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CONNECTIONS AT HALIFAX FOR BOSTON:
PLANT LINE Midnight Saturday.
DOMINION ATLANTIC RAILWAY: Through the beautiful land of Evangeline to Yarmouth and thence by the Boston and Yarmouth S.S. Co. Wednesdays and Saturdays. Luxurious accommodation and excellent cuisine by either route.
Full particulars from:

HARVEY & COMPANY, Ltd.
Agents Red Cross Line.

Life on French Hospital Ships at Salonika

ABOARD THE FENCH HOSPITAL SHIP CHARLES ROUX, Harbor of Salonika, Dec. 10.—Quite the most agreeable fate that can overtake an allied soldier in the Balkan campaign is to be ill—or slightly wounded. Not that the hospital facilities of the ancient Turkish city are famous, or even adequate. They are not. But there are four French and one British hospital ship in the roads of Salonika and they constitute by far the most comfortable, not to say the only sanitary, spot in the Balkan Peninsula.

The French have been better prepared from the very outset of the present Balkan campaign in every detail of military organization than their British allies. No better example of the thoroughness of this preparation could be given than the arrangements for caring for the sick and wounded. Long before there was actually any need for it, and simultaneously with the landing of the first contingent of French troops on Greek soil, the French hospital ship Sphinx was lying ready in the harbor at Salonika. As the number of troops disembarked increased, automatically more hospital ships put in an appearance. First the Duguay Trouin, with its sheltered decks and high stern like the poop of a Spanish galleon, all porches and awning and lounging places for the convalescent; next this ship, the Charles Roux, with its operating rooms, its surgical clinics and its complete provision for the care of the more seriously wounded; and, finally the Canada—all with full complement of nurses, surgeons, physicians, sisters of charity, and all the rest of the paraphernalia of the aftermath of battle.

In many ways the Charles Roux is the most interesting, especially as it is the principal operating theatre of the floating hospitals of Salonika, and especially as the surgeon-major, Dr. Heitz-Boyer, is one of the best known and most distinguished surgeons in Paris. The ship was converted from one of the larger passenger steamers that in time of peace made the voyage from Marseilles to Algiers. As such, it is roomy enough, for not only have the saloons not required as operating chambers been turned into wards to add to the accommodations of the cabins, but the great broad decks have been glassed in, making the most agreeable of sun-parlors in which cots are set in long rows so that the sick and wounded, in the warmth of the afternoon sun, may lie quiet and look out at the splendid view the Bay of Salonika affords.

View From the Ships.
Here, too, the convalescent, propped up with pillows, sheltered, excellently cared for and competently nursed by volunteer French women who have passed the necessary examinations and had the requisite experience, gather strength against the time when they may go back and "have another go at 'em" as the "poilu" in the next cot to the Associated Press correspondent put it. Under such circumstances the wounded soldier has all the advantages and none of the drawbacks of "the Naples of the Orient," as its inhabitants call Salonika. If his cot is on the south side of the ship, he has before him the new snow-capped crests of the mountains of Kalcinis, those three fingers of land that stretch into the Aegean, with convent-crowned Mount Athos tipping the last finger. Or, to the west, confused with the clouds, he has the peaks of Thessaly—Mount Olympus, the home of the gods of ancient Greece, and beyond, Mount Ossa; and perhaps even, dim in the distance, Mount Pelion, both of mythological fame. The rare and changing beauty of the clouds above these snow-capped heights, the singular coloring of the sunsets are joys to the patients aboard the French hospital ships in no wise lessened by the orders, the noises and the discomforts of life ashore in Salonika.

On the other hand, should the patient be placed on the north side of the ship, the view is no less attractive. Salonika itself, charming from a distance, straggling along the curving shore, mounting the hill behind the town to the walled citadel, that caps its crest—dozens of exquisite, white minarets, like altar candles, proud and slim, their balconies hung with lanterns against the fete of Ramadan—long, uneven rows of mysterious houses, with projecting, latticed balconies; walled and secret gardens, revealing only the lofty monument of a singleypress; barren spots on the peopled hillside, that are cemeteries, the grey-white of their jumbled headstones gleaming in the morning sun.

Below decks, all is ready for any and every operation. Every kind of electric light gives the surgeon all the facilities necessary for searching wounds. Rows of glass cases contain shining instruments, white porcelain tables display shallow glass dishes for sterilizing the instruments, each

dish covered with a heavy glass plate to keep out any extraneous substance. Each specialist has his own operating room; in addition to which there is a very complete pharmacy, a biological laboratory, an X-ray apparatus with the necessary facilities for photographing the insides of the patient and a perfectly equipped dark room to develop the photographs. In completion of the picture, there are the silent, efficient little Sisters of Charity, their great white, wing-like head dresses bobbing and nodding as the wearers hurry hither and thither, a chain upon which are hung the keys to the supply closets dangling from their waists; a tin of baked and sterilized bandages under one arm—or a packet of books and magazines destined for some convalescent patient.

All of this is the work of the women of France—the organization known as the "Succor for Wounded Soldiers," whose committee even now is in Salonika looking after arrangements, criticizing, making suggestions and charging themselves with securing from the great hearts of the French women all that may be needed to see that the soldier of the French Republic, however far he may be from home, shall have every proper care and comfort.

Mr. Casey bought a pig in the fall paying seven dollars for it. The pig's feed during the winter cost eleven dollars. In the spring he sold the pig for seventeen dollars.
A neighbor said, "Well, you didn't make much on that transaction, did you?"
"No," said Mr. Casey, "but sure I had the use of the pig all winter."

The man who can drink or let it alone nearly always drinks.
Nothing makes a man forget that he has been jilted as the society of another woman.
Considering the fact that there was no woman in the case, the married life of Adam and Eve was singularly infelicitous.

Waterproof
These Boots are Waterproof and are solid through and through. These Boots have two Double Soles straight to the heel. These Boots have Bellows Tongues and the leather always remain soft. In Black and Tan Leather. Price \$6.50 and \$7.00. Men's ordinary Pegged Bellows Tongue Boots, \$3.00 to \$3.50.

