

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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BELFAST'S ORIGIN

The republication in these columns recently of a letter in the London Gentlemen's Magazine of 1771, from one of the early English settlers in Prince Edward Island, has occasioned interest, particularly on account of the reference to the naming of Belfast. The reference is as follows:

"A man-of-war, called the Mermaid, touched here; the Captain has got a fine Lot of 20,000 acres, which has the good remains of a village upon it, with a church; it was called Prim by the French, but he intends to name it Belfast, after a village in Ireland."

While the origin of most place names on the Island has been pretty well established, Belfast seems to be an exception.

The Dominion Government publication "Place-names of Prince Edward Island," compiled by Mr. R. Douglas, M.A., secretary of the Geographic Board, contains the following reference:

Village name on map dated April 6, 1775. The site of the village was formerly a French settlement, but the French settlers were removed from it, 1758. The lot was granted in 1767 to Samuel Smith and Capt. James Smith, R.N., of "The Scarborough." There was an unsuccessful attempt to plant a settlement here in 1775 (Sutherland), by the proprietors in 1785 (Mecham), but not till 1803 was there any settlement. When 800 Highlanders, encouraged by the Earl of Selkirk, arrived, Meacham, meaning "red bank," is the Micmac Indian name. The 1775 map referred to contains a number of other settlement names, such as Dartmouth town, lot 14, Maryborough town, lot 31, Ponnals town, lot 31, Debsborough town, lot 33, Hillsborough town, lot 33, where there were no settlements at this time. In his diary, August 13, 1803, Lord Selkirk speaks of "the settlement at the old French village called Belfast."

Lord Selkirk's reference has generally been interpreted to mean that Belfast was the name (or rather a corruption of the name) of the original French settlement, but this is not necessarily implied in the statement quoted, nor is it unlikely that Lord Selkirk was himself unaware of the name which it bore under French regime. In any case, the settler who wrote to the Gentlemen's Magazine in 1771 was much more likely to be correct, though it is true he somewhat underrated the importance of Belfast in Ireland when he termed it "a village." The present capital of Ulster had not then reached the importance of a big manufacturing centre, though it had long been an incorporated town. It had in 1757 a population of 8,549, but it was not until 1789—eighteen years after Settler's letter was written, that Belfast obtained the regular communication, which towns of less importance already enjoyed, with Dublin by stage coach.

Settler's letter implies that the captain of the warship "Mermaid" selected the name of Belfast, presumably because he was a native of that place in Ireland. Mr. Douglas' compilation makes no reference to the "Mermaid" or its captain in this connection, but states elsewhere that the settlement of Mermaid in Prince Edward Island was called after the warship of that name.

The chief event in connection with the settlement of Belfast was of course the arrival in 1803 of 800 Highlanders in the ship "Polly" under Lord Selkirk's patronage. Many of our readers will recall that on August 13, 1903, the centennial celebration of this event took place, at which the late Rev. MacLean Sinclair presided and addresses were delivered by the late Judge MacDonald, Mr. A. A. MacLean, K.C., the late Hon. D. A. MacKinnon, and Mr. K. J. Martin, K.C., four descendants of the "Polly" pioneers.

SIAM TO THE FRONT

The Guardian has received, through the Royal Siamese Consulate-General at Vancouver, B. C., two magnificent volumes on Siam, published by the Siamese Government, of which a special committee is engaged in preparing for Siamese participation at the World's Grain Exhibition and Conference opening at Regina on July 24th. One of the volumes, entitled "Siam—General

and Medical Features," was issued by the Executive Committee of the Eighth Congress of Far Eastern Association of Tropical Medicine, which met at Bangkok in 1930. It covers, briefly but comprehensively, such subjects as government and administration within the kingdom; its history, religion, literature, archaeology, fine arts, theatre, architecture, educational system, medical education, public health and medical service. There are also chapters on school health service, army medical service, the Siamese Red Cross Society, Protestant medical missions, nursing in Siam, etc., the whole being illustrated with numerous full page reproductions of photographs and beautiful paintings. The second book, which is a companion volume, similarly printed and illustrated, is entitled "Siam—Nature and Industry," and was issued in 1930 by the Ministry of Commerce and Communications, Bangkok. Both are of exceptional interest and enduring value, and should do much to spread knowledge of the progress and development that is taking place in the Far Eastern Kingdom.

