

The Cost of Living Now and 20 Years Ago.

As far as Men's Clothing is concerned the price is much lower now. There is always a pioneer or leader in all reform movements, and it remained for the **Union Clothing Company, 26 and 28 Charlotte Street**, to be the **prime mover** in reducing the price of Men's Clothing, by going direct from maker to wearer without the middleman's profit. Other clothing dealers reduced their prices, and today people are getting Clothing in St. John from most dealers at good value; but by one **giant stride** the **Union Clothing Company** have left all competitors behind, and will give the cloth in Suits **absolutely free**, in this way: It is worth from \$9.00 to \$12.00 to make and trim a suit of Clothing, the customer supplying his own cloth, but we will give the cloth in Men's Suits **absolutely free** and charge only \$4.50 for making and trimming. These Suits are worth from \$12.00 to \$18.00.

THE CONDITIONS ARE.

Only **one hundred Suits** will be delivered each day; only one Suit will be delivered to each person, and that between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m.; if the **one hundred Suits** are delivered before 3 p. m. no more will be delivered that day, but on the following day **one hundred** more will be delivered under the same circumstances.

We will continue to deliver **one hundred Suits** a day as long as our Wholesale Department will permit us to do so. This will be the biggest advertisement ever made by a St. John Clothing House, and the people will get the benefit. Persons obtaining one of these Suits may change it if the size is not as required.

Remember the time and place. **Wednesday Morning, December 18th**, 10 a. m. until 3 p. m., 26 and 28 Charlotte Street.

THE UNION CLOTHING CO'Y.

Our guarantee:—Every one of these Suits have been made within the past two months.

ALEX CORBET, Manager.

The Captain of the Kansas

By LOUIS TRACY.

Entered according to Act of Parliament of Canada, in the year nineteen hundred and seven, by McLeod & Allen, at the Department of Agriculture.

(Continued.)

"Spared! by gad!" he said. "What rot!" That roll of the ship was caused by an experimental twist of the wheel. Courtenay, peering into the darkness through the open window of the chart-house, saw that the weather was clearing. He had evolved a theory, and, for want of a better, he was determined to pursue it to a finish. The Kansas was being swiftly carried along in a strong and deep tidal current. Happily, the wind followed the set of the sea, else there would be no chance of success for his daring plan. His expedient was the desperate one of keeping the vessel in the line of the current, and, if day broke before he reached the coast, he would steer for any opening which presented itself in the fringe of reefs which must assuredly guard the mainland.

With his hands grasping the taut, and, in one sense, irresponsible mechanism of a steering-wheel governed by steam, a sailor can "feel" the movement of his ship, a seafaring vessel being a living thing, obedient as a docile horse to the least touch of the rein. But, in the unlikely event of giving him an opportunity to see

the coming danger, it was essential that the ship should have a certain radius of action apart from the direction and force of the ocean stream. The two sails were helpful, and it was to assure himself of their efficiency that he put the helm to starboard. The Kansas obeyed with an answering roll to port, showing clearly that she was traveling a little faster than the rushing tide would take her unaided. He brought her head back to starboard again, and glanced over his shoulder at the ship's chronometer. It was a quarter to one. Two hours must pass before he would discern the first faint streak of light. Yet, two hours! Could he dare to hope for so long a respite? How could the ship escape the unnumbered fangs which a storm-torn land thrusts far out into the Pacific for its own protection?

He was quite sheltered from the wind and spray in the chart-house, and, all at once, he became aware of a burning thirst. There was water in a decanter close at hand, so he indulged in a long drink. That was wonderfully vivifying. Then his mind turned longingly to tobacco. For the first time in his life he broke the strict rule of the service in which he had been trained—and smoked a cigar while on duty.

A POSITIVE CURE FOR DEAFNESS

A large proportion of all cases of impaired hearing and deafness is due to disease of the middle ear and eustachian tubes, caused either by acute inflammation or chronic catarrh.

Nearly all these cases can be cured, or the progress of the disease arrested, by inflation of the ears through the nose and eustachian tubes with medicated air.

A very safe and efficient means of accomplishing this end can be had by the use of Catarrhazone, a positive cure for catarrh in the most chronic form.

It is sure death to the microbe life which maintains the inflamed condition, and also through its healing properties restores the diseased organs to a healthy, normal condition.

