

**William Gale & Sons,**  
Manufacturers of  
**Cotton and Hemp Fishing Nets,**  
**Lines and Twines, Salmon Twines,**  
**Long Lines, Snooding, etc.**  
BRIDPORT, ENGLAND.  
Agent for Newfoundland Wanted.  
aug19,c.

**Old-Time Bets on Amazing Subjects.**

Members of the British Parliament are at present considerably interested in the challenges of feats of strength which are exciting a sort of rivalry among a few of the stalwart legislators of Great Britain. Mr. James Watson was the first to throw down the gauntlet to Mr. Clem. Edwards to see who could cut most coal within a certain time.

Then other muscular members entered the arena. Mr. C. B. Stanton challenged Mr. Edwards to a wager that he would find in a colliery in Wales a heaving place where Mr. Edwards would not be able to cut "enough coal to keep a barber," i.e., next to no coal at all. This wager was accepted for \$250 a side.

Major Watts Morgan also wants to step into the ring, the challenge he has issued to Mr. Clem. Edwards being that he will unload four tons of coal or rubbish in one that Mr. Edwards can unload in the same time.

Time was when wagers like the foregoing, only more novel and extraordinary, were quite common; and when the old-time sporting proclivities of the grandfathers and great-grandfathers of the present generation excited an interest that was shared alike by prince and peasant. These were the days when kings and knaves, politicians and poachers, gay lighthouses and bewitching damsels, were frequently mixed up in some of the most amazing adventures imaginable, and when big sums of money often changed hands over the most astonishing wagers ever compacted.

**Some Old-Time Wagers.**

As a matter of fact, present-day wagers, for originality and eccentricity, are not a patch on those of the "merrie" days of old England, when, as a writer of the period has declared, "there was nothing in the heavens above, or the earth below, or in the waters under the earth, upon which these men could not contrive to bet."

For instance, in the days of Queen Bess, when there was no prevailing fashion of attempting to swim the Channel, Sir John Pakington, a great favorite of the Queen, laid a wager of \$15,000 that he would swim against three noble courtiers from Westminster Bridge to Greenwich, and the attempt was only prevented by Her Majesty interposing.

At a later date, we are told, a man undertook to cross the Thames in a butcher's tray, using nothing but his hands to propel it, but wearing a cork jacket in case of accident. There were seventy boats laden with spectators present, and considerably over five thousand dollars depended on the result. How high the excitement of the populace ran when he succeeded may be better imagined than described.

Sir John once wagered to carry Lord Cholmondeley at Brighton pick-a-back fashion from the Pavilion twice round the Steyne. As Sir John was small and the Earl a giant in stature, the event drew a large crowd. All was ready, when Sir John remarked that it was time for his Lordship to strip. His Lordship gasped, "I engaged to carry you, but not an inch of clothes," repeated Sir John, "so hurry up, my Lord, make ready, and let us not disappoint the crowd." But the crowd was disappointed, for his Lordship stoutly refused to take

off even his coat, and Sir John pocketed the stakes.  
**Grazed Wheels of Seven Vehicles.**  
For a wager of \$750 a "busk" of the same period undertook to drive a tandem at full speed against the wheels of the first seven vehicles he might meet on the road, so that his wheels should absolutely graze the others without becoming locked or the tandem upset. And he won his money in twenty-five minutes.

In January, 1821, when 97 years old, Mr. Huddy, who was a postmaster of Lismore, made a wager that he would travel from Lismore to Fermoy in a Dungarvan tub drawn by a pig, two cats, a goose, and a hedgehog. He wore on his head a large red nightcap, and carried a pig rover's whip in one hand, and in the other a big cow's horn, which he blew to encourage his team and to give notice of the arrival of the Royal Mail!

The Duke of Queensberry, better known as "Old Q," was an interested party in more than one remarkable wager. No one was so clever as he at making matches on the turf, whether he rode himself or not; and his famous bet (in which Lord Eglington was his associate) with Mr. Theobald Taaffe and Mr. Andrew Scrymgeour showed that he understood horses in harness just as well. The wager was that he should drive a four-wheel carriage with four horses, carrying one person, nineteen miles in one hour. This he won easily on Newmarket Heath in 53 minutes, 27 seconds. The bet was one of \$5,000, and an enormous concourse of spectators cheered to the echo the splendid triumph of the popular sportsman.

**Sent Message by Cricket Ball.**

"Old Q" made a remarkable use of professional cricketers in another of his many curious competitions. His bet was that he would send a message a certain distance by hand quicker than any horse could carry it. He engaged several professional cricketers, and having put the message inside a cricket ball, it was thrown from man to man. He won easily.