F. Smallwood,
The Home of Good Shoes

At Lowest Prices
Gasolene "Veedal" Motor Oil
In Casks and 1 and 5 gallon Tins.
SMITH CO. Ltd.

GERMANS NEW KIND DEATH-DEALING SHELL

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The World prints the following special cable from field headquarters of the French armies in Argonne:

Shells emitting poisoned gases, one breath of which means instant death are the latest novelty displayed by the Germans on the western front. Flung into the French trenches from a distance of two, three or four miles, and bursting with a force as destructive as any high explosive shell of like calibre, they spread their sinister contents about so quickly that men many yards away fall dead before they have time to adjust their respirators and masks.

That, at least, is the idea underlying this newest and foulest of weapons, tests of which, French officers inform me, have been carried out recently under the eyes of the Crown Prince.

That much real, unadulterated news I have been able to extract from the manifold impressions which have poured in upon me during my four days visit to the Argonne section of the front. I may add that, although the use of the new projectile is as yet in the experimental stage, the French general staff already has found means to combat successfully its fiendish ingenuity.

What that means is, one naturally is forbidden to disclose. Even to venture upon a detailed description of the German invention and what has been done to try it out, is taboo. In French eyes, however, its appearance has been greeted with a certain satisfaction, as conclusive evidence of the failure of previous devices for propelling asphyxiating gases.

Its coming, the French argue, demonstrates that the Germans have realized at last the fact of which every French soldier has long been aware, that gas clouds driven forward by the wind are powerless to inflict material damage on troops properly equipped to withstand the fumes.

"We are handicapped in this sort of game," an officer of Gen. Humbert's staff remarked, "because the Boches know we won't compete with them in so loathsome a competition. We leave the gases, the Lusitania and secret warfare on neutral nations to them. Yet, even though they have the field entirely to themselves, they can invent nothing which really benefits them, nothing for which we are not well prepared."

One of the many methods by which the French dispose of this new peril may be mentioned, because it was touched upon in the official communication of last Wednesday in the Argonne sentence: "Between the Argonne and the Meuse, near Bethincourt, our batteries demolished reservoirs of asphyxiating gas."

Standing just behind one of the 120-millimetre (4.7-inch) howitzers in this sector, I saw coursing through the air shells destined to rip asunder those evil storehouses, many miles away. Provided the trajectory be sufficiently high, it is possible to catch sight of the projectile for a second or two after it leaps from the rifling—a tiny black speck slipping through the air.

At the time I didn't know what damage these shells were doing, nor even what they were driving at. I doubt if the gunners themselves were better informed. Crouching in the artificial cave in which artillery nowadays hides from aeroplanes, they could see ahead of them only the bleak, leafless trees of the Forest of the Argonne, and could hear only the monotonous chanting of the numerals by which the distant observer telephonically regulates the fire. Only that impersonal being at the end of the telephone wire has direct knowledge of the hits or misses, and usually he doesn't bother to tell the men serving the gun much about it.

I learned later at headquarters the significance of what I had seen. I learned there, also, that one of the new German shells of 150-millimeter (6-inch) calibre, and perhaps made from the same reservoirs, had instantly killed three "poilus" a short time before without touching them—this is, simply by its hellish fumes. I learned other things too, which made me realize that, despite the communiqué's terse narrative, what I had witnessed was equivalent to the winning of a fair sized battle. Such is campaigning to-day against the Crown Prince's army in the Argonne.

If there is a part of the French front which has not been described up and down and all around, it is this same Argonne, this hilly woodland which ever has been the bitter battleground of France, which six score years ago saved the new born republic from an Austrian host, and which 15 months ago helped Verdun to save that republic from an even more formidable invader.

We extend the Season's Greetings to every person, and wish each a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

ANDERSON'S, Water Street, St. John's.

Write For Our Low Prices

Ham Butt Pork
Fat Back Pork
Boneless Beef
Special Family Beef
Granulated Sugar
Raisins & Currants
All Lines of General Provisions.

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I am extending my business by the installation of up-to-date machinery whereby all kinds of the following work will be turned out with dispatch and satisfaction.
FORGING IRON AND BRASS CASTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION & PATTERN MAKING.
Saw Mill Work and Repairs to Motor Engines and all kinds of Machinery, etc.
With our equipment we are enabled to guarantee every satisfaction and ensure prompt delivery.
Large Stock of Material ways on hand.
Brazing broken parts of machinery done by special process.
Note carefully the address:
GEORGE SNOW
SPRINGDALE STREET (WEST SIDE).

We Are Now Buying

Fresh RABBITS, PARTRIDGE, DUCK, VENISON, MUTTON, LAMB, and BEEF.
Also Fresh SALMON, HALIBUT, SMELTS, and CODFISH, in Season.
Highest City Prices.

W. E. BEARNS,
HAY MARKET GROCERY 'PHONE 879

Mrs. Asquith vs. The London Globe

LONDON, Dec. 27.—The case of Mrs. Herbert H. Asquith, wife of the Premier, against the Globe, was resumed in Chancery Court to-day, having been continued from last Friday. The court granted Mrs. Asquith the injunction for which she asked to restrain the Globe from the publication of articles which she alleged are libelous.

But the privations and horrors of warfare, and the disturbances of regular trade and communication, have been farthest removed from the United States. All of Europe has suffered materially and mentally, and the smoke of battle spreads in every direction.

The American Christmas of 1915 sees a return of prosperity, the welding of a closer bond of unity, and the outlook for continued peace with the world. Its bounty is steaming to all lands of the world; to some it goes as the gift of a generous, Christian people.

The attorney declared the attack was most outrageous and of most serious public gravity. It was designed to strike at the confidence of the country in the Government and inspire outsiders with the opinion that Great Britain's foes might hope to prevail, he added.

