

**A Romance of Nature**

My friends I would tell you a story,  
'Tis vital, 'tis living, 'tis true  
Of a couple who wed in your city  
In the days before city or you.

Perhaps you belong to a family  
That goes back to Norman descent,  
Or your ancestors crossed in the  
Mayflower  
As no doubt some did, to save  
rent.  
Or again you may go back to  
Adam  
Or the serpent that bothered  
him so;  
You may trace your birthright  
clean to Eden  
And still would your parents,  
not know

Of the maiden who came from  
the forests  
And poured out her Spirit of  
love;  
Nor complaining, nor weeping,  
but giving;  
Nor ceasing her mission above.  
Of the lover, who came from the  
ocean  
To meet his sweetheart twice a  
day  
In a glamor of music and thun-  
der,  
On her bosom his love he did  
lay.

Then back to his almighty ocean  
Returning, with thunder and  
roar,  
Taking with him her ceaseless  
outpouring  
Of love, he could never restore.  
But she never gave up and her  
patience  
And faith, in his daily return  
Is a charm of the present-day  
maiden,  
Who may for an absent one  
yearn.

Thus they met, thus they wed of  
a morning  
She saw his face clear of the  
mist,  
'Neath the banks of the turbulent  
waters,  
When she lifted her face to be  
kissed.

They were both very set in their  
motives;  
Neither lover would leave his  
abode,  
And the neighbors:— The trees  
and the mountains—  
Were quite modern in prophecy  
bold—  
They said: She is steady and con-  
stant  
While he just appears from the  
mist  
Then goes back to his haunts un-  
affected.  
"I wonder what maidens he's  
kissed."

But she knew him as her lover,  
Knew he could not remain by  
her side,  
That to meet twice a day such a  
warrior  
Was contentment to this happy  
bride.

Now you friends who boast of  
great families  
And love to sway, family trees  
In the faces of those whose are  
bushes,  
May let them compare here,  
with these.

A very large family ensued, in  
The union of this noble pair.  
Their daughters and sons are still  
living—  
In fact the parents are there;  
Because every member is working  
Each doing his own daily task  
Thus proving the scientist's  
adage:  
That less of us wear out than  
rust.

The sons carry water for Mama,  
Who washes the country, by  
jove!  
The daughters are charming and  
carefree  
Looking after the fish in the  
cove.  
The old man comes up from the  
Fundy  
And takes the wash-water  
away  
Spilling the suds in the harbor  
And is lost in the mist for the  
day.

Dear friends, have you stopped to  
consider  
The beauties, the power, the  
charms  
Of our beautiful old Saint John  
River,  
Two heads—and the rest of it  
arms?  
If she stoppel in her flowing, to  
tell us  
Of great things she did long  
ago.  
All this charm and beauty and  
power  
Through some other harbor  
would flow.

**Nothing In Sight To Take  
Crown From "Normandie"**

(Continued from Page 17)  
instrument board of the bridge  
are those of the gyro-compass  
and the gyro-pilot. Working to-  
gether, they keep the ship on its  
course without the aid of the  
pilot. Another is that of the  
radio depth-sounder. It can an-  
swer the question "how deep is  
the ocean?" all the way across  
and is especially handy in the  
harbors as it tells how much the  
ship, with its 36 foot 7 inch draft,  
has to spare.

There is also the speed indi-  
cator (automatic log) and the  
radio direction finder (handy in  
fog). The Normandie has no  
windshield wiper, this reporter  
discovered. The circular glass of  
the look-out ports on the bridge  
revolves in rainy or in snowy  
weather. Centrifugal force does  
the rest.

Distances are nothing on this  
ship, which is more than five city  
blocks long. The main dining  
room is 300 feet long (a block and  
one-half). The swimming pool is  
82 feet in length, longer than the  
standard pool for championship  
swimming events.

And the housekeeping problem!  
A purser proudly showed the linen  
room. The Normandie started out  
with 38,000 bedsheets, 226,000  
napkins.

They delight in handing out  
figures like this, the French. They  
show you the wine cellar, with  
22,000 bottles of vintages lying on  
their sides in perfect coolness.

Seventy-two chefs with 76 as-  
sistants work in the kitchen along  
with 12 pastry chefs and 12  
bakers. They explain that 768  
chickens can be roasted at once  
in the ovens. And one of the big-  
gest dishwashing machines in ex-  
istence can wash the ship's 10,000  
pieces of china without breaking  
a saucer.

