

The Charlottetown Guardian

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MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 1916

WAR'S SURPRISES

War has brought many surprises and doubt many more yet in store. Of the thousand men for granted when the war was young remain and we are still, occasionally deleting old conceptions something that experience to have been erroneous. One article of our life we have clung to, namely, our inherent belief in the invulnerability of the British Empire, although it has sometimes wavered. Mistakes, terrible as they have been made as we had a right to expect, but mistakes have been mere bagatelles compared to those made by our enemy. Had Germany been used of a fraction of the astuteness we had given credit for she would have won the war, she should have got into Paris and Calais. She was fully prepared, fully armed, fully equipped; she knew every inch of the road to Paris and there was, comparatively nothing to stop her, only an army which she outnumbered eight to one and that one poorly equipped. She was stopped at the Marne; how we shall not know fully until long after the war has been finished and the whole story written. This was perhaps the first great surprise of the war both to Germany and to us.

Outside of the actual conduct of the war, also, there have been surprises. Perhaps the greatest of these is the fact that the hitherto despised Turk has proved a better and cleaner soldier than the hitherto cultured German. We had called him "the insupportable Turk" and he lived up to his name, witness his atrocities in Armenia. He has been for generations the despised of Europe. Soldiers who have had occasion to know tell us that he is a gentleman in comparison with the German. Many instances are on record, in which the Turk had shown kindness to the wounded, even going out into No Man's Land at the risk of his life to give a drink of water to some wounded British soldier. He had the manliness to acknowledge the soldierly qualities of his enemy. But we have never once heard a word of praise or of commendation for a German. The Germans adhered consistently to the doctrine of "frightfulness" taught them by their military masters adding to it such devilishness as individual ingenuity might suggest, and in their "frightfulness" they exhibited more real ingenuity than in anything else. This from the cultured German, from the nation to which, up to two years ago, we looked for the best and the highest in education, in art, in religion, in philosophy; that from the despised Turk! This surely was a surprise, an eye-opener, a revelation as to our ability to measure men and their ways.

Another surprise comes from the Japanese. We have been sending missionaries to the little yellow Japs, to teach them our western ways. Germany too sent her missionaries to Japan to teach them her Kultur. Commenting on the alliance with Japan the London Daily Telegraph pays our Asiatic cousins a compliment which voices the sentiments not only of Great Britain but of her allies. "Nowhere," says the Telegraph, "will the new treaty between Russia and Japan have given greater satisfaction than at the British Foreign Office. There are no sceptics left in this country now as to the value of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. It has splendidly fulfilled all the hopes that were based upon it. It restricted the area of hostilities during the Russo-Japanese war; it kept the peace in the Far East between 1905 and 1915. Japan has proved herself in every respect a most loyal and faithful Ally. She has honoured all her obligations in letter and in spirit. It is widely believed that in August, 1914, the German Emperor sent an urgent message to the Mikado offering Japan a German alliance on her own terms if she would break faith with Great Britain. The world knows the answer. Japan without hesitation rejected so insulting an invitation to bad faith; ranged herself on the side of the Allies, and immediately mobilised a fleet and land army for the reduction of the German citadel at Tsing-tau. Japan has also associated herself

with the Allies in the undertaking not to make a separate peace; she is with them in their economic and trade policy; and as for the assistance which she has given to Russia in the way of supplying guns and munitions of war, it may fairly be said that she has placed her arsenals and factories unreservedly at the service of the Power which was her mortal enemy only eleven or twelve years ago.

"East is east and West is west and never the twain shall meet," sang Kipling. They have already met, and this is another of the war surprises.

The Germans also have had their surprises and perhaps nothing yet in store for them will be a greater surprise than the unexpected attitude of Great Britain's Overseas Dominions towards the Empire in the present struggle. In an editorial under the caption "The Great Illusion," the London Daily Express touching upon this point says: "The Kaiser and his followers did not think of the British Empire nor consider what it meant. But General Sir Sam Hughes, the indefatigable maker of the Canadian army, supplied the answer yesterday when, with Mr. Lloyd George, the Secretary for War, he reviewed the magnificent body of Canadian troops.

IMPORTANT DOUBLE EVENT

Great interest is being manifested in the race between Uscita owned by Dr. Christopher, Moncton, and Commodore Craesus, owned by Dr. J. T. Jenkins, Charlottetown, which takes place on the Summerside Driving Park, tomorrow. The challenge was given by Dr. Jenkins with the stipulation that the owners should themselves drive in the race, and the proceeds of the gate to go to the Patriotic Fund. Dr. Jenkins, as all now know, is an octogenarian and to-day celebrates the diamond anniversary of his marriage. Dr. J. T. has all his life been a keen sportsman, a fine manly example of the type of English gentleman that has made England and the Empire what they are to-day. So long as we breed men of Dr. Jenkins' calibre and character there is not much fear of that decadence which some of our nobby-pobby friends deplored prior to the war, and which misled the German Emperor into thinking that as Britain was about to crumble from lack of stamina it only required a little external assistance, preferably from Germany, to bring about the collapse. But the breed is still the same as of yore, and Dr. Jenkins has no fewer than five grandsons doing their bit at the front, just as their grandfather did in the Crimea sixty years ago.

