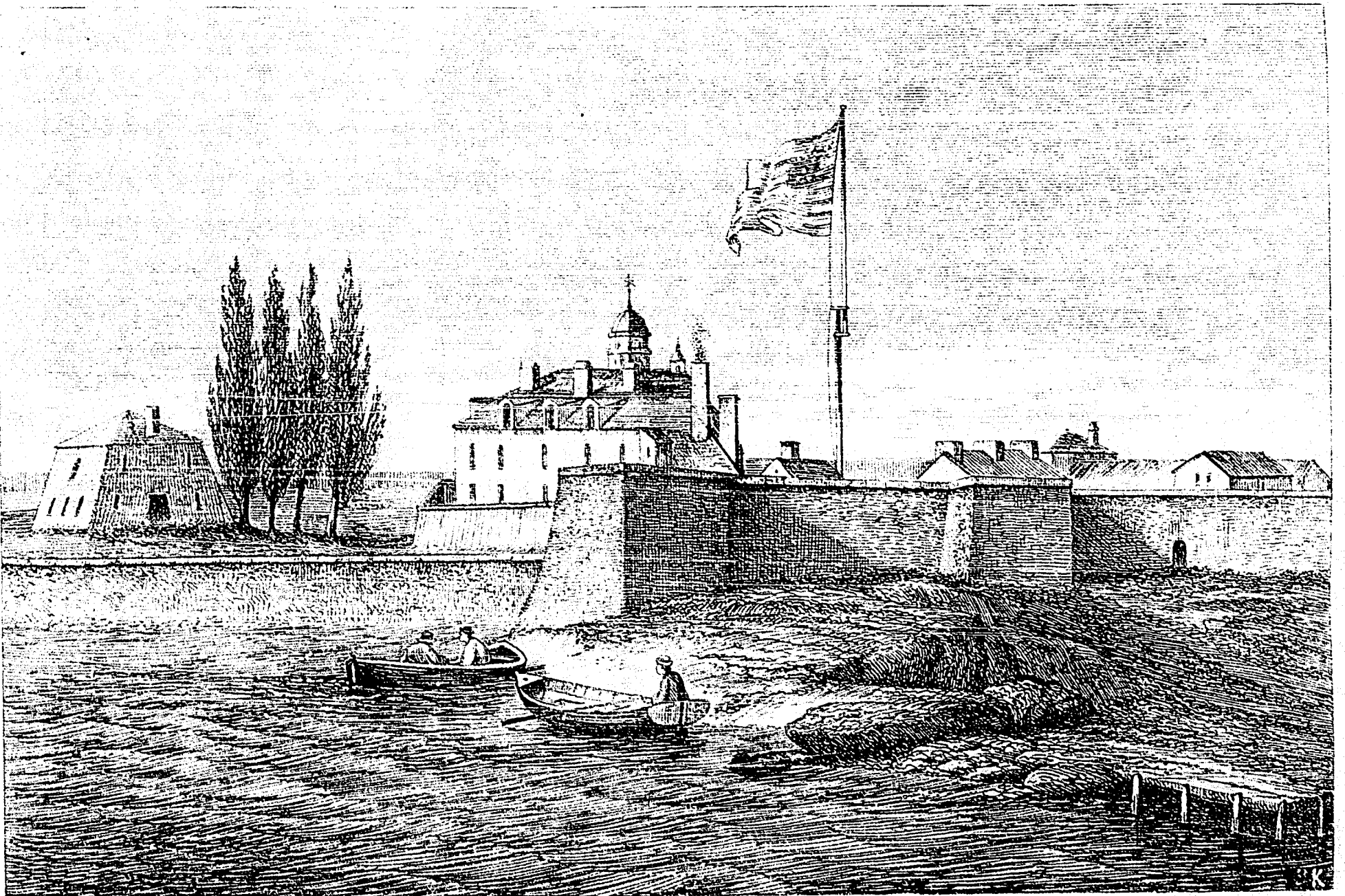
population being about 900. A handsome range of buildings has been erected by the Telegraph Company as residences for the staff of operators and their families. It is quite an ornament to the village. Behind this block is another range of buildings containing the offices of the company.

It was an impressive sight when on the evening of June 27th, just as the sun was sinking below the western horizon, the "Great Eastern" slowly glided past the little headland, and stretched herself in all her majestic proportions across the mouth of the little harbour. There stood the famous ship; her lofty masts and yards, her whole huge bulk in strong relief against the sky glowing with the last rays of the setting sun. It was a sight once seen could never be forgotten. On the morning of that day she had accomplished her wonderful task, and without a single stoppage or mishap, had laid a cable across the Atlantic in eleven days.

The "Hibernia" and "Edinburgh," the other vessels of the cable fleet, arrived later on. The latter having parted company during the gale of the 23rd, came in only on the 29th, the "Hibernia" was delayed during the gale of the 27th and arrived the following day.

THE FIRST MEERSCHAUM PIPE.

The following account of the first meerschaum pipe has been published by Messrs. Pollak & Son, pipe manufacturers, in New York:—"In 1723 there lived in Pesth, the capital of Hungary, Karol Kowates, a shoemaker, whose ingenuity in cutting and carving on wood, &c., brought him into contact with Count Andrassy, ancestor of the present Prime Minister of Austria, with whom he became a favorite. The Count, on his return from a mission to Turkey, brought with him a large piece of whitish clay, which had been presented to him as a curiosity, on account of its extraordinarily light specific gravity. It struck the shoemaker that, being porous, it must naturally be well adapted for pipes, as it would absorb the nicotine. The experiment was tried, and Karol cut a pipe for the Count, and one for himself. But in the pursuit of his trade he could not keep his hands clean, and many a piece of shoemaker's wax became attached to the pipe. The clay however, instead of assuming a dirty appearance, as was naturally to be expected, when Karol wiped it off, received, wherever the wax had touched, a clear brown polish, instead of the dull white it previously had. Attributing this change in the tint to the proper source, he waxed the whole surface, and, polishing the pipe, again smoked it, and noticed how admirably and beautifully it coloured; also, how much more sweetly the pipe smoked after being waxed. Karol had struck the smoking philosopher's stone; and other noblemen, bearing of the wonderful properties of this singular species of clay, imported it in considerable quantities for the manufacture of pipes. The natural scarcity of this much-esteemed article, and the great cost of importation, in those days of limited facilities for transportation, rendered its use exclusively confined to the richest European noblemen, until 1830, when it became a more general article of trade. The first meerschaum pipe made by Karol Kowates has been preserved in the museum of Pesth, which, by the way, was the native city of Mr. Pollak, sen."



FORT NIAGARA, FROM THE CANADIAN SIDE.