The attorney read an affidavit by Mrs. Asquith, stating that never in her life had she been in Donnington Hall and that there was not the slightest ground for the suggestion that she had ever supplied anything to its inmates. She had no doubt that the publications referred to her. A friend had spoken to her on the subject and she had received grossly abusive and insulting letters.

Counsel for the Globe expressed regret and apologized in behalf of the publishers, attributing the publication of the letters to disorganization resulting from the recent suspension of the paper, and the court granted the injunction.

America Has a Joyous Christmas

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—The Christmas festival of 1915 finds the Americans the happiest of the Christian peoples. There is a sort of joy manifested among the most afflicted of the war sufferers; there is a smile, a cheer and a crude observance in the miles of trenches, the ramparts and the gun-bristling ships of Europe; there are the regular observances of the strange rites of the Christmas season in the neutral nations of the old world.

Francisco Javier Salar, Spanish Consul-General in this city, admitted to-day that Spain has begun a campaign of preparedness, but he denied emphatically that it has any relation to the present war or to conditions between Spain and Portugal.

"Spain is merely trying to bring her military efficiency up to a higher grade," he declared. "It has no more significance that the demand for better armament in this country. Spain has no intention of becoming embroiled in this war, and while, of course, we have always desired a union with Portugal, the great sentiment is for treaties with that country to bring us closer together."

The islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon with a total population of four thousand gave three hundred men to the armies of the Allies and contributed \$5,000 to the Red Cross Society of France.

Three of the commissioners, L. Claros, Major Perez Vidal and Captain Mouton, are now in New York. The two others, Major Garrido, who is in charge, and Captain B. Sarda, are now in the West inspecting several large factories, whose system they intend to copy in part.

Spain Preparing; Re-Arms Her Troops

NEW YORK, Dec. 28.—A despatch from Gibraltar to-day announced that the Spanish Government is beginning military preparations on a large scale. Among other details of its activities to which great significance is attached by the British military officials is an order issued to-day authorizing 60,000 Spanish carbineers to turn in their Mauser rifles and receive in exchange an equal number of what are declared to be Remingtons of the latest model.

"The censorship on telegraphic messages remains very strict and little of what has transpired here since the beginning of the war can have reached the outside world. The administrator, M. Chabaud came in conflict with the mayor and board of trade when he made a report to Paris saying that the Colony could furnish 850 soldiers.

Still nearly every fellow who expresses a willingness to die for his country has a sneaking hope that his hand won't be called.

feeling among all classes adds to the joy of the holiday season.

feeling among all classes adds to the joy of the holiday season.

MID-WEEK PROGRAMME AT THE NICKEL! THE DOUBLE TRAP. The Seventh Episode of "THE EXPLOITS OF ELAINE." "THE CLUTCHING HAND." "THE TIE THAT BINDS." "A LILY IN BOHEMIA." "HIS NASTY TEMPER." "FRAUDS." FRIDAY—CHARLIE CHAPLIN, AND A GREAT BIG HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.

To-Night at the CASINO Theatre---3 Shows---7.30, 8.40, 9.50. THE ST. JOHN'S DAILY STAR, in collaboration with Manager Kiely of the NICKEL THEATRE. PRESENTS THE OFFICIAL MOTION PICTURES OF THE WAR, TAKEN BY ORDER OF THE GREAT GENERAL STAFF OF THE FRENCH ARMY FOR THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES. "FIGHTING IN FRANCE." King Albert at the Front—With the Heavy Guns in France—Around the Soissons district—At Tracey-le-Val—Allied Fleet in the Dardanelles—French warfare at Bois Le Petre. 3 Shows Each Night---ADMISSION 10c.---7.30, 8.40, 9.50.

MORE ATTRACTIVE SPECIALS

That mean BIG SAVINGS to the Purchaser requiring any of the Articles mentioned in this advertisement.

- FOR MEN'S USE! 100 dozen Men's White Laundered Collars, in all popular styles, in High, Low and Medium shapes. Each 10c. Men's Winter Caps with fur-lined Backfold. Each 45c. Blue Chambray Shirts, with Collar. The Shirt that will stand hard usage; double stitched all through. Reinforced back and front which adds strength and durability to its wearing quality. Full regulation size. Regular 70 cents each. Special. Each 55c. Men's American Overalls, made of Blue Denim. Double stitched all through; fitted with rule and high pockets. Specially useful for mechanics. Ea. 75c.

- FOR WOMEN'S USE! Stripe Flannelette Night Shirts, trimmed with Embroidery. Excellent wear assured. Special Price. 70c. Dongola Juliet Slippers, with Patent Leather Tips and good Rubber Heels. Regular \$1.60 value. Special Price \$1.35. Dongola Blucher Boots, with Patent Leather Tips. Regular \$2.30 Value. Sale Price. \$2.10. Women's Lustre Blouses, with High Collar, in Dark Colors; Green, Grey and Red. Regular \$1.30 value. Special Price. \$1.00. Men's Heavy Stripe Flannelette Shirts, with Collar. All 75c sizes. Each.

FISHERMEN'S UNION TRADING CO., LTD.

Miquelon Folk Enjoy Prosperity

CURLING, Nfld., Dec. 28.—Mail advices from St. Pierre, Miquelon tell of a change in the office of administrator and the opening of a new era of prosperity among the fisherfolk of the little French colony.

The islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon with a total population of four thousand gave three hundred men to the armies of the Allies and contributed \$5,000 to the Red Cross Society of France.

The popular agitation against M. Chabaud became so bitter that the French colonial ministry finally deposed the administrator, sending M. Lachat to succeed him.

Shrewd Canadians Made Money from Comrades in Arms

MONTREAL, Dec. 27.—Some shrewd Canadians carried on business in the front line trenches and raked in the francs that resulted from their enterprise, to the accompaniment of shells swishing overhead and an occasional rifle bullet.

THE BROTHERHOOD OF BETTER THINGS.