It is not mere theory. The result of actual experience proves that ninety-nine cases in one hundred can be cured, and stay cured of impaired hearing by the use of Catarrhazone.

Catarrhazone is a new scientific remedy for all diseases of the nasal and respiratory passages caused by microbe life, and if you are affected with catarrh, asthma, or bronchitis, it is well deserving of your attention.

It never fails to cure any of these affections, because it is sure to reach the seat of the disease. That is why Catarrhazone is so far in advance of treatment by snuffs, washes, douches, etc., which are absolutely useless, because they cannot reach the root of the trouble.

You simply breathe the medicated air, it does the rest—nothing could be simpler. Complete outfit, sufficient for two months' treatment, price \$1.00 at all dealers or by mail from N. C. Polson & Co., Kingston, Ont., and Hartford, Conn., U. S. A.

Daily Fashion Hint for Times Readers.



AUTO COAT FOR DRESSY WEAR.

One of the handsomest of the winter's dressy fur auto coats is this garment of finest quality broadtail trimmed with lynx. Though loose-fitting in the back and front, the cut is such that it suggests the graceful lines of the figure beneath. The underarm seams are left open half way from the lower edge to the arm-size and caught together with loops and buttons of silk cord. The voluminous sleeves, full length and kimono-like in shape are finished with a wide band of lynx. The coat fronts, fas-

tening in double-breasted fashion with heavy corded loops and large buttons, are faced with the lynx, and the high Medici collar is also of the same long glossy fur. Black and white brocade silk with a touch of pink, is used in lining. This coat is worn over a gown of taupe colored chiffon velvet trimmed with silver fillet embroidered in white and lighter shades of the dress coloring. The hat is of plaited black malinette with a deep facing of black satin and trimmings of black ostrich feathers and aigrettes.

AN EATING ULCER.

Ulcers are a skin disease, and are more or less directly occasioned by a bad state of the blood, which produces acrid humors and corrupts the secretions.

No one can expect to have a skin free from disease when the blood is in a disordered condition and the stomach and bowels acting feebly in consequence.

Through its wonderful cleansing, purifying powers on the blood, and its renovating action on the entire system, Burdock Blood Bitters has made thousands of cures of different skin diseases during the past thirty years it has been on the market.

Mrs. Joseph Robinson, Hallerton, Que., writes: "I had an eating ulcer on my ankle. I took two bottles of Burdock Blood Bitters and it worked like a charm, cleaning out all the impurities from my system and improving my appetite. While taking the B.B.B. internally I used it externally to cleanse the sore, and it helped a lot."

Now and again he spoke cheerily to the dog. It would be his.

"Well, Joey, here we are; still got a bark in us!" Or, "You and I must have our names on the Admiralty chart, Joey."—Channel surveyed by Captain Courtenay and pup; details uncertain. How does that sound, old chap? And again, "I suppose your friend, Miss Maxwell, is asleep by this time. If she calls you 'Joey,' do you call her 'Elsie'?" I rather fancy Elsie is a name. What do you think?

To all of which the dog, who had found a dry corner, would respond with a snarl and a tail wag. What? Joey couldn't smile! Make a friend of a fox-terrier and learn what a genuine, whole-hearted, delighted-to-see-you grin he will favor you with; he can smile as unmistakably as he can yawn.

If deeper emotions peeped up in Courtenay's soul, he crushed them ruthlessly. Men of the sea do not cultivate heroics. They leave sentiment to those imaginative people who evolve every vision of a storm in the smug comfort of suburban villas. When the Kansas lay on the shoal Courtenay was certain that the ship was lost, and he would never have dispatched some of his passengers and crew in the only boat available. He acted to the best of his judgment; he was acting similarly now in abandoning the last resource of a raft in order to keep the vessel on her present course. But, then or now, he paid no heed whatever to the obvious fact that he and the second engineer, and at least one of the male passengers, must be the last to quit the ship. That was the code of all true sailor-men—the women first, then the male passengers and crew followed by the officers, beginning at the junior in rank. There could be room for no hesitancy or dispute—it was just a sailor-like way of doing one's duty, in the simple faith that the recording angel would enter up the log.

The long wait in the darkness would have broken many a man's nerve, but Courtenay was not cast in a mold to be either bent or broken by fear. When his cigar was not in his mouth he whistled, he hummed snatches of songs, and delivered short lectures to Joey on the absurdity of things in general, and the special ridiculousness of such a mighty combination of circumstances centering on one poor ship as had gathered to crush the Kansas. Ever since he was aroused from sleep by the stopping of the screw, his mind had dwelt on the unprecedented nature of the break-down, and the special ridiculousness of such a mighty combination of circumstances centering on one poor ship as had gathered to crush the Kansas.

