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MAGI WATER

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ST. JOHN'S DAY WAS OBSERVED

Masonic Lodges Instal Officers and Enjoy Banquets.

Yesterday, being St. John's day, officers were installed in various Masonic lodges in the province. In Albion Lodge, No. 1, F. & A. M., Dr. Thomas Walker, past grand master, was the installing officer, and was assisted by David Dearness, past master, as senior warden, and Herman Sullivan, past master, as director of ceremonies.

The following officers were installed: F. F. Burpee, W. M.; J. H. Crockett, S. W.; Dr. L. A. Langstroth, J. W.; Dr. Thomas Walker (P. M.), Chap.; T. Godsoe (P. M.), Treas.; Dr. F. A. Godsoe (P. M.), Secretary; Dr. W. S. Morrison, S. D.; N. L. Brennan, J. D.; E. J. Hieatt, S. C.; E. H. Cairns, J. S.; W. J. Ingram, D. S.; G. W. B. Wallace (P. M.), organist; J. A. L. MacMurray, I. G.; Robert Clarke (P. M.), Tyler.

Hiram Lodge, F. & A. M., Fredericton, has installed the following officers: J. S. Allen, W. M.; Alex. Boyd, S. W.; W. A. Perkins, J. W.; M. Tennant, treasurer; Dr. H. C. Creed, secretary; F. T. Thomas, S. S.; J. S. Neil, J. S.; Neil, S. D.; W. A. Vanwart, J. D.; Prof. Cadwallader, organist; Dr. McMurray, I. G.; W. Lockhart, Tyler.

The installation of officers of Carleton Union Lodge, No. 8, F. & A. M., took place in the Masonic hall, Carleton, last evening as follows: Dr. P. L. Kenny, W. M.; John Emerson, S. W.; Erich Thompson, J. W.; Rev. G. F. Scovill, Chaplain; Uriah Drake (P. M.), Treas.; J. F. Brittain, Sec.; Norman P. McLeod, S. D.; G. M. Balfie, J. D.; Chas. Lawson, S. S.; D. Campbell, J. S.; W. H. Laughlin (P. M.), Chap.; T. G. Allan, I. G.; S. L. Grimmer (P. M.), D. C. H. Smythe, S. D.; Dr. Jas. D. Lawson, J. D.; Fred Budd, S. S.; M. Robinson, J. S.; J. B. Polley, I. G.; Percy Anderson, organist; Chas. Sparhawk, Tyler.

The installing officer was Grand Master J. D. Chapman, who was assisted by several grand lodge officers. The M. M. degree was worked on one candidate. After the lodge was closed the newly installed officers invited the brethren to the banquet room, where refreshments were served and an interesting toast list carried out.

The members of St. Stephen Ecampment met in their hall at 12 o'clock on Christmas day. The members of Sussex Lodge, accompanied by visiting brethren from other lodges, attended divine service at the Methodist church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, where an eloquent address was delivered by the pastor, Rev. G. M. Young, worshipful master of Sussex Lodge.

The officers of Alley Lodge, F. & A. M., Upper Mills, for this year are: W. M., Arthur Towers; secretary, Edgar Woodley; secretary, Edward Chase; chaplain, James Phinney; D. C., J. C. Davis; J. W., D. Smith; J. D., Wm. Polley; S. S., Will Babcock; J. S., John Hall; I. G., Wm. Waters; Tyler, D. E. Simpson. The officers were installed by Past Master Edward Chase on Monday evening, 28th inst.

Several inches of snow. London, Dec. 27.—The first snowfall of the season covered England and Wales to the depth of several inches. There have been blinding storms along the coast and several small ship casualties.

The king, who apparently has completely recovered his health, was out shooting on Saturday. He discarded all extra wraps today, going to church, although it was extremely cold.

A state tuberculosis dispensary has been opened in Bangor, Me.

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THOUSANDS PERISH BY EARTHQUAKE AND TIDAL WAVE IN SOUTHERN ITALY

Three Provinces of Sicily Are Laid in Ruins With Appalling Loss of Life and Property

Two-Thirds of the City of Messina Destroyed and Several Thousand People Are Killed—500 Vessels Sunk by Terrific Convulsion of the Sea—Rushing Waters Carried Everything Before Them.