(Edgar A. Guest in Detroit Free Press.) (Read at the Board of Commerce Meeting, Nov. 30, 1915.) He dreamed of a better city, he longed for a fairer fame For the home of his daily labours, and he talked of a brighter name For the scenes of his children's play-time and the place of his children's birth, And he talked as a man who loved his town and was proud of her splendid worth. He told her needs as he saw them, to him were her failings known, And he wanted to build for her greatness—but he couldn't do it alone. He was one of the many thousands who dreamed of the better day With visions of greater splendors when they should have passed away. And each in his dream, unselfish, could picture a distant goal When his city should rise in beauty and throb as a living soul. But the dreams would have come and vanished, and the vision from earth have flown Had each of the dreamers tried to work for his city's fame—alone. You may think great thoughts for the future, you may fashion and build and plan, But you never shall see your dreams made real, save you work with your fellowman. And never a greater city shall spring into being here Save that the many have labored together its fame to rear. Out of the hearts of our fellows has all of our greatness grown, Together they stood for this purpose —for no one could do it alone. Stand off by yourself with your dreaming and all of your dreams are vain, No splendor of soul or structure can man by himself attain; 'Tis willed we shall dwell as brothers, as brothers, then, must we toil, We must share in a common purpose, as we share in a common soil. And each who would see accomplished the dreams he is proud to own, Must strive for the goal with his fellow—for he cannot reach it alone. MOOSE JAW. An interesting story is told as to the origin of the name "Moose Jaw" as applied to a town in Canada. Some fifty years ago, so the story runs, a pioneer with his team of oxen and "prairie schooner," while passing along the banks of the river, was obliged to camp at this point in Saskatchewan on account of an accident to his cart. A spoke had fallen out during the day, and the wheel was falling apart. He looked about for something to insert for a temporary brace for the wheel, while his wife busied herself with the evening meal. The pioneer's child while romping around, found the jawbone of a moose, which she held up to her father, who by this time almost despaired of finding anything with which to repair his cart. He was delighted to find that the jawbone exactly fitted the place of the missing spoke. The Indians thereafter named this district: "The Place Where the White Man Found the Moose Jaw." This, it is said, accounts for the town's queer name.—Washington Star.

ROSSLEY'S THEATRE!

St. John's Leading Vaudeville, Dramatic and Picture Theatre. The Matinee to-day is under the Distinguished Patronage and Presence of His Excellency Governor Davidson and Lady Davidson and the Misses Davidson. Rossley's 4th Annual Grand Christmas Pantomime, "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST." WITH A CAST OF 60 PERFORMERS. DAINY DANCES, CATCHY SONGS—SPARKLING MUSIC. WONDERFUL ELECTRICAL EFFECTS! GORGEOUS COSTUMES—THE FINEST PERFORMANCE EVER IN THE CITY. Special Matinee, 10 and 20 Cents. One Big Show at Night. General Admission, 20 and 30 Cents. NOTE—In preparation, another wonderful Pantomime—"JACK AND JILL."

THE CRESCENT PICTURE PALACE.

"WHEN GRATITUDE IS LOVE" A Romance of the Woods and the open Featuring MARGARET TRUSSINF, an Edison Offering. "THE MISER'S LEGACY" A Biograph Drama. "THE OUTLAW'S AWAKENING" A Western Drama with G. M. JOHNSON—Broncho Billy. "THE LEGAL LIGHT" A Selig Melo-Drama Featuring TOM MIX. "HANS AND HIS BOSS" A "WADDY and ARTY" Comedy Drama. DAN DELMAR, The Popular Crescent Vocalist, SINGING NOVELTY SONGS AND BALLADS. A BIG HOLIDAY PROGRAMME IS BEING ARRANGED FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE AND NEW YEAR'S DAY.

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BY visiting us when you are in town, by doing so it will benefit your business and sustain our reputation for Service, Quality and Reliability;— Besides, it will make satisfied, repeating customers of you, and best of all sworn patrons. Troubles in your purchasing department hurt your entire business. The way to eliminate such a condition is to send your orders to us. THE SUCCESS OF OUR BUSINESS IS BUILT ON QUALITY OF SERVICE, MATERIAL, AND PRICES. If you need one of our Price Lists before you, phone or write us. HALLEY & COMPANY St. John's, Nfld. 106-108 New Gower St. Leonard St., New York P. O. Box 786 Phone 722 HALLEY & COMPANY

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J. J. ROSSITER
Real Estate Agent

Our Motto: "SUUM CUIQUE"



("To Every Man His Own.")

The Mail and Advocate
Published every day from the office of publication, 187 Water Street, St. John's, Newfoundland, Union Publishing Co. Ltd., Proprietors.

Editor and Business Manager
JOHN J. ST. JOHN

ST. JOHN'S, N.F.L.D., DEC. 30th., 1915.

The Wooden Sealing Steamers

It is understood that Job Bros. has purchased the Newfoundland and will expend about \$10,000 on her during January and February in order to place the ship in good condition for the seal fishery. A new deck will be put in; the whole of the houses on deck will be replaced. If the ship's bottom is solid, the construction of a new deck and the strengthening of the ship's sides will make the Newfoundland good for another twenty years. The Newfoundland is solid and reliable ought to pay well in the freighting trade.

Some of the other wooden ships are good for several years. The Neptune, Terra Nova and Eagle are considered very good ships. If the Ranger is to be continued as a sealing steamer, it will be necessary to rebuild her after this year.

The withdrawal of the steel ships will give new life to the old wooden steamers, for they are just as capable of bringing in loads now as they were ten years ago, and as long as the powerful steel steamers are withheld, the wooden ships will be sure to find the whitecoats.

What a pity the owners of those ships could not see their way to fit them with heavy oil engines, and thus enable them to become foreign freighters and be earners throughout the year. All those steamers if reclassified and fitted with oil engines could successfully prosecute the seal fishery and as soon as cleaned up after the sealing voyage, go into the foreign freighting traffic and as freight rates will be good for many years after war is ended, such ventures would be profitable.