Siam has been allotted a national section at the forthcoming World's Grain Exhibition, and plans are being made to prepare and decorate this section in purely Siamese style. Such products as Siamese rice—the chief export of the country—teak, tin, Siamese zircons, rubies, sapphires, Siamese gold and silverware, the world famous Siamese niello work and other arts and crafts of the kingdom, will be exhibited.

The Siamese call themselves the Thai, or, in English, the Free. They are the only nation in South Asia that have maintained their independence, which, thanks to wise government, is today more secure than ever before in history. A member of the League of Nations and the World Court, Siam has participated in many International Conferences and is a signatory to many International Conventions. Unlimited monarchy has existed in Siam from time immemorial. While there have been changes in the ruling Dynasty the principle has never been questioned. The present Royal Family has ruled without opposition for 150 years and it has secured and still keeps the loyal and voluntary support of the Siamese nation. Religious and economic freedom exists within the kingdom, which has made marked progress in recent years, and is today looking forward to establishing closer relations with Canada and the western world.

EDITORIAL NOTES

Of the Liberal political campaign in Nova Scotia against the R.C.M.P. the Sydney Post-Record (Independent) remarks: "Both political expediency and the public interest suggest that the Provincial Opposition have occupied the position of assailants of the Mounted Police too long for their own good. This country is British."

The Toronto Mail and Empire quotes a member of Parliament as saying that Communism and Socialism are the same thing, and asks ironically: "Does anyone outside the House of Commons suppose that the principles and aims of Stalin and Ramsay MacDonald are identical?" The illustration, says an exchange, is not illuminating. Stalin is a perverted Communist and Ramsay MacDonald a reformed Socialist.

The London Daily Express sees in Premier Bennett one of the most potent figures at the World Economic Conference. It notes that the Canadian Prime Minister is a total abstainer both from liquor and tobacco and is a studious reader of his Bible. Also that "his attitude is to 'cut the cackle.' Whatever success the Ottawa Conference had was due to him—but he antagonized all those Conference addressees who travel from Lausanne to Geneva and from Geneva to Lausanne in order to ensure that nothing shall be done."

NOTES BY THE WAY

Great Britain, France, Germany and Italy have signed a pact undertaking to keep peace among themselves and wherever possible for a period of ten years. Seeing that there is little in the pact that is not in the Covenant of the League of Nations, and that all four powers belong to the League, some may have difficulty in understanding why such an agreement was thought necessary. However, it was thought necessary, and as one more peace pact added to a lot of others can't do harm, no one need complain. After all, there always are lots of things making for war, so a few extra things lying about that make for peace ought not to be objectionable.

Some comment has been made on the absence of Mr. Baldwin from the list of British delegates to the World Economic Conference. The explanation is simple. The Prime Minister, as chairman of the conference, will have practically the whole of his time occupied, and it is therefore all the more necessary that Mr. Baldwin should be available as his deputy, both in the House of Commons and elsewhere. Besides, as the number of delegates had to be limited, it was desirable that its members should be the heads of the various departments connected with trade and finance—hence Mr. Chamberlain's selection as chairman of the delegation. The only exception is Lord Hailsham, whose presence is due to his legal rather than his military attainments.

Charmingly medieval and eminently practical was the walking tour recently undertaken by a dignitary of the Church in England. Carrying a knapsack on his back and accompanied by a chaplain, the Bishop of Winchester (Dr. Cyril Garbett) "hiked" about 75 miles during a visit to more than 20 parishes in the New Forest. In an age when progress so often seems a synonym for speed, there is refreshment in contemplating this leisurely manner of journeying through a diocese. The distance covered daily varied from eight to 15 miles through one of England's loveliest woodlands. Aside from the advantages of close contact with his parishioners, the picturesque of the Bishop's pilgrimage strikes the imagination.