Backing a drove of geese to race an equal number of turkeys from Norwich to London, was the eccentric contest which Horace Walpole's brother, Lord Oxford, once arranged. His lordship won the bet, for the geese kept to the road all the time and were steady goers. The turkeys, when darkness came on, flew to the trees to roost by the roadside, from which their drovers had a hard task to dialodge them. The turkeys arrived in town two days after the geese.

Nothing was too trivial or too fantastic to make the basis of a bet. For instance, Sir Henry Little had a black servant who was a regular gluton at his pipe, and Sir Henry expressed his conviction that Sambo could smoke a whole pound of tobacco in the short period of an hour. A friend bet Sir Henry \$500 he could not perform the feat, and lost his money, for Sambo, incredible though it may seem, smoked pipes of tobacco almost as fast as an attendant could fill the bowl.

**A Sporting Squire's Luck.**

On another occasion an Irish squire bound himself either to forfeit \$250

or produce alive within a month, a fox, a badger, a hawk, and an eagle, all captured by himself. And exactly a month later the town of Newry was thrown into an uproar by the extraordinary sight of the squire bestriding the skeleton of an antique grey mare. On either side of his steed were suspended two large wicker creels, one containing a wild mountain fox; the other a fire-looking badger; upon his head was perched a hawk, manacled by the legs, the chains passing under the captor's chin and fastened around his neck, while the triumphant entry was closed with an eagle. The squire and his unique collection were given a royal reception, the captives being paraded and the \$250 being duly paid over.

**Ambitious Afghanistan.**

Afghanistan is claiming to be the greatest Moslem country, and the Emir of Afghanistan is working to succeed the Sultan of Turkey as Commander of the Faithful, according to rumors reaching Constantinople from Angora, where Pan-Islamic conferences have been held for several months.

This congress, at which are representatives from Afghanistan, Syria, Turkey, Arabia, India, Persia, Azerbaijan, Crimea, Egypt and Tripoli, is said to be chiefly concerned with filling the office of Commander of the Faithful in such a manner as to unify the Moslem world. A few weeks ago it was agreed that the post should go to the leader of the chief Mussulman nation, and Turkey's right to the leadership laws not challenged. Since Greek forces have advanced into Thrace and Asia Minor, however, it is reported that Afghanistan's claim for first place has been put forward.

The Moslem Congress apparently is a continuation of the plan for consolidation of the Mohammedan world originated by Enver Pasha, formerly Turkish Minister of War and leader of the Young Turk party, and fostered by the one-time Imperial German Government. It has been in close co-operation with the Turkish Nationalist chamber.

**Famous Match for the "Ashes."**

(From the Manchester Guardian.)

The "ashes," the mythical prize for which the cricket Test matches between England and Australia are played, were originated in 1882. In that year one of the most exciting contests ever played between these countries was witnessed at the Oval. Many famous players of the game took part in that match. The English side included W. G. Grace, the Hon. A. Lytton, C. T. Studd, A. P. Lucas, George Ulyett, and Barlow, while among their opponents were Spofforth, W. L. Murdoch and Giffen. In the last innings of the match England, with a great batting side, were set only 85 runs to win. Spofforth, however, was at his best, and was, as Giffen afterwards remarked, "irresistible as an avalanche." In his last eleven overs he took four wickets for only two runs, and Australia won the match by seven runs. The "Sporting Times" published an "In Memoriam" notice "in affectionate remembrance of English cricket," with an N. B. stating that the body would be cremated and "the ashes taken to Australia," and from that date the "ashes" have been the prize.

**A Russian Romance.**

Stranger than fiction is the recital of the difficulties experienced by Mme. Makaroff, widow of a famous Russian Admiral, who, in order to escape the Bolsheviks, wedded a British professor merely to assume his nationality.

Mme. Makaroff has reached France at last and is sheltered by friends, while her legal husband, true to his word, has returned to his English home, with his altruistic marriage considered a closed incident between them.

According to Mme. Makaroff's recital, when news came to Petrograd that Britons would be allowed to leave Russia, she sought out Prof. Russell, of the Berlitz School there, and proposed that they be married, with the assurance that the ceremony would be considered pure fiction. The marriage was celebrated by a woman justice of the peace after numerous difficulties regarding Mme. Makaroff's property, which the Bolsheviks had confiscated, and the couple were permitted to leave Petrograd for Finland.

When they reached the frontier, disease was discovered in their party and all of them were placed in quarantine.

