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Remarkable Old Sea-dog Recalls Days  
of Savage Punishment in  
British Navy

Wyebridge, in Surrey is very proud of John Durrant who went to sea ninety years ago and is still alive and well at the age of 104. When fourteen years old he joined the Campden, a merchant vessel. The destination of the Campden was Quebec, and that city has probably never been in a more pitiable condition than when the English vessel arrived.

"We had a good view of Champlain street, which runs near the docks," said Mr. Durrant, "and we were alarmed to discover that the city was in the grip of yellow fever, or something equally as devastating. Nine out of every ten houses that we could see had nobody living in them, and the doors were painted with a red cross to indicate that they had been visited by the fever."

Three years later Durrant joined Sir John Franklin's expedition which was then preparing to go to the Arctic—the ill-fated party not one of whose members ever returned from the frozen North. At the last moment however, Durrant was drafted into the Navy, joining H.M.S. Winchester.

The captain of the Winchester was a Captain P—, of whom old John entertains anything but pleasant recollections. He was of the old school of naval commanders, who prescribed flogging for the most trifling offences.

### Saw Terrible Floggings

"The Winchester was the flagship of Admiral Harvey, whose son was on board as flag-lieutenant," said Mr. Durrant, "and we were to pick up the Admiral at Halifax and then proceed to Barbadoes. We were a little over a month in making Nova Scotia, and in that time things became so bad—half the crew almost suffering from the 'claws of the cat'—that it was a miracle to me that no mutiny occurred."

"It came near to that one morning, I recollect, when a poor fellow was receiving three dozen lashes at the hands of the bo'sun and his two assistants. While the bo'sun was laying on the first dozen the poor chap screamed out in agony, 'Oh, mates, will you stand by and see this dreadful punishment?'"

"There was a dead silence, and the man moaned, 'Oh, comrades, comrades, cowards you are to let it go on.' The marines were on deck armed, and Captain P—, who was watching the scene, shouted out to the bo'sun, 'Mr. G—, you aren't half doing your duty, sir!'"

"Very quietly, upon that, the bo'sun laid down the 'cat,' and, looking at the captain, he said, clearly, 'I've done with it. I'll punish no more men while I belong to this ship. I know I'm in your hands, sir; you can do what you like with me!'"

### Dared the Captain

"As I have said, we had aboard as flag-lieutenant Admiral Harvey's son, and when we reached Halifax and the Admiral came aboard, his son showed him a log of the punishments which he had kept. Admiral Harvey examined the crew thoroughly, and then he gave the order for as many of us as could get there to go aft. Then he produced this log, and turning to Captain P— he said: 'Now, sir, I have a very good mind to send you back home to England. You are not fit to be in charge of this ship. Look here,' he says, shaking the log, 'there has been too much punishment aboard. Two days after you left Plymouth you punished two marines, and every day since there has been punishment inflicted. Go to your cabin, sir,' he concluded, and calling up the master-at-arms and the ship's corporal he confined Captain P— to his cabin and kept him there for a fortnight under sentry—a prisoner in his own ship."

### Not Long In Navy

Durrant left the Navy an invalid after a few years and returned to the merchant service. Again he came to Canada and started to work as a pilot on the St. Lawrence. A year later he left Canada in a new vessel of 1,300 tons, built at Prince Edward Island. He was second mate.

"We ran into bad conditions," he recalled, "and lost our masts. We were at the mercy of the sea, with big waves breaking on the deck. There had been thirty-one on the ship altogether, but when the dawn broke there was only the captain, a man named George Jury, and myself, who had climbed for the maintop directly we realized the plight of the ship."

"For thirteen days we drifted about, existing upon ice and frozen snow, and when the pangs of hunger were very terrible, I chewed a piece of lead. The last three days we were insensible. It was a ship called the Frances Ridley which came to our rescue."

Milk and the yolk of eggs are the only foods which contain all the elements needed to maintain human life.

## THE CANADIAN BANK OF COMMERCE

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NOTE—Mention name of paper when answering this advertisement.

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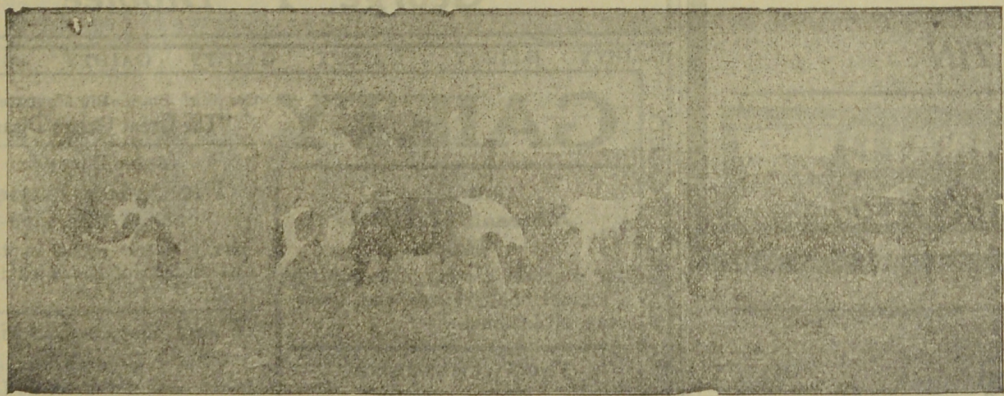
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SCENE ON PONY FARM.

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McKAY & CO, Boots and Shoes. E. G. HOBEN, Grocer and Provision Dealer.  
A. J. RYAN, Druggist and Apothecary. WEST END DAIRY. THE DUTCH ROOM.  
R. CHESTNUT & SONS, Hardware, Mill Supplies, Firearms, etc.  
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As the leaves at the ends of a new tea table fold the center of the table sinks, closing the dishes that are on it into a box so the whole affair may be removed at once.

An electric meter gave 17 years of continuous service in New York with out a complaint against its findings.

### SATURDAY

Automobile road race for the Elgin national trophy, at Elgin, Ill. Opening of fourteen-day race meeting at Great Falls, Mont. Annual bench show of Gwynedd Valley Kennel Club, at Ambler, Pa.

### Cook's Cotton Root Compound.

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