What is wanted is confidence in the future and a little go ahead spirit. There is no good reason why those wooden sealing steamers should be "white elephants" for ten months each year. The time is ripe for big changes respecting the prosecuting of the seal fishery, and the foreign shipping traffic, and it behoves the Government to be up and doing at this critical period of the Colony's history and so utilize the opportunity to confer immense material benefits upon the Colony.

It will require courage and initiative to do what is required but surely at such a period some members of the Government will for a moment forget self and hoodle and endeavor to do some

thing for people and country. They have so far done nothing but spend Ten Million Dollars on railway branches that they promised would cost but Four Millions. Any dozen school boys could have done as well, and probably much better.

Now is the time for some of them to do the part of men and patriots and forgo the parts they have so long played in the game of personal graft and grab.

Faked War Reports

THERE appeared recently in The Atlantic Monthly an article by a newspaper man which throws light on the conflicting war reports and despatches which have been published in the Press for the past eighteen months. Our readers will readily understand it, as even our local press has been stuffed with war reports which are of the most conflicting nature. The fact is that one can believe little, except the Official Reports.

The article says: "We newspaper men printed a vast amount of rubbish during the war. By reflecting the nonsense of diplomats, chancellors, war experts, statisticians, professors, scientists, and young women just lauded from Rotterdam and convinced that the Germans were bound to win, we justified our claim to be the mirror of the universe. Some of this rubbish we printed unconsciously, in sheer ignorance, but a great deal we inserted, I imagine, for relief. As newspaper men we wanted to break the monotony of long columns on the front page. As neutrals we were glad to vary the monotony of long German victories, with a perfectly disastrous bit of secret information regarding conditions in Berlin by way of Zurich and Venice to London and so to us.

"Most of this rubbish was of anti-German cast, and it is these small 'fliers' that the Germans had in mind when they cried out at the campaign of lies that was waged against them. Lies they may have been, but to call them a campaign, is absurd, when you consider their purpose, which was mental relief, and their effect which was utter futility.

"I recall clearly the oil casks that the German Admiralty sank off the British coast as storage reservoirs for submarines. I recall the fog bombs that Count Zeppelin invented for the invasion of England, and even German thoroughness could not go beyond carrying fog to London.

"I am not apologizing for the telegraph editor who yielded to temptation and printed news infinitely more gripping than the official despatches, though quite untrue.

"From time to time we have had Lilaire Belloc, the best of all Englishmen, except Spencer Wilkinson; and in the days of Allied adversity, it was stimulating to turn to Belloc and watch him add up the German casualty lists into the millions.

"During the year I must have read several thousand columns of special correspondence—in English, in French, in German, and in Italian—and the vast bulk of this mass of special observation has been meaningless. The will to believe has run riot among the special correspondents. They have reported what they expected to see, or what they might have known without going to see, and only at rare intervals what they have seen with the eye of a specialist.

"We wonder how much of this stuff was ever written in the European capitals at all. Much of the rubbish is 'made in America,' and we have been swallowing it wholesale. We are in a very gullible mood usually; and we are getting our 'news' at second hand from a compiler who gets a pretty large allowance for the compilation. We get really less reliable news than any other section of the Empire; for we are dealing, in this matter, as in others, in second-hand goods. The

tribe of Hearst, the American edition of Northcliffe, makes much of this stuff for American consumption; and we are wasting valuable space in giving this rubbish currency.

Patriotic Entertainment

THE patriotic entertainment to be given New Year's night in the Methodist College Hall, in aid of our Sick and wounded, will be the best of its kind yet presented to the public. The promoters—Mrs. Chater and Mr. Hutton—have gone to considerable trouble in arranging matters and a first-class entertainment in every way is promised all those who will be fortunate enough to attend.

The object itself, the providing of funds for our Sick and Wounded, ought to ensure an overflowing house. The entertainment will be in two parts: the first devoted to patriotic songs, musical monologues, dancing and recitations, while the second part will be a playlet and operetta in which our best local talent will be seen.

Begin the New Year well by helping to swell the funds which are urgently needed to provide the comforts necessary for our brave boys in khaki and blue. Tickets are selling fast and may be had at the Atlantic bookstore.

In the War Theatre

THERE are certain cities and localities in the war theatre that we heard little of in the past; we should dig up our geographies and keep track of these interesting places. But as Geography seems to receive little attention in our schools we have been making an effort to keep our readers posted about places which have very interesting history.

Bukovina

Before the Russian retreat from Western Galicia we heard a good deal about Bukovina—the Austrian Crown lands which the Russians partly overrun. We are again hearing of this territory for the Russians have returned and are again threatening the north-eastern part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Here lies Bukovina, a duchy and crownland of Austria, with Russia and Roumania to the east, Galicia to the north, and the Hungarian province of Transylvania to the west. The area of Bukovina is 4,035 square miles, about one-tenth the size of Newfoundland, hardly as large as the Peninsula of Avalon; but it has a population of more than eight hundred thousand, three and a half times that of the whole of Newfoundland.

Bukovina has had many masters. Originally it was part of the Kingdom of Moldavia; it was occupied by the Russians in 1769, by the Austrians when they found it presented some parallels to their own. It has been urged that many features in the Hebrew religion and in Greek mythology can only be rightly explained by Babylonian beliefs in which they had their origin.

An Italian Appreciation

The Giornale d'Italia (Rome): The English Premier's discourse constitutes an exhaustive answer

to the Russian retreat from Mesopotamia are now on the Plains of Babylon, a name that throws one's mind far into the past. On its march towards Baghdad, the British army left the city of Babylon on its left flank and thus directed our attention to this ancient landmark, once the seat of imperial power and the home of splendor that has never been equalled in all history.