Rome, Dec. 28.—The three provinces of Calabria, Catanzaro and Reggio di Calabria, comprising the department of Calabria, which forms the southwestern extremity of Italy, or "the toe of the boot," were devastated today by an earthquake, the far-reaching effects of which were felt almost throughout the entire country. The town of Messina in Sicily was partially destroyed and Catania was inundated. In Messina hundreds of houses have fallen and many persons have been killed. Owing, however, to the fact that telegraphic and telephonic communications were almost completely destroyed, it is impossible to obtain even an approximate idea of the vast damage done.

The fate of the entire regions within the zone of the earthquake is unknown, but reports received here up to a late hour tonight indicate that the havoc has been great and the destruction of life and property more terrible than Italy has experienced in many years. The uncertainty of the situation for many thousands has filled all Italians with the deepest distress, for they still have fear that the day may come when that part of the country which seems to have been most blessed by nature will be destroyed by the blind forces of that same nature which nearly 1,900 centuries ago overwhelmed Pompeii and Herculaneum. All reports show that the present catastrophe embraces a larger area than the earthquake in 1905.

The tidal wave which followed the earth shocks on the eastern coast of Sicily sank vessels and inundated the lower part of Catania. It is known that a number of people were killed at that place, but the rushing waters carried everything before them and caused such an intense confusion that it would be impossible for some time to estimate the damage and the lives lost.

For a period the town of Messina and the whole province of Reggio were completely isolated, owing to interruptions to the telegraph and telephone, and land-slides which obstructed the railways. Absolutely nothing was heard from Reggio throughout the day, while the first news from Messina came in a despatch which a torpedo boat, dashing at full speed along the coast of the peninsula, carried from point to point, always finding the wires down, until it reached Catania. The telegraph lines were found to be intact. From that place the despatch was sent. It briefly stated that the situation was desperate and after summarizing the immensity of the catastrophe, ended with the announcement that Captain Passino, commander of the torpedo boat, had been buried under the debris, after having, with other officials, performed heroic work in trying to save others.

The Italian government proceeded energetically to relieve the far-spread distress, concentrating at the points of greatest need troops and engineers. Members of the Red Cross were dispatched to various places and camps and provisions were immediately prepared, all available railway lines and warships being used for their transport.

The city of Messina has suffered probably more than any other place. The latest information, indirectly from the region saying that two-thirds of the town was destroyed and several thousand persons were killed. The steamers Washington and Montebello, which were in

that harbor, afterwards proceeded to Catania, loaded with injured, who were so stupefied by terror that they seemed unable to realize what had happened, simply saying that it looked as though the end of the world had come. Five steamers left Catania for Messina to assist in moving the injured from that place, who are reported to number thousands.

At Catania, the panic-stricken people, fearing new shocks, absolutely refused to re-enter their homes and are camping in the squares which are free from water, and the surrounding country. The tidal wave swept over the city with a thick layer of mud, which rendered more difficult the securing of the wounded, many of whom could be seen lying under the wreckage. It is reported that the villages of Faro and Ganzarri, adjoining Messina, have disappeared. The effects of the earthquake were aggravated by fire from an explosion of gas, the flames which swept along several of the streets, adding terror upon terror.

In Calabria, the region around Monteleone, was most affected. The village of Stefanoni, the inhabitants of which number 2,300 was practically destroyed. Only five persons were killed, but many were injured. Mgr. Morabito, the Bishop of Mileto, who distinguished himself in the earthquake of 1905, did valiant work again today. He rushed into places where the ruins were the greatest and brought aid and encouragement to all.

Thousands of people abandoned their homes, although a terrific rainstorm prevailed and filled the air with lamentations and prayers. In some places, such as Prizzo, Cotrone, Santa Severina and Piscope, the people had the courage to enter the churches, almost while they were falling and carry out the saints. They have been in procession through the country, invoking the mercy of God. In the mountainous regions inland, the population has taken refuge in grottos and caves where peasants and priests, soldiers and persons of gentler birth are living in common. Their bed is the ground and their food is what they can find. In all about 2,000 people are homeless.

Extraordinary scenes are reported at Catania. Following a violent earth shock at 5:20 a. m., the sea rose in a tremendous wave, which wrecked many snacks. A secondary tidal wave caused further great damage. The inhabitants fled panic-stricken from their homes into the streets and squares. Processions were organized and soon all the churches were filled with weeping crowds imploring divine mercy.