What is the largest number of pupils a teacher should be expected to deal with competently in a class room? The New York State Education Department does not deem itself wise enough to answer the question and, accordingly, has dismissed an appeal made by the Unappointed Teachers' Association to compel the New York City Board of Education to assign not more than forty pupils to a class. The petition was made in an attempt to provide jobs for members of the association who are on eligible lists awaiting appointment.

In Toronto a monument is to be erected to the memory of Alexander Muir, author of "The Maple Leaf Forever" and Quebec admirers are to bring back from Boston to a Canadian grave the remains of Calixa Lavallée, who wrote "O Canada!" Honor where honor is due and not a case of mere posthumous recognition.

One may sometimes wonder what the public spending bodies would have done for revenue if the automobile had not been invented. All along the line, from the time it emerges from the factory until it finds its last resting place in the junk heap, the motor car is dragging the dimes and dollars out of the pockets of its owner or occupant and pouring them into the public treasury. First a sales tax is demanded, and the purchaser pays. Before he puts the machine on the road, he must pay an automobile license tax and a fee for an operator's or chauffeur's license. If the machine is to be used as a truck or a taxi, a local license is the usual demand, and then the owner must also pay on the car as a part of his personal property. In New York there is another import—no automobile entering or leaving the metropolitan, except on the roads toward Boston, Springfield or Albany, can evade the payment of some sort of toll. The most recent addition to this form of tax is in the case of the big East River bridges, the crossing of which now costs every automobile or truck a toll of twenty-five cents. In addition each taxicab passenger is assessed a five-cent tax. Tolls are collected also on all traffic going through the Holland tunnel and over the George Washington and Staten Island Bridges. There are 2,125,000 people in the British West Indies, the railway account of them says. Most of them are Negroes, but there are sprink-



By James W. Barton, M.D. CURING PAINFUL FEET

One of the things hard to understand is that when there is pain of kind, anywhere in the feet, a great many people think that the use of foot arches, arch supports, is the best method of relieving the condition. Now there is a real need for foot supports in some cases of flat feet and where needed they make life much more bearable, but the use of these supports where they are not needed not only does positive harm to the feet, but prevents the proper treatment for the real ailment that is causing the trouble.

What about painful feet? It is now agreed that most cases of painful feet are due to arthritis-rheumatism—which in turn is due to some infection from teeth, tonsils, gall bladder or intestine. The treatment here is the removal of the infection. Another cause is a strain of the muscles and ligaments due to over-use of the feet in dancing, walking, running, golfing, or other exercise and the treatment here is simply rest.

However there are a great many cases due to flat feet, and the correction of flat feet will bring about relief.

How can you know that your feet are really flat?

In examining a recruit for overseas service we simply had him walk about the armory floor a few steps, in his bare feet, and he then knelt down and the dirt on the soles of his feet gave a perfect outline of the arch. The arch would be quite clean as it hadn't touched the floor. Ordinarily the arch part of clean portion should be from one-half to two-thirds the width of the foot.

If the whole sole of the foot was black from the dirt on the floor, or if the arch or clean portion was very narrow, then the recruit was rejected for first class service, on account of "flat feet."

What can be done to correct flat feet that are not so flat that they need arch supports?

Dr. J. C. Elson, Madison, Wis., suggests the following exercises:

- (1) Walk correctly; toes pointing forward, not outward.
(2) As home exercises, walk a few steps whenever and wherever possible on the outer sides of the feet. When sitting down, cross the feet.
(3) Walk along an imaginary line, the right foot stepping over on the left side of the line, and the left foot over the right side.
All these exercises strengthen the "grip" muscles of the foot and hence raise the arch upward.

