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READ THIS!

Having returned home from an extended visit through American cities, and while away visited many of the leading carriage and sleigh manufactories and noticed the latest styles, I will be prepared at the old stand of Joshua F. Black at Richibucto to fill all orders entrusted to me giving the public the benefit of what I saw when away. Repairing in all branches will be promptly attended to. A full line of caskets and coffins kept on hand. ODBER K. BLACK.

The Scow Wreck. 'Twas one dark night on Lac St. Pierre, De wind was "blow," "blow," "blow," When the crew of de wood skow Julia La Plant Got scare and run below.

For de wind she's blow like a hurricane, Bimeby she's blow some more, When de skow buss up on Lac St. Pierre, One-half mile from the shore.

De captain she's walk on de front deck, She's walk on de hind deck, too, She's call de crew from up de hole, She call the cook also.

De cook he's name was Rosa, He's come from Moreal, Was chambermaid on a lumber barge On dat big Lachine canal.

De wind she's blow from nor, east, west, De sou wind she's blow too, When Rosa say, "Oh! captain, Whatever shall I do?"

De captain she's throw de hank, But still dat skow she drift, For de crew he can't pass on dat shore Because he lose dat skiff.

De night was dark, like one black cat, De waves run high and fass, When de captain take poor Rosa And lash her to the mass.

When de capitan put on the life preserve And she jump into de Lac, And he say "Good-by, my Rosa, dear, I go down for your sake."

Next morning, very heary, About half-past two, three, four, De capitan, cook and wood skow Lay corpses on dat shore.

For de wind he's blow like hurricane, Pretty soon she blow more, For dat skow buss up on Lac St. Pierre, One-half mile from the shore.

MORAL. Now, all good wood skows sailor mans, Take warning by dat storm, And go and marry one nice French gal, And live on one good farm.

Den de wind she may blow like hurricane, And 'spose she's blow some more, You shan't be drowned on Lac St. Pierre, So long you stop on shore.

HOW A NATION WAS LOGGED BY AN EXPERT FINANCIER.

Romantic History of John Law, Gambler, Duellist and Banker, Who Early in the Eighteenth Century Got Control of the French Treasury. (Continued)

John Law was forty-eight years of age and had a cash capital of half a million dollars when Louis XIV died. The Duke of Orleans was regent, and the finances of France were in a deplorable condition. The national debt amounted to over two thousand million livres—equal to about seven hundred million dollars. There was nothing in the treasury. The expenses of the government were greater than the amount of the revenues, although the people were being taxed almost beyond endurance.

National bankruptcy was suggested, but the Regent would not agree to this. The State debt was, however, "revised," interest bearing notes for about one-third the face value of the debt were given to the creditors, but as the creditors had no assurance that the notes would not also be revised these new securities fell at once forty per cent.

Then the coinage was debased some forty per cent, so if a creditor settled in full with the State by accepting a note for one-third the amount of his claim, then sold the note at a discount of forty per cent and received for it coin that was worth forty per cent less than its face value it could hardly be expected that he would hurrah himself hoarse for the government.

At this crisis John Law appeared on the scene and was warmly welcomed by the Regent. Law proposed a financial scheme that resulted in the foundation of the Banque Générale. His first proposition was one that contemplated the founding of a State or royal bank. This was not approved of, but a charter was granted for a private bank in May, 1716. The capital was six million livres. Law agreed to take subscriptions to the capital stock one-fourth payable in specie and three-fourths in State notes at face value. This was very attractive, as the State notes were very much depreciated, and the stock was at once subscribed.

The charter authorized the bank to do a general banking business, receive deposits and issue its own notes payable to bearer on sight.

Law secured the confidence of the public by printing an agreement on his notes that they would be paid in silver; not at the price of silver on the day of payment, but at the price at which it stood on the date the notes were issued. This gave the notes a fixed value. The holder could not lose anything, even if the State further debased the coin.

Business men preferred the notes to coin, and they commanded a premium. Law next obtained an extraordinary decree from the Council of the State that

raised the credit of his bank still higher. The decree commanded all collectors of the royal revenues to receive notes from the Banque Générale as cash in payment for all revenues, and to cash the bank's notes at sight, without discount, to the extent of any government funds they might have on hand. This practically made every custom house and revenue office in France a branch of Law's Paris bank.

In December, 1718, the State bought the stock of the General Bank and it became a royal bank. The stockholders received in silver 700 per cent more than they paid for the stock some two years before.

At the time that Law was running his bank there existed several French trading companies, to wit:—The East India Company, that traded in slaves in Africa, and the Chinese Trading Company. These companies had extensive trading privileges but their franchises were of doubtful value as they had not paid a dividend for some years.