There should be a record gate to see our Grand Old Sportsman handle the reins in a patriotic cause, and we anticipate seeing a crowded train from the City for that purpose tomorrow.

PATRIOT SPASM NO. 4.

The Patriot's spasm in its Saturday issue is even more spasmodic than the three former ones, although like them, it possesses the distinctive characteristics of the disease of which they are the outward and visible symptoms, namely, misrepresentation. The "whereas", on which the clause is founded, namely that "the government of this province has hitherto donated to each of our soldiers, going to the front a gratuity of ten dollars", is false as the Patriot knows and as Premier Mathieson fully explained when the matter was being discussed at the recent special session of the legislature. The "gratuity" of ten dollars was paid to those soldiers who were billeted in the City in lieu of board and lodging before their quarters in the Drill Shed were ready for them. From this erroneous "gratuity" idea the Bell amendment provided "that it is desirable to extend that gratuity to those recently gone or who may go during the present war."

Mr. Bell's call for a ten dollar gratuity to each of our 3,000 soldiers may, under the spell of his eloquence, have inspired the Patriot to re-echo the call and brought on the present spasm, but few, we take it, would regard it as necessary or wise to pay \$30,000 out of the \$20,000 which Mr. Bell generously offered to borrow for war purposes.

NOTES

Great Britain now produces every fortnight as much munitions as she produced in the first year of the war; and we have Lloyd George's word for it that she has only reached a third of her capacity. The great wonder of the war is the failure of German preparedness.

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ENLIST TO DAY

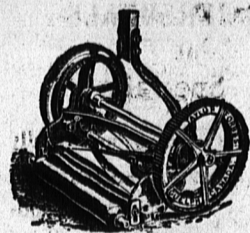
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CANADA TO GIVE \$25,000 TO KITCHENER MEMORIAL

OTTAWA, Aug. 12.—The Canadian Government will contribute towards the memorial to be erected by the Empire in honor of Lord Kitchener, Canada's share in the tribute toward the man whose army is now forcing the Germans back will be \$25,000. The Imperial authorities have been notified to this effect.

RESCUED AFTER THREE DAYS ADMIT AT SEA.

BOSTON, Mass., Aug. 12.—After being adrift three days in small boats Captain Thoms Kylin, and seven members of the crew of the schooner, E. Bowers, abandoned last week in a gale off the Grand Banks, were brought here by the British steamer Cape Finisterre. The men in great distress were picked up by the British steamer Homer City and transferred yesterday to the Cape Finisterre, inward bound from Glasgow. Captain Kylin reported that the

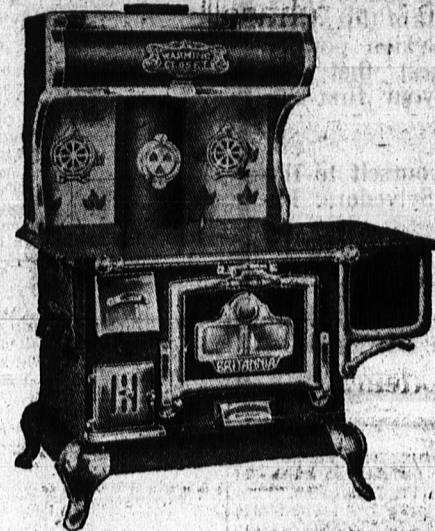
gan leaking during the storm and was battered about by heavy seas for some hours before he had his crew look to the boats. They had drifted far toward mid-ocean, he said, when the Homer City rescued them. The Bowers, a vessel of 375 tons, probably went to the bottom, Captain Kylin said.

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DAILY SELECTIONS FOR GUARDIAN READERS

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THE FLOWER SHOW.

"MY NEIGHBOR'S ROSES."

The roses red upon my neighbor's vine Are owned by him, but they are also mine, He has the cost, and his the labor too, But mine as well as his the joy, lovellness to view.

They bloom for me, and are fair As for the man who gives care, Thus I am rich, because he grew A rose-clad vine for all view.

I know from his that others plant for me, And what they own, my joy may also be, So why he selfish when so much that is grows for you, upon your neighbor's vine?

—GRUBER.

The author of these beautiful verses died recently in New York. Mr. Gruber was a lawyer who became rich in deeds of kindness and love to his fellow men. At his funeral the crowd was so great that the police were forced to close the doors of the Church. Many of these remembered him for his charities quietly bestowed upon them. Dr. Work, during the solemn service read Mr. Gruber's "Neighbor's Roses," while standing beside his lifeless body.

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