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Joey! he said suddenly, his thoughts reverting to a chance remark made to him in Valparaiso by Isobel's father. "What did Mr. Baring mean by saying there was a difficulty about the insurance?"

Joey gave it up, but he cocked his ears and looked towards the door. Christobal entered.

"Boyle will recover," he said when he had wiped the sweat off his face. "He had

a narrow escape; the knife just grazed the spinal cord. The shock to the dorsal nerves induced temporary paralysis, and that rather misled me. He is much better now. Under ordinary conditions he would be able to get about in a few days. As it is, he will probably live as long as any of us."

Christobal waved a hand towards the external void. He was not sailor enough to realize the change in the weather.

"That is good news," said Courtenay. "I thought you would like to know. How are things up here?"

"Better. The barometer has risen an inch in less than two hours. Possibly, nearness to the land has some effect, but wind and sea are subsiding."

"You surprise me; yet that is nothing. I have had several surprises tonight. What is the position? Of course, we must hit the South American continent sooner or later; can you give an approximate time?"

"We are making about six knots, I fancy. If we are lucky, and avoid any stray rocks, we should see daylight before we reach the coast. That is our sole hope. The ship is in a powerful tidal current, and it is high-water at 5.30 A. M. At a rough estimate, Hanover Island is twenty knots distant. Now you know all. The outcome is mere guesswork."

"I was cross-examining Joey on that point when you came in. He reserved his opinion. My own view is that, by accident or design, some explosive substance found its way into the coal."

"Shem, Ham and Japheth! Explosive substance! Do you mean dynamite, or gunpowder, or that sort of thing?"

"Something of the kind. That is only a supposition, but when I whispered it to Walker he agreed."

"Walker! Is he the man who speaks so queerly?"

"If ever you go to Newcastle, don't put it that way. I told him to take Miss Maxwell to her cabin. Did he do so?"

"Yes. I have not seen her since, so I assume that the bromide plus the wine, was effective. Well, I must return to my patients. Can I get you anything? I am store-keeper, you know."

"No thanks."

"Nothing to eat or drink?"

"Nothing. I shall be ready for a square meal when I am able to come below—not before."

Christobal smiled. Though he was a brave man, he thought such persistent optimism was out of place. Nevertheless, he could emulate Courtenay's coolness.

"Let me know when you are ready. I am an excellent cook," he said.

Then the captain of the Kansas resumed his smoking and humming, with occasional glances at the clock, and the compass, and the barometer. At two o'clock he felt the ship slipping from under the wheel. The compass showed that she was heading a couple of points eastward. He helped her, and telephoned instantly to Walker:

"Go forward and try if you can make out anything. Report to me here."

"Ay, ay, sir," came the reply, and anon Walker appeared.

"It's a main thing ahead, sir, but I think we've passin' an island to port," said he.

"I thought so. You had better remain here, Walker. We have not long to wait now for the dawn, and four eyes are better than two."

Walker imagined that the skipper was ready for a chat, and he stepped rapidly with a certain elation. They were undoubtedly passing White Horse Island. It revealed its presence by deflecting the tremendous sea-river which ferried the Kansas onward at such a rate. In fifteen or twenty minutes Courtenay expected to find indications of a more northerly set of the tide, and he watched the compass intently for the first sign of his return to the former course. If the ship crossed the current one way or the other she would certainly be driven ashore on some outlying spur of the island or detached sunken reef. Hence, he must actually guess his way, with something of the acquired sense of the blind, because the slight chance of ultimate escape for the ship and her occupants rested wholly on the assumption that some ocean highway was leading her to a deep-water inlet, where it might be possible to drop the anchor.

In eighteen minutes, or thereabouts, the needle moved slightly. Courtenay once more assisted the ship with the helm. She steadied herself, and the compass pointed due northeast again.

(To be continued.)

THE ASSESSMENT ACT

General Committee of Council Considered It Last Night.

The general committee of the common council last evening resumed consideration of the new assessment act. Sections 4 to 10 were adopted, the only important change being a decision to revert to the original proposal of the commissioners that banks should be taxed one-sixth of one per cent on the average amount of their loans and deposits. The board of trade had amended the section to one-twelfth of one per cent, the same as is charged under the present act.