West Indian Spangles

(Manitoba Free Press)

A good working knowledge of the West Indies might be that Columbus landed there. Bicycles flourish in Bermuda and bananas grow in Jamaica. There are many other interesting things about the islands, according to an account of them just published by the Canadian National Railways. To begin with, they were fearfully and wonderfully made by nature. And they have been visited, since 1492, by a strange company of pirates, shipwrecked mariners, fugitive emperors and searchers for the rare and curious.

The scene of the shipwreck in Shakespeare's "Tempest" is supposed to be Bermuda. It was on Tobago, an island neighbor of Trinidad, that Alexander Selkirk—the original of Robinson Crusoe—kept house with his man Friday and was monarch of all he surveyed. On the Island of Barbados (which is singular and not plural) is the tomb of Ferdinand Paleologus, the last descendant of the Greek Christian emperors. Ponce de Leon searched the Bahamas for the elixir of youth, and the same islands (there are 3,000 of the Bahamas in a chain 400 miles long) can show pieces where Captain Kidd, the pirate, lay in wait for victims. Columbus hit San Salvador, one of the Bahamas, on his famous voyage.

Many of the islands were volcanic by origin and in consequence have curious natural features. Trinidad has a lake of pitch from which pavements are made. Bermuda has formations of soft coral which can be sawn into blocks for house-building. Caves and extinct volcanoes abound. The scenery of the islands is bizarre. They are covered with tropical vegetation. Bermuda and the Bahamas alone among the islands are outside the tropical zone.

There are 2,125,000 people in the British West Indies, the railway account of them says. Most of them are Negroes, but there are sprink-

That Body of Hours



THE SAILOR

Sailor, sailor, whither away? Loud is the wind and white its spray; What is it gives thee the heart to roam So far from the mother and babe at home?

"I sail," said the sailor, "as I've been told, For the land of dreams and the red, red gold; For the mother and babe, I go," said he, "To bring them the gold across the sea."

He sailed away in the sunset light, And the stars came out on the roof of the night;

With dauntless heart and steadfast eye, He made for the gold and the morning sky.

But the waves laughed loud in the good ship's track, For never again the ship came back;

And the old sea thundered to child and wife, "I am the lord of the seaman's life."

—Frederick George Scott.

A Swedish Formality

(Stockholm Correspondent of the London Times)

Against a vexatious custom the King of Sweden has been asked by his loyal subjects to raise the standard of revolt. The casual foreign visitor to Sweden sees only the unruffled surface of a placid social life. The British visitor, in particular, is charmed by some of the more superficial Swedish customs and habits. There is one which involves his lifting his glass and bowing gravely to his neighbor, saying "Skal," and on the bow's being reciprocated, draining the glass to its dregs while keeping his gaze fixed on the "Skalee." Properly speaking, there should be two minutes' silence after this ceremony in deference to the excellence of the refreshment, but in these times it is frequently forgotten.

But unless he is so misguided as to make an attempt to speak Swedish, the English visitor is kept in ignorance of a habit which has enslaved a proud people for generations. If he tries to speak the language he finds he is contending with forces so great that even Swedes of the oldest ancestry have been known to break under the strain. He may even join the gang of intellectual nihilists whose plot-lines have now been reinforced by articles in the Press, frequently signed by distinguished men of learning, against the tyranny of the indirect form of address. The movement is not seditious or unconstitutional; it is only waiting for the Royal word.

In the meantime it is unforgivable to use the direct form of address (Ni) to anyone except bootblacks, personal servants, or messengers, until one is allowed to use the more familiar Thou (Du), though even that has its pitfalls. "Will Mr. The Wholesale Dealer Smith dine with us tonight?" is the Swedish version of "Come and dine, Smith." "May I offer Mr. Consul-general Jones another drink—and perhaps also Mr. Municipal-sanitation-department-chief Williams?" This reverential regard for titles makes conversation difficult without full knowledge of every one's occupation and station in life. Every journalist becomes Mr. The Editor. A man or woman who cannot be placed, but looks respectable, is best addressed as Doctor or Doctress, for every title in-

ings of other races, especially in Trinidad. In that island the Chinese have a Confucian church and the East Indians have temples. Elsewhere are found remnants of the aboriginal and cannibalistic, tribe of Carib Indians, the earliest natives of the islands.