Louis XIV had a few years before granted to one Antoine Crozat what in a modern real estate advertisement would be described as "an eligible piece of property." France then owned, or claimed to own Louisiana and all the basin of the Mississippi and its tributaries. The boundaries were vague, and it might be Alaska as everything out of doors from Alaska to the Mexican Gulf. The control of all this territory was deeded to Crozat, with the exclusive right of trading in it for sixteen years.

Crozat traded in a small way for a few years and made an exceedingly successful failure of everything he tried to do. The Louisiana Indians killed his men and confiscated his goods. He returned to France disheartened. Law bought his privileges and rights for a small sum and persuaded the crown to extend the charter for twenty-four years from January, 1718.

Law then organized the Western Company (Compagnie des Indes-Occidentales), with a capital of one hundred million. State notes were at a discount of seventy per cent. He agreed to take them at par in payment for stock. Most of the shares were taken up quickly, because they could be paid for in paper that was almost valueless.

Law's Western Company had the advantage of the old Eastern companies that the Louisiana territory was almost unknown. It was easy to imagine great stores of treasures there. Law hired a press agent who possessed a lively imagination. He put him to work in collaboration with an artist who could draw a lifelike picture of the scenes that the press agent imagined. Then he flooded the kingdom with the results of their labors.

LADIES, ATTENTION!

DO YOU KNOW That K. Bezanson, of Moncton, can show you a greater variety of beautiful designs in

GOLD WATCHES, than any other dealer in this province. This is one of his specialties, and if you can possibly arrange to see his stock, you will decide at once

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The valley of the Mississippi was described as a beautiful sunlit garden, where gold and silver and precious stones obtruded themselves all over the landscape; a happy hunting ground, where beaver, otter and bear swarmed around the explorer and begged him to help them off with their valuable furs, and where noble redmen and charming Indian maidens welcomed them with warm hearts and open hands. Accompanying the descriptive matter were pictures of Indians shown in the act of swapping a slab of gold as big as a doorstep for a piece of looking glass and other Indians offering a Frenchman a handful of Koboins for a three-bladed pocket knife. A rock of emerald was described as recently having been quarried near the mouth of the Mississippi, and a lagoon filled with quicksilver was convincingly referred to as evidences of the riches of the country.

Shares went up amazingly. Law had publicly stated that he would make State notes go to par. He kept his word, and

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KENT OYSTER FISHERIES. Report of Experts Kemp.

From Shediac the Messrs. Kemp went to Buctouche, where they found the whole of the oyster-beds, with the exception of the Dixon bed, a mass of disjointed patches, caused by mussel-mud digging. Up the river, beyond the railway bridge the beds were in the same condition. The patches generally showed a very healthy condition, with the exception of those where fishermen had been in the habit of raking oysters through the ice. No grounds could be found having sufficient depth of water to warrant the cultivation of oysters in the river and bay. The bed off Dixon's Point was in a dirty condition, showing by the appearance of the soil that it had been long disused. Seven hauls were brought up, yielding eight very large healthy oysters and a dredge full of old shells. To clear this ground would prove a matter of very little labor, and oyster brood would thrive therein. In the bay and river, above and below the railway bridge, patches of ground were found teeming with live oyster brood, growing very fast and plentiful. A much greater proportion of oyster brood was found than the full-grown oysters; one haul brought 10 oysters and 54 brood another 40 brood and no oysters, and several hauls in like proportion.

Cocagne Harbor was found to be in about the same condition as Buctouche; oyster brood being much more plentiful than the full-grown oyster. No ground was found available for planting during the short visit of the experts.

At Richibucto, the experts report things in the same condition as in the two above-named places, with the addition of a much larger quantity of oyster brood over every patch of ground dredged. This brood was abundant and in the healthiest condition. No mortality whatever was noticed; everything brought up by the dredge proved to be oyster brood. The patches were small, owing to the operations of the mussel-mud diggers, the surroundings being composed of eel grass and soft mud. Were it possible to form ground sufficiently hard to receive the spat, there could, from Bay Cove to Kingston Bridge, be saved a sufficient quantity of oyster brood to supply the whole of England's oyster-beds. On every small patch dredged, the hauls of oyster brood were as follows:—163, 105, 195 and 103. Coming to a more extensive patch, the experts were able to get a larger quantity. One haul brought 811, the greatest portion of which consisted of undersized oysters. The oysters above Kingston Bridge are said to be inferior in quality, but there is reason to believe that if oyster brood were transplanted young on other beds suitable for oysters, they would develop into good marketable oysters. Very few oysters were found in the N. W. river; the grounds appeared to be very old, the mussel-mud diggers having cut the beds all to pieces. The only ground found suitable for planting oysters on was between Indian Island and the mainland. Some portion of this was comparatively clean, but the greater part would require to be cleaned before it could be planted, there being a substantial bottom.