Babylon goes back to the earliest days of which we have any historic record. For centuries it enjoyed the highest degree of power, and though it fell to successive conquerors, the city still lived. It stood on the highway of the world's traffic, and seemed eternal. Its cultural influence spread to all the known world, and we may trace some survivals in modern civilization to this marvelous city. Babylon was the mother of astronomy, and the twelve divisions on the dial of clocks and watches were ultimately derived through Greek channels, from the ancient system of time division. It was under the Neo-Babylonian kings that the Hebrew race first came into close contact with her culture, in the days when the prophet Jeremiah "sat by the waters of Babylon and wept"; and there can be no doubt that the Jews, during the captivity, renewed their interest in her mythology when they found it presented some parallels to their own. It has been urged that many features in the Hebrew religion and in Greek mythology can only be rightly explained by Babylonian beliefs in which they had their origin.

The Plains of Babylon

to facilitate criticisms. What has the British Fleet accomplished? The merest bagatelle! It has purged the seas of German pirates, assured the maritime dominion of the Entente, almost deprived the submarine of its destructive force, and kept England in touch with the Continent. What of the British Army? Occasional discussions about conscription may have led the public to imagine that the citizens of Old England are less sensible than others to the duties imposed by a war of the independence of peoples and the liberty of Europe. But even the most superficial persons are aware that, thanks to the precious aid given by the British forces to the powerful French army, the Germans have failed to gain one rod of ground; nay, have lost their own.

GLEANINGS OF GONE BY DAYS

December 30
JAMES FRANCIS EDWARD STUART, the first Pretender, died, 1765.
Canon Pilot born at Bristol, 1841.
Sir Alexander Bannerman, ex-Governor of Newfoundland, died in London, aged 78, 1864.
John Dwyer, farmer, Freshwater, buried, 1878.
William Hogan, saddler, died, 1878.
A. W. Smythe died, 1879.
Capt. Thomas Duff died, aged 78, 1890.
Mrs. Frank Maynard died, 1896.

THE UNNAMED DEAD

By Charles Vale

EACH day, each night, so many heroes die, unheralded. There is no role of fame. Their final resting place must bear no name. That would reveal them to one passing by. Summer or winter, under an alien sky, they sleep alone, or stacked in some vast mound. No more shall they be known above the ground. Beneath which they contentedly will lie.

Others, who gladly died, have won at least some symbol, great or small, of reverence. We know the manner of their going hence. And give them glory. But, till life has ceased, With toast and wine, with prayer and with bowed head, We shall remember you, our Unnamed Dead!

—From The Forum.

READ THE MAIL & ADVOCATE

REMOVAL NOTICE!

F. A. MEWS
Barrister, Solicitor, & Notary
ADDRESS:
City Chambers
Water Street
(Over Royal Bank of Canada
1st Floor)
dec4,2w,s,su,th Phone 601.

Reid-Newfoundland Co.
SOUTH COAST SERVICE.

S. S. GLENCOE will sail from Placentia on Monday, January 3rd, after the arrival of the 8.45 a.m. Train from St. John's, for the usual ports of call.

GARNEAU, LTD.
Wish their many patrons throughout Newfoundland a Happy and Prosperous **NEW YEAR.**

BRITISH
THE POWER OF PROTECTION
Buying a **BRITISH SUIT** Means **PROTECTION** from High Prices
BRITISH
PROTECTION in Material.
PROTECTION in Style.
PROTECTION in Fit.
Every Man and Boy Needs **PROTECTION** Have It!
The British Clothing Co., Ltd.,
Sinnott's Building
Duckworth Street, St. John's.

BIG REDUCTION IN PRICES FOR Xmas Season

White Table Linen (extra quality), Table Napkins, Toilet Covers, Sideboard Cloth, White Linen Table Covers, Tea Coseys, Carving Cloths, Tray Cloths, Cushion Covers, Centre Cloths.

SHOWROOM
Hats, Wool Caps, Plush Caps, Ribbons (Patriotic), Frillings, Neckwear of various kinds, Ladies' Underwear (Stanfield's and Fleece Lined).

—ALSO—
LADIES' FUR COLLARS, MUFFS and FUR SETS. All Reduced.

Nicholle, Inkpen & Chafe
Limited.
315 WATER STREET 315
Agents for Ungars Laundry & Dye Works,

THE BEST IS CHEAPER IN THE END



Order a Case To-day.
"EVERY DAY" BRAND
EVAPORATED MILK
Job's Stores Limited.
DISTRIBUTORS

BUSINESS NOTICE
M. F. MURPHY,
HAIRDRESSER,

WISHES to inform his customers and the public generally that he has sold out his interest in the West End Shop (opp. Springdale Street), and that his friends will find him at his old stand, opposite General Post Office, where he will give patrons his personal attention.
dec29,31



YOUR CHRISTMAS ORDERS will receive prompt attention if you send them to us. It's the same any time, whether you are alone or have a large family, we are always ready to serve you courteously and carefully, paying careful attention to every detail of your order.

We extend Christmas Greetings to all our patrons and an invitation to come here during the New Year for

CHOICE MEATS.
M. CONNOLLY
Duckworth Street.

J.J. St. John
FLOUR, PORK, BEEF & OIL,
Likely to go high.
We can save you
—To arrive—
FIVE ROSES
QUAKER
VERBENA
ROBIN HOOD
Very Choice Ribbed PORK.
Small HOCKS.
Choicest SPARE RIBS.
Best PLATE and N. Y. BEEF.
Everybody is talking of our
ECLIPSE TEA, 45c. lb
as good as most 60c.
Silver-Ware ready to be delivered, so bring along your Coupons from Monday, 27th inst.
J.J. St. John
Duckworth St & LeMarchant Rd.

Mr. Targett's
Visit to English
Harbour, T.B.

(Editor Mail and Advocate)
Dear Mr. Editor,—Please allow me space in your paper for a few remarks. We are a Council that I do not see much in the paper about. I wish to say, Mr. Editor, that we are going ahead more determined than ever to stand by our noble Leader, President Coaker.