Bermuda, famous for its lilies and its banishment of motor cars, is the chief show place among the islands. Bermuda, though generally used in the singular, is really the name of 365 coral island with a total area of 19 square miles. Bermuda is the headquarters of the North American squadron of the British navy. The Bermuda islands are the oldest self-governing British colony.

Commercially, the islands have grown in importance to Canada since the Canada-West Indies trade agreement of 1925. From the West Indies this country imports not only such tropical commodities as coconuts, sponges, bananas and rum, but winter-grown vegetables.

Tourist boats of the "Lady" line link the West Indies with Boston, Halifax, Saint John and Quebec City

Heard Round The World

(Montreal Gazette)

In no department of human activities have greater advances been made and placed at our command than in this matter of improving world communications. Of oldtime smoke and flame were the most available means of making signals to long distances. The reverberating note of the drum language was for ages in vogue, and is still in use amongst savage peoples. Amongst peoples more civilized, the establishment of definite postal services marked a stage of advance. When Queen Victoria came to the throne there were a hundred "mail coaches" licensed in England. Then came the railroads, speeding up communications. Further extensions came with the invention of the electro-magnetic telegraph by the American professor, Morse, in 1832. Five years later, owing to the labors of Steinheil, of Munich, the projects of electro-telegraphy became available realities. In 1849 three gentlemen appeared on "Change" in Paris in early afternoon, having with them copies of The London Times printed the same day. In 1855 the first telegraph convention was held at Paris at which delegates from twenty nations took part. By 1890 there were over a hundred delegations present and in 1896 telegraph stations were established all across the globe from San Francisco to Hong Kong, and it was shown that a message could be sent from London to Australia in a cleared line in less than one minute.

The first wireless transmission dates back to 1888. In that year Hertz managed to get actual communication across a few feet of his laboratory. Six years later, Sir Oliver Lodge demonstrated its use over considerable distances. Marconi came on the scene in 1896, and in 1900 the transmission of a wireless over 85 miles was hailed as a triumph. Yet, within another year, wireless current was made effectual over a thousand miles, and in April, 1903, the London Times published 267 words sent from New York. In the same year the liner Lucania was supplied with news by wireless all the way from New York to Liverpool. Today wireless is on ships, on trains, on street cars, on airplanes, in offices and households, putting the individual in touch with the whole world; and there is no space limit to its power. It is freely predicted that the possession of such an agency must be, above all other vehicles of communication,

Sweden has its feminine counterpart.

Even the "Du" form must be sparingly used. Well-brought up children must not use it even to their parents. "Does Mamma object to my going to the cinema?" would be the only proper way for a child to ask. It leads to complications. Every child is taught to refer to strange men as uncle (farbror), and to strange women as aunt (tant).

When you cannot tell by a man's clothes his station in life; when you cannot steal a glance at the name on his luggage label; when there is no one who can tell you anything about him, silence becomes the only alternative to social ostracism. Recently a man who crossed by steamer from Gothenburg to London was unfortunately enough not to know a single passenger on board. He thirsted for conversation, and the only way he found he could address the man sitting opposite to him in the dimly lit saloon was as "Mr. The Steamboatpassenger." If King Gustaf can remove this burden from his people he will earn their undying gratitude.

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advantageous and effectual in bringing about a better understanding and ministering to the closer fellowship, friendly co-operation, peace and prosperity of nations. And it were devoutly to be wished that as "the thought of men are widened with the process of the suns" this forecast of nuclear communications, virtually rendering the peoples of the earth of one speech and one language may in due course be fulfilled.



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