Throughout the whole of their inspection the experts report that they did not find a single marine enemy to the oyster, which is in itself a remarkable fact. The cause of the depletion of beds can, however, be accounted for in many ways; destruction going on at a wholesale rate. On the arrival of the experts at Cocagne, there they found as many as twelve boats with men in them raking for oysters during the close season. Three of these were seized, but the others managed to escape. While steaming up Buctouche Harbor, a number of boats were noticed raking; the men flew in all directions, leaving their rakes in the water.

Another cause of destruction is the fishing for oysters through the ice. While dredging, the experts came upon a piece of ground consisting of a high bank. When the dredge was hauled, it was found that instead of life and growth as before, the whole contents of the dredge consisted of bleached shells, with no signs of life on them. There had been no brood, but it was dead, and this unmistakably showed that something was wrong. Subsequent information elicited the fact that this was the result of raking through the ice. Consequently, all brood exposed at such a time of the year, means inevitable destruction; also, when the ice thaws, down goes the refuse, making a high bank. The mussel-mud digger entirely destroys the oyster-beds wherever he works. The ground simply becomes irreclaimable, consequently, the Canadian oyster-beds are becoming more contracted every year. Oysters are, moreover, taken all the year round, regardless of size or close season.

Harcourt. JAN. 30th.—The month of January just closing has displayed some severe and trying weather, and exceptions to the usual January, inasmuch as it had no January thaw. It is to be hoped that the incoming month will bring with it a milder type of weather.

Considerable quantities of tan-bark are being shipped to the United States market. This is, no doubt, due to the fact that none is being sold to the Extract works, which have not been in operation for some months. Mr. James Miller, the popular and efficient manager of the works, is now in Pennsylvania, and it may be that Mr. Miller will permanently take charge of one of the company's works there. We are not in a position to say who will fill Mr. Miller's place here in the event of such a change, probably Mr. Thurber, who is well qualified for the position. It is to be hoped that the works may soon reopen here, as times are somewhat dull.

Quite a number of persons are ill in this vicinity at present. Miss Wheaton, of Smith's Corner, who has been ill for some time, died on Saturday last.

Harcourt, which is generally up to the times in things both ancient and modern, can now boast of having a parochial school.

Rev. Mr. Irvine, student at Dalhousie, very acceptably filled the pulpit of the Presbyterian church on Sabbath last. Mr. Irvine is a Kent County boy, and his friends here wish him success.

St. Charles. The weather here has been very cold for the past three weeks, but it is a little milder now. The roads are good, and many are taking advantage of them to do their winter hauling.

Several large catches of smelts have been made in this vicinity.

Education is not neglected here, as we have several good schools in the vicinity. The two schools above the church are taught by Miss Marie M. Richard and Miss Nathalie Maillet. The one below the church is taught by Mr. Isaac B. LeBlanc. A large number of pupils attend these schools.

Mr. Julien Daigle our postmaster, left a few days ago for the United States to live with his sons, who have been there several years.

Mr. Meleme Daigle, who is now postmaster, continues to do business here in his store which he has very much improved.—Monteur Acadien.

Piles! Piles! Itching Piles. SYMPTOMS—Moisture; intense itching and stinging; most at night; worse by scratching. If allowed to continue tumors form, which often bleed and ulcerate, becoming very sore. SWAYNE'S OINTMENT stops the itching and bleeding, heals ulceration, and in most cases removes the tumors. At drugists, or by mail, for 50 cents. Dr. Swayne & Son, Philadelphia. Lyman Soas & Co., Montreal, wholesale agents.

Rheumatism Cured in a Day. South American Rheumatic Cure for Rheumatism and Neuralgia radically cures in 1 to 3 days. Its action upon the system is remarkable and mysterious. It removes at once the cause and the disease immediately disappears. The first dose greatly benefits. 75 cents. For sale by W. W. Short, druggist.

Rogersville. JAN. 28th.—Mr. John Maloney is doing an extensive lumber business here. Mr. I. Dunn, his foreman, is now attending court at Newcastle.

Mr. D. J. Buckley is placing a quantity of lumber in the Barnaby stream.

Messrs. Chappell Bros., of Tignish, N. S., are also doing a large lumber business in Rogersville this season. They have rent d two stores from M. O'Brien, and have already about two million feet of spruce and pine logs on the brows.

Mr. F. E. Landry has been laid up for some time with a sore eye. Under the skillful treatment of Dr. Pidgeon he is gradually improving.

Mr. L. McAphee fell off a pile of ties a few days ago and broke three of his ribs. Fever is still prevalent in and around Rogersville. Mr. Frank Lawroy was heard ill with it for some time, but is now better.

Mr. M. O'Brien met with a painful accident while hunting in the woods a few weeks ago. A revolver which he was carrying in his hand was accidentally discharged, the bullet passing through from his forefinger and lodging in the back of his hand. Dr. Pidgeon succeeded in locating the ball, and last week he cut it out. Mr. O'Brien is now able to use his hand.