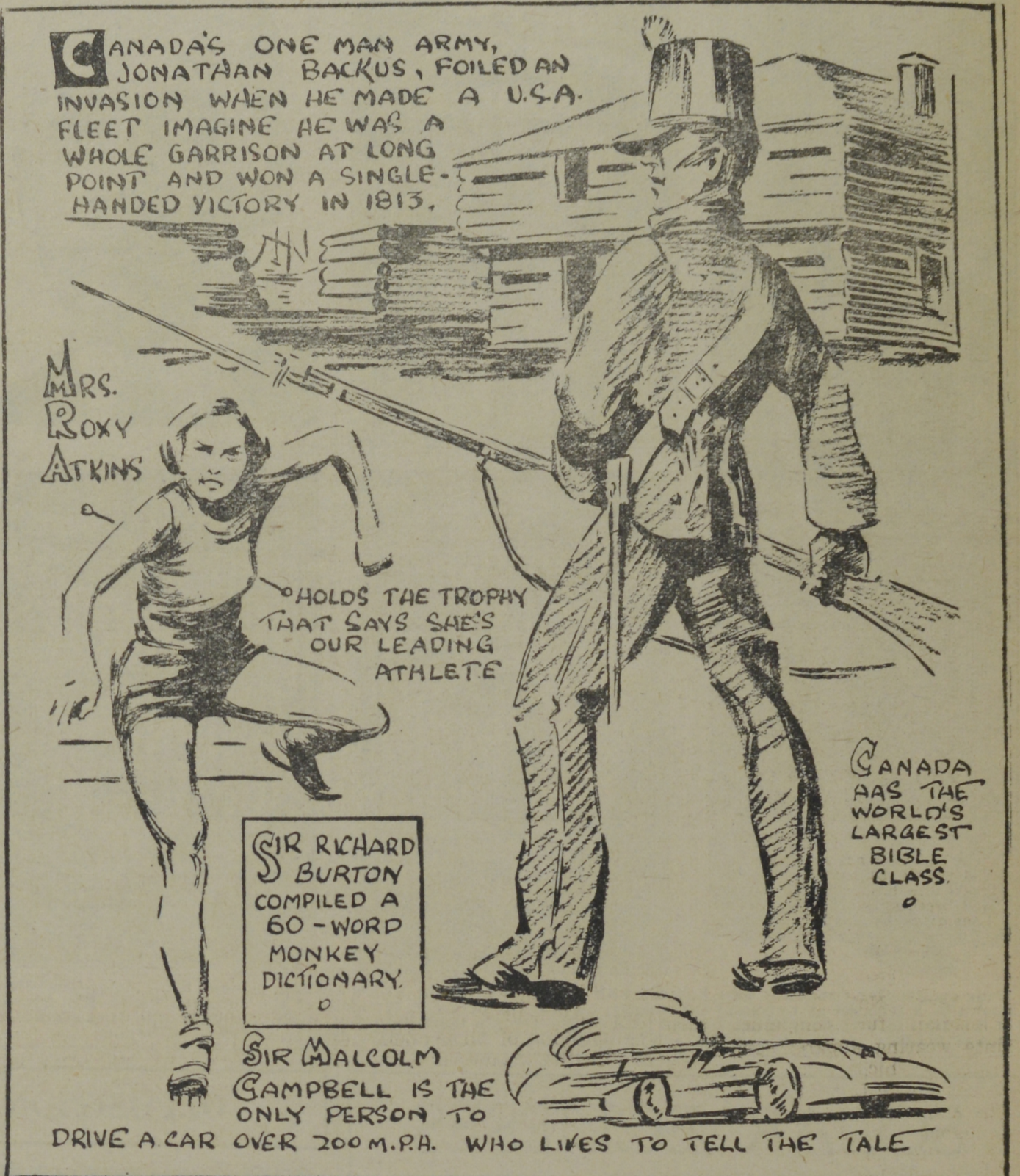
Mindful of the Morro Castle,  
the Normandie has its own fire  
department manned by trained  
Paris fire-fighters. A thermostat  
in every cabin rings an alarm  
when things get hot. A small fire  
during the painting of the cabins  
in Havre was handled in a jiffy.  
Automatic smoke detectors also  
flash fire headquarters. Phos-  
phorescent signs guide passengers  
to the 56 lifeboats whether the  
lights are on or not.

The hospital has a surgical  
table, X-ray equipment and a  
dental chair with three doctors in  
attendance. Full equipment for  
accouchements is on hand. In  
a population of 2,100 passengers  
for five days, one can never tell.