Cardinal Nava, Archbishop of Catania, exhorted the people to be calm. He promised that the body of St. Agatha should be carried around in procession. St. Agatha is regarded as the special deliverer from all scourges, and, according to his story, the pious inhabitants of Catania directed the course of the lava stream in 1699 when a terrific eruption of Mount Aetna took place, by extending the veil of St. Agatha towards it, thus saving the city, for the lava turned aside near the Benedictine monastery and descended into the sea. While the number of deaths at the latest information is not large, there were several tragic occurrences. Among the children swept away by the tidal wave was a boy fifteen months old, who was torn from the arms of his

mother. The mother, too, was overcome by the force of the water and lost consciousness, but her body was caught by a railing and remained there until she was rescued.

Midnight reports say that Reggio, the capital of the province of Reggio di Calabria, eight miles from Messina, on the opposite side of the strait, has met the same fate as Messina, but these reports have not been confirmed, owing to the lack of telegraphic facilities.

A very severe shock was felt at Caltanissetta, a city of Sicily, and, although much damage was done, no one was killed. The shock created great alarm and notwithstanding the downpour of rain, the whole population remained in the streets throughout the day and marched in religious procession.

The Pope was greatly distressed at hearing of the scourge that had afflicted the loyal population in the south. He could hardly credit the truth of the despatches, describing the devastation and fatalities as ten times greater than in 1905. After kneeling fervently in prayer, his holiness arose and said, as he said three years ago, that he felt his place was amidst his suffering children. It was his firm intention to order that instructions be given for beginning the journey, but his physicians and those attending him insisted that it would be impossible for him to undertake such a fatiguing expedition in the present condition of his health.

At midnight a regiment of soldiers left here for Calabria.

Messina, next to Palermo, the chief commercial town of Sicily, with upwards of 90,000 inhabitants, is situated on the Strait of Messina and is overshadowed by a range of rugged rocky peaks. It has experienced many vicissitudes. During the eighteenth century Messina was overtaken by two overwhelming calamities—a fearful plague, in 1740, from which 40,000 persons died, and an earthquake in 1783, which destroyed almost the entire town.

Rome, Dec. 28.—A flying squadron composed of the battleships Vittorio Emanuele, Regina, Elena and the Napoli, has been ordered to proceed to Messina. The squadron will arrive there on Tuesday morning, together with steamers of the Italian Navigation Company, carrying supplies and troops. The troops will be sent to various points to keep down lawlessness. Signor Bertolini, the minister of public works, left here tonight for the South, where he will represent the government.

Another regiment of infantry and several companies of engineers also left tonight for the South. Altogether 3,000 troops have been sent Southward from this city in the past eighteen hours from other military posts, about 15,000 men are now on their way to Calabria and Sicily.

Catania, Dec. 28.—Hundreds of workmen were set to the task of removing wreckage and repairing the railway between here and Messina. The distance is nearly sixty miles, but late tonight communication by rail between the two towns was re-established. The first small train over the line brought a number of injured, but the story that they told of the disaster was very confused. Their reports seem to make the damage done less extensive than at first appeared. Several quarters of the town were destroyed and the magnificent cathedral of the Norman period was damaged; the dome having fallen, but some of the public buildings are still standing, the Palace of the Prefect being untouched.

ONTARIO REPORTS MANY LUNATICS

Government Sends Eighteen Out and Saves \$75,000 for Their Maintenance.

Toronto, Dec. 28.—The Ontario government claims to have made a saving of nearly \$75,000 by deporting eighteen insane patients who have been confined in asylums of the province. This party went across the ocean the other day in charge of a doctor appointed by the government, and is the first general deportation undertaken by the province of patients who do not come within the purview of the immigration act; that is, they had been in the country too long a time to be taken back free by steamships which brought them over.

The cost of deportation, however, was only \$1,500, and the patients would have cost \$4,000 apiece to keep in asylums for the rest of their existence, this figure being based on "expectancy of life" tables.