With one or two exceptions it cannot be said that the committee showed any greater grasp of the details of the act than a year ago. As one alderman remarked after a futile attempt to master the meaning of a section there was a tendency to "let her go." The mayor occupied the chair, and Ald. Bullock, Baxter, Baskin, Pickett, Hamm, Christie, Willet, Holder, Sprague, Lantalam, Keller, Sproul, McGowan, Yawwari and Frink were present, with A. W. Sharp, chairman of the assessors, and the common clerk, W. Frank Hatheway occupied a seat in the committee room, and there were some half a dozen citizens who listened to the discussion.

A communication from the Y. M. A. of Portland Methodist church, asking for the act to be sent up to Fredericton, was laid on the table.

The mayor, seeing several people sitting in the ante-room, asked if there was any delegation present.

Arthur B. MacIntosh, who was among the spectators, said he was there as a private citizen, and wanted the bill carried forward to Fredericton as amended.

The sections four to ten were considered separately and discussed at length, being finally adopted.

There was quite an interesting discussion on the subject of charitable institutions which, under the act, are exempted on real estate used for the purpose of an institution. The Masonic fraternity, St. Andrew's Society and the Orange Order were all referred to. Just before the committee rose, Ald. Lantalam endeavored to persuade the members that the R. K. Y. C. was a charitable institution and should be entirely exempt from taxation.

The committee then adjourned.

Montreal, Dec. 16—(Special)—A C. A. P. cable says Lord Strathcona cancelled his booking for the Mauretania, but today was present at Euston station when Mr. Sifton left for Liverpool. Lord Strathcona arrived only a few minutes prior to his departure on the train, and occupied three minutes in conversation with Mr. Sifton.

Mink Marmot Muff and Stole



This set of furs is made of the finest quality Mink Marmot—which resembles Mink very closely—and is lined with rich dark brown satin.

Set shown in illustration—while they last—.....\$13.50
Same set, with high Storm Collar, \$16.00
Buy your furs from the actual maker in Montreal, and save money.

A. J. ALEXANDOR,
Manufacturer of Fine Furs,
504-506 St. Paul Street,
MONTREAL.

Open Evenings Until Christmas.

SPECIAL SALE OF GIRLS' COATS.

Ages 8 to 16 Years.

Why Not One for That Christmas Gift?

We are determined not to carry over one coat, and for this reason we have reduced the prices on the balance of stock now on hand. These coats were all imported from New York direct by ourselves. All are faultlessly tailored by New York men tailors. They are made in the jaunty Box Style, two vents in back, all wool linings, silk velvet collars, silk embroidered emblems on sleeve.

Materials are: Navy Blue and Oxford Gray Frieze; Medium and Light Gray Tweeds and Navy Chinchilla.

We have had many flattering comments on our stock of Girls' Coats this season, but the season is pretty well advanced, so we must clear out the balance of stock on hand, which places before you an opportunity to get one of the nicest Girls' Coats in town at a mere fraction of its real value.

Why not buy one for that CHRISTMAS GIFT—making a saving which can be used in buying one of the many other gifts you have in mind.

\$ 7.50 Coats for \$4.95	\$ 8.00 Coats for \$5.40
10.00 Coats for 6.90	11.00 Coats for 7.40
12.00 Coats for 7.90	14.00 Coats for 9.20

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They are an excellent confection.

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Full Page Illustrations

Large type; size of page 9 1-4x6 inches; full Morocco Flexible Cover, with Red under Gold edges.

This Bible would make a very desirable Christmas Gift.

Names can be embossed on cover in gold leaf at a small additional cost.

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IT MAY DEVELOP

into a serious bronchial affection; often fastening itself upon the delicate organisms of the lungs and precipitating tubercular trouble. You can quickly procure a safe, effectual and absolutely harmless remedy in

DR. WHITE'S HONEY BALM.

GUARANTEED ABSOLUTELY PURE.

Soothing, healing, warming, containing no morphine or alcohol. No chloroform to paralyze the throat, but safe ingredients that loosen the phlegm and stop irritations.

25 CENTS AT ALL DRUG STORES.

Made by Dr. Scott's White Liniment Co.
St. John, N. B.

READ TIMES WANT ADS.

DEC. 17, '07.