I may say that our long-looked for friend came at last in the person of Mr. A. Targett who took us by surprise, and he too, Mr. Editor is one that we can be proud of and made up of the good old stock of Newfoundland soil; a fisherman who have let more water out of his cap than some of the grabbals have sailed over. He came to us in a storm of rain. He is one of them who says go, they must. We were glad to see him. A good cup of tea was provided for him and by that time the good old F. P. U. was flying from the topmast of many of the Union craft here.

A meeting was declared, and Mr. Editor, the newsboy, that is our telephone system we have here, was flying in all directions, and soon every one knew that it was a call to action. There was a quick response, and a large crowd of Union members gathered at the Temperance Hall.

Before I proceed any farther, Mr. Editor, there is one thing I would like to mention. I have seen members of the House of Assembly come here, but it would be in times when there was scarcely a man to speak to, but Mr. Targett knew when to come, when all were home a dwnhen he could see every one.

Now, to come back to our meeting. It was called to order by our Chairman, Friend J. Wills, which Mr. A. Targett was given the floor to speak as long as he wished. Every ear was open to hear him. Mr. Targett held the floor for two hours, and Mr. Editor, it only seemed like five minutes. It is amazing that such men as Mr. Targett was not found to represent our districts before. Words will not permit me to tell how much good he has done us and his words will long be remembered by us, and as for him to be elected by us in 1917, its sure. I need not speak of anything that he said to us. He did not even ask us to support him. After his address several of the members gave us a few remarks. I may say, Mr. Coaker, we are more determined than ever to stand by you.

Thanking you for space,
ONE PRESENT.
English Hr., Dec. 22, 1915.

PARCELS HAVE REACHED
THE REGIMENT

December 28, 1915
(Editor Mail and Advocate)

Dear Sir.—Will you kindly note in the columns of your paper that the 999 parcels forwarded to the Newfoundland Battalion from London early in October, as per telegram from Captain Timewell under date December 13th, already published, were duly received by the men of the Regiment, and Captain Timewell is now in receipt of letters from the Officer commanding the Battalion expressing high appreciation of the contents of the 999 parcels.

Yours truly,
J. R. BENNETT,
Colonial Secretary.

Some owe their dyspepsia to weak digestive organs and others to home cooking.

BIG BARGAINS
IN FURS
We are clearing out some lines of FUR COLLARS and STOLEs, that are left over, at a GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE, some less than HALF PRICE.

Brown Marmot Collars that were \$10.00. Selling now for... \$ 3.00.
Brown Marmot Collars that were \$16.00. Selling now for... 6.00.
Brown Marmot Collars that were \$15.00. Selling now for... 7.50.
Brown Marmot Collars that were \$18.00. Selling now for... 9.00.
Brown Marmot Collars that were \$30.00. Selling now for... 15.00.
Brown Marmot Stoles that were \$10.00. Selling now for... \$ 6.00.
Brown Marmot Stoles that were \$ 9.00. Selling now for... 6.60.
Brown Opposom Stoles that were \$15.00. Selling now for... 11.00.
Brown Opposom Stoles that were \$20.00. Selling now for... 12.00.
Brown Opposom Stoles that were \$26.00. Selling now for... 18.00.
Mole Squirrel Stoles that were \$3.00. Selling now for... 2.00.
Black Coney Seal Collars that were \$6.00. Selling now for... 3.50.
Brown Coney Seal Collars that were \$6.00. Selling now for... 3.00.
STEER BROTHERS

WITH OUR NAVAL BOYS
AROUND CHATHAM

Chatham Barracks, Chatham, Kent, Nov. 25th., 1915.

Dear Father and Mother,—I told you where I was on Saturday in my former letter. Well, on Sunday, Lewis and myself went up to Rochester to see the cathedral, etc. We had a look at the building, it is an old place the door of which is all cut in stone with old Egyptian mummies carved on it. I am sending you a post-card of it. There are also around the building old memorial tablets set in the wall to the memories of Rochester, some are very old, dated 1711, 1777, 1712 and so on. They are written in old English. We left the Cathedral by. Quite a number of people were there looking round. We went thro' the gates and passed the old house where Charles Dickens lived when a boy. It is an old-style cottage grown over with creeper (or ivy). We then continued on to where the castle stands, it is on a hill over-looking the sea. Here is a wharf built up and you can see motor boats for excursioners, seats all round the beach, and walks with a bathing house there. We came back to the castle grounds again. Here one can see thousands of pigeons, geese, peacocks, etc. flying about most of the pigeons have their nests up in the ruined walls of the castle.

The grounds are laid out beautifully, grass everywhere and flowers in bloom, also all kinds of trees—plenty of mistletoe. It put us in mind of Xmas time when we looked at them. There is also an old gun in the centre of the main walk to the castle, which was taken from the Russians in the Crimean war. Two big bridges, all concrete, lead from the castle across a river to the other side of the county. We could not get into the castle as it wasn't open at the time, so we are going to have another day to see it inside. We only see it through the iron gates. It appeared dark, just like a dungeon.
We now left the castle and went to the eastgate house, which is about a few hundred yards down the road. I sent you the post-card of it, it is used as a museum. "I didn't" know that till Sunday, when I saw it inscribed outside of the castle. Well, we went in and you ought to have seen the rooms in it, all oak work. The boards in the floor area about 12 inches wide.
The first room we went into was the mineral room. In different cases were mineral found in different parts of Chatham, Rochester, etc. We came out of that, went up the stairs to the bird room. There we saw all kinds of birds, from a humming bird to a culture. There were some here that's