Only one concession to the de-  
pression. The Normandie has a  
night club. And not only is there  
no cover charge. The food is free!

**Telling ON CANADA AND  
THE BRITISH EMPIRE**

By  
HARRIS  
STAPLETON



OLD-TIME repertoire companies frequently  
were confronted by the problem of having  
half a dozen or more supernumerary actors  
represent an entire army, and solved it—to their  
own satisfaction at least—in a manner for  
which there is an amusing precedent in Cana-  
dian history. The theatrical solution was to  
have the same few "soldiers" continue passing a  
small aperture in the stage setting for so long  
a time as the action of the play required, and  
in this way the few seemed many to the audi-  
ence.

The historical precedent was established in  
the troubled days of 1813 when a resourceful  
Yorkshire settler in the Long Point district of  
Norfolk County, Ontario, convinced an invading  
American fleet that he was an army. Descend-  
ants today recount how the intended attack was  
frustrated by his ingenious conduct, which caused  
the U. S. vessels to cancel their program.

Jonathan Backus, founder of the Ontario  
family of that name, was Canada's one-man  
army. He was an outstanding figure in the  
Long Point community and justified the confi-  
dence placed in him on the eventful day that  
the invaders sailed into the bay. On hearing  
the news, he rushed home, quickly donned his  
captain's uniform and then for several hours  
covered as much ground as possible, appearing  
in one location for a few moments, then dodging  
out of sight to reappear in another. His inge-  
nious attempt to be "here, there and everywhere"  
proved a successful ruse. The invaders received  
the impression that the little fort was well gar-  
risoned, so weighed anchor and sailed away. Jon-  
athan fooled the fleet and scored a single-handed  
victory.

The Women's Amateur Athletic Federation  
made a popular award when they decided that  
Mrs. Roxy Atkins merited the Craig trophy, as  
Canada's leading feminine athlete. The presi-

dent of the Laurel Ladies' Athletic Club, Tor-  
onto, is versatile and consistent in her perform-  
ances—and reached her present pinnacle only  
after a long, hard struggle that would have  
discouraged a less stout-hearted person. She is  
equally proficient at sprinting and hurdling. Just  
recently with three of her pupils, she added an-  
other trophy to her big collection when the  
Laurel girls' relay team won the 440-yard event  
from the all-American team in St. Louis. She  
was prepared to defend her 50-metre hurdle title  
at the same meet, but was unlucky enough to be  
disqualified for breaking.

Four dare-devils who have driven their pow-  
erful cars at 200 miles an hour or better across  
the sands at Daytona Beach, Florida, but only  
one survives. That was the gruesome percent-  
age facing Sir Malcolm Campbell when he roared  
down the famous course this spring to set up  
a new world's automobile speed record of over  
276 miles an hour. Even then, the fatalistic  
Briton was greatly disappointed, for his highest  
speed of 281 miles was short of the 300 he was  
aiming at. But he and his famous Bluebird had  
done "the impossible" again.

Sir Richard Burton, the famous translator of  
"Arabian Nights," sought and found relaxation  
in a zoo composed of forty monkeys. He decided  
to learn the simian language and succeeded to  
the extent of compiling a dictionary of sixty  
words, which was lost to posterity when destroy-  
ed in a warehouse fire.

Denton Massey's York Bible Class in Tor-  
onto is the world's largest Bible class.

Readers are reminded that any items submitted to  
Harris-Stapleton, in care of this newspaper, must be  
accompanied by proof. Letters requiring an answer  
should be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped  
envelope.

**HEALTH**

(Continued from Page 21)

needs, cannot see clearly or read  
without effort, and who may suffer  
from headaches as the result  
of eye-strain.

When you have a pain in any  
part of the body, your mind is

concentrated on the pain rather  
than on your work. Toothache is  
one of the most persistent pains  
which children commonly experi-  
ence. No child can be expected to  
do his lessons if he has a tooth-  
ache.

Then there are defects which  
are not so obvious but which, in  
the long run, are likely to be  
more serious. We refer to such  
conditions as diseased tonsils

which are apt to be the focus from  
which infection spreads in an in-  
sidious way until it undermines  
the health of the body.

The question which each par-  
ent should ask is as to whether  
or not his child will be free from  
physical defects when school  
opens next September. Now is the  
time to give attention to this  
matter if defects are to be cor-  
rected before then.



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