While in quarantine, they were able to send a message to the president of the British Red Cross Society, who, astonished at their romantic narrative, obtained permission for Mme. Makaroff to leave Finland on the first British cruiser to leave a Finnish port for England. Mr. Russell accompanied her as far as London. However, they stopped for a few days in Denmark, where Mme. Makaroff's recital of her escape from Russia moved the Queen mother alternately to tears and laughter.



**Men's Oxfords!**

These are the days that make a man's feet fretful with critical demands for comfortable weight, shape and fit in Shoes. The very time when the good points of our Oxfords show at their best.

The smartest and most sensible Oxfords made, are here in shapes and leathers that assure ease and comfort.

Our Oxfords fit at the heel and fit at the instep. Patent Colt, Ideal Kid and Vic. Patent Colt, and Dark Russes or Tans. \$7.00, \$8.00, \$9.00 to \$12.00.

YOU'LL NOT GET POOR OXFORDS, IF YOU COME HERE FOR THEM.

**PARKER & MONROE, Ltd.,**  
THE SHOE MEN.  
aug21,sa,mon,tues,thurs

JAS. P. BLACKWOOD, K.C. L. EDWARD EMERSON.  
J. A. WINTER.

**Blackwood, Emerson & Winter**

Barristers, Solicitors and Notaries.  
Offices: Temple Building, St. John's, N.F.  
aug17,31,eod

**Stoves & Ranges!**

We are now showing a large assortment of Cooking Stoves and Ranges including the well known

**"Modern Alaska Range" and "OUR OWN COOK"**

**JOHN CLOUSTON,**  
140-2 DUCKWORTH STREET.  
Phone 406. P. O. Box 1243.  
tu,th,s

**TIN PLATES and SHEET METALS**

in stock and to arrive August and Sept. TO THE TRADE.  
**WM. HEAP & CO., Ltd.**  
Bank of Nova Scotia Building.  
tu,th,s,tf

**FOR SALE!**

**That Freehold Property,**  
No. 115 FRESHWATER ROAD.  
(Belonging to the Estate of the late Patk. Kennedy.)

This property is equipped with all modern conveniences, including Hot and Cold Water, Electric Light, Telephone, and heated throughout. Large Concrete Basement, also Stable and Garage, Poultry House and extensive Flower and Kitchen Gardens. This is an exceptional opportunity to secure an up-to-date well built home. Our only reason for selling is the estate is being wound up. For further particulars apply to

**E. J. BERRIGAN, Executor.**  
200 GOWER STREET. PHONE 520.  
aug14,tf

McGuire's Ice Cream is now ready for delivery. Please send in your orders.—aug,t

**ALL THAT IS LEFT OF THEM!**



Here are 3 Bargains in LADIES' BOOTS, left from our Big Shoe Sale. Secure your Fall Boots to-day at these reduced Prices.

**LADIES' HIGH LACED TAN BOOTS** with Tan Cloth top; good walking heel. Price only . . . . . \$7.50

**LADIES' BLACK LACED BOOTS.** Only . . . . . \$3.99 per pair

**LACED BLACK HIGH LACED BOOTS,** worth \$12.00. Now only . . . . . \$8.75

Mail Orders receive prompt attention.

**F. Smallwood,**  
THE HOME OF GOOD SHOES.

**Buy Progress Brand Working Shirts, Pants & Overalls!**

Roomy sizes, durable materials, strongly made in our own Factory to withstand hard usage. The materials were bought a long time ago and are priced well below present quotations. This means a considerable saving to you. Keep the home wheels turning by buying local made goods.

**NFLD. CLOTHING CO., Limited.**  
WHOLESALE ONLY.

**THE FALL MONTHS WILL SOON BE HERE.**

Will Your Home Seem Dingy After the Bright Summer Outdoors?

**Why Not Brighten It? CONGOLEUM WILL DO IT.**

Bright, cheerful patterns laid upon the floors that will stand any amount of washing, as Congoleum is made to stand water (it is absolutely waterproof) as well as other wear, will help to make "the house beautiful", to which all good home-makers aspire. Our price is absolutely the lowest.

**Only \$1.89 yard.**

Avoid substitutes, no matter what the price. Congoleum is the original American Felt Floor Cloth and has stood the test of time.

Substitutes will not wear the same, that is why we do not stock them, as we desire to give our patrons the benefit of our experience. We carry a large range of beautiful patterns.

**HENRY BLAIR**

The report of a Bolsheviki generation. The death roll amongst thiser now in Russia contains some of the patients has latterly been as low as 6 per cent., but the mortality amongst the workers, doctors, nurses, and the sanitary corps has been as high as 50 per cent. In other words, everyone is so busy talking and looking after his neighbor that the essential work of the country is in a state of collapse. The world cannot live on the sick and the next talk and philanthropy.