not to be found in Newfoundland, you bet.
Going up the stairs are different pictures of kings, oil paintings, also old war implements such as breast plates, old swords, pistols, Roman shields, they are worth looking at. Not forgetting the old-fashion spurs which are about four inches in diameter.
We then came to the type and letter room. In these are old wills written in Elizabeth's time, hundreds of years ago. They are old English and in the old style of writing, also old bibles in different languages. There is one old one bound in brass with hinges on it, it is dated away back in James' time. There are also the money of Edward's time, hundreds of years ago up to the present day.
Then we passed another room. Here were all kinds of things, daggers, old knives, swords, combs, tinder boxes; most of them found in Egyptian tombs, some of which were dug up around Chatham.
There are mammoths' teeth, tusks etc. dug up in Egypt. The tusks are 12 feet long, all ivory. Then there are skeletons of Anglo Saxons.
We now passed to another room, it is full of French, Italy, China, Japan ornaments, etc from all of these places. There are also old earthenware dug up in Egypt, made before Christ by old potters, also an old Roman tile all carved and painted. In every room the fire place is an open grate with dog irons, the larks are old English coat of arms in Charles I time, and more in German designs.
We now pass on to Dicken's room there's his autograph photo; some of his letters to his friends; there is a part of his will; and a telegram which was sent for a doctor on the night he died. Then there is some of the chairs with straw bottoms in them which formed a part of his parlor suite, an old spinning wheel, the one written about in the 'Old Curiosity Shop'; some of his works are there, 'Pickwick Papers', 'A Christmas Carol', etc. There is also a big bookcase full of his works—everyone of his books are there, they take up a side of the room, given by a friend of Dicken's. I think he was Mayor one time of Rochester.
We leave the room and come to the front room, which leads to the door. In this room is an old-fashioned table with carved legs. On it is an hour-glass, full of sand, they used to preach sermons with these at one time and do to-day in some parts of England. There is a clock on the wall built by an old resident of Rochester, long ago. It is going yet and keeps good time. To-day there is only one hand on it across the face that tells the hour only, it runs by a long chain like the one at home. There is also

an old pulpit, chairs, ship's lantern, inkstands, the model of the castle and cathedral, built in putty and wood work. Over every fire-place as mantel-piece, are some oak panelling taken from the old "Red Lion" Inn, when torn down.
I think I have told you all I can remember now. I would like for you to see it for yourselves. I would stay all days in Dicken's room and look at his works, etc. I have just had supper. I am going to turn in now. I always turn in right after supper, which is seven o'clock. I have a good nap then. I must close now, wishing you good night.
Your affectionate son,
NORMAN.

FLOURISHED A REVOLVER.

Last evening a man who was crazed with liquor went into an East End restaurant and kicked up a row. While those present were trying to get him out he whipped out a revolver and the police were sent for. Const O'Flaherty soon appeared and rushed the man to the station after disarming him.

WHERE TO GET
THE MAIL AND ADVOCATE

The Mail and Advocate can now be had at the following stores:—
Mayo's—Duckworth Street.
Mrs. Gallivan—Duckworth St. East
Mrs. Peckford—Foot Signal Hill Rd
Mr. Gosse—Plymouth Road.
Mrs. Kelly—King's Bridge Road.
Mrs. Hays—King's Bridge Road.
Mrs. Brien—Colonial Street.
James Whelan—Colonial Street.
F. Fitzpatrick—Gower Street (top of Nunehy Hill).
Mrs. Organ—Military Road.
Mr. Parsons—Catherine Street.
Mr. E. Parsons—Corner Hayward Avenue and McDougall Street.
Mrs. Wadden—Pleasant Street.
Mrs. Ebsary—South Side.
Mrs. Dounton—Fleming Street.
Mr. Fitzpatrick—Field Street.
Miss E. Lawlor—Head of Long's Hill.
Mrs. Bulger—Head of Carter's Hill.
M. A. Duffy—Cabot Street.
M. J. James—Cookstown Road.
Mr. Horwood—Barker's Hill.
Popular Store—Casey Street.
Mrs. Tobin—Casey Street.
Mrs. Cummings—Head of Casey St.
Mrs. Healey—Corner Water St. and Hutchings Street.
Mrs. Fortune—Corner Water Street and Alexander Street.
A. McCoubrey—(tinsmith) New Gower Street.
Mrs. Joy—New Gower Street.
Mr. Ryan—Casey Street.
Mrs. Collins—Foot Patrick Street, Water Street West.
Mrs. Keefe—Hamilton Street.
P. J. Morgan—Pennywell Road.
Axford's—South Side.
Chas. Truscott—New Gower Street.
Miss Murphy—Water St. West.
Capt. Flett—Cor. Gower and Prescott streets.

FURS!
As the end of the year finds us with a larger stock of Furs than we wish to carry over. We intend to reduce the number by REDUCING THE PRICE.
See our Windows for Special Values.
TEMPLETON'S
333 Water Street.

NOTICE!
EXPERIENCED Woodsmen
wanted for lumber woods at Badger.
A. N. D. Co.
nov25,15

FERRO ENGINES
We have made special arrangements to import New FERRO Kerosene Engines or any other Model FERRO Engine direct and will now offer special prices, cost, insurance and freight with all fittings necessary.
3 H.P. \$ 95.00
4 " 125.00
5 1-2 " 145.00
7 1-2 " 180.00
We can offer large sizes of any model. We have these engines in stock and also have a full stock of repair parts. We deal direct and can therefore give lower prices. Also GRAY, FULTON and MEITZ & WEISS Engines.
A. H. MURRAY,
St. John's.

Business Hours.

THE following firms have decided to close their Stores during the MEAL HOURS from January 3rd to April 3rd, 1916.

The hours during which the Stores will be open for business will be as follows:

From January 3rd, 1916—Stores will

Open	8.30 a.m.
Close	1.00 p.m.
Open	2.00 p.m.
Close	6.00 p.m.
Open (SATURDAY)	7.00 p.m.
Close	9.30 p.m.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Bowring Brothers, Limited | Bishop Sons & Co., Limited |
| S. Milley | Robert Templeton |
| I. F. Perlin & Co. | Gear & Co. |
| J. J. Strang | W. P. |
| William Frew | S. O. Steele |
| Mark Chaplin | National Stores |
| Fishermen's Union Trading Co. | Chas. J. Ellis |