Deafness Cannot be Cured

by local application, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian Tube. When the tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and if the inflammation is not taken out and this tube restored to its natural condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are cured by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circular, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by Druggists, 75c. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

AGAIN THE GREAT ONE. (Argonaut.) They passed, in the course of an hour, two dead cows and more than fifty dead chickens. A strong smell of gasoline pervaded the atmosphere, and there were wheel tracks in the dust. Sherlock Holmes became greatly interested. "Watson," exclaimed he, "of deeper thought, 'there has been an automobile along here!'"

Britain does not recognize the transfer of the Congo to Belgium.

BIG TIMBER DEAL PUT THROUGH IN N. S.

English Syndicate Secures the Property of the Alfred Dickie Lumber Company for \$1,567,500.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 28.—One of the biggest lumber deals in the history of the Maritime Provinces has been put through in England. Under it the properties of the Alfred Dickie Lumber Company in Nova Scotia pass to an English syndicate headed by Sir Thomas Trowbridge, the chief promoter of the Blackfoot steamship enterprise from Ireland to Canada.

The price to be paid for the Dickie properties, which include 405,000 acres of timber lands and eight mills, is \$1,567,500. The deal was put through by the Royal Bank of Canada, which practically has been managing the property for a year or more and which has a claim upon it that amounts to \$1,000,000, including interest.

For several months the negotiations have been conducted by Duncan Cameron, inspector of the Royal Bank, who returned from England by the Tunisian. A part of the deal is that the purchasers are to build a line of railway from Halifax eastward to Guysborough and the Strait of Canso. This railway will tap all the properties except that at Tusket in the western part of the province and will be subsidized by the government.

The Tusket property consists of 60,000 acres and is disposed of at a rate of \$8 an acre. The 345,000 acres in the east are being sold at \$3.50 per acre. Alfred Dickie has large timber areas in Labrador and Newfoundland. These are not included in the deal. The manager of the new company will be T. N. McGrath, who is now in charge of the mills at Tusket.

The deal is a good thing for the Royal Bank and will also mean active lumber operations.

MAKES RECORD TRIP

New Schooner Exilda Came to St. John From New York in 53 Hours.

The new schooner Exilda, in command of Captain Tower, has performed a remarkable feat for a sailing schooner by making the passage to this port from New York in the fast time of 53 hours.

The schooner left New York on last Saturday morning at 9 o'clock, arriving here at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The wind was strong from the west and northwest. This is the record so far as known.

The schooner will load laths for a return trip to New York. The West India steamship Dahome left Bermuda for this port last Saturday at 4 o'clock, and will be due here today.

A DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT BRACEBRIDGE, ONT.

Bracebridge, Ont., Dec. 28.—(Special)—A terribly destructive fire broke out here last night, wiping out the two principal business blocks of the town, and causing loss of more than \$100,000. The flames started in rooms occupied by L. E. Godson as law offices in the G. W. Sibbett block, and spread with great rapidity to the adjoining block, owned by John McCosh, both being a total loss. Both buildings were solid brick. The losses are:

Thomas & Co., jewelry, book and stationery, and publishers of the Gazette newspaper; loss \$20,000, insurance \$7,000. John C. Carruthers, dry goods; loss \$2,400, insurance \$1,500. G. R. Simmons, sporting goods; loss \$6,000, insurance \$2,000. Max Adler, general store; loss \$15,000, insurance \$8,000. James Whitten, hardware; loss \$20,000, insurance \$10,000. Thomas E. Godson, law office; loss unknown. G. W. Sibbett, on block, loss \$14,000, insurance \$8,000. John McCosh, block, \$16,000, covered by insurance.

Grand Clearing Sale OF LADIES' FURS. All marked in plain figures less 25 per cent. Mink Marmott Furs from \$5.50 to \$18. Martin Furs " 5.50 to 19. Mink Furs " 18.00 to 50. WILCOX BROS., Dock Street and Market Square.

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The LAST CALL TO GET Pianos Piano Players Organs Phonographs Gramophones and Musical Instruments. generally, at sweeping reductions to the end of the year before stock taking. Act quickly; it will pay you, as the stock must be reduced. The W. H. Johnson Co., Limited. 7 Market Square, St. John, N. B. Also, Halifax, N. S. Sydney, C. B. New Glasgow, N. S.

Holly, Mistletoe, Evergreen. Cucumbers, Cauliflower, Artichokes, Sweet Potatoes, Squash, Cape Cod, Cranberries, Crisp Celery, Fresh Lettuce, Redish, Parsley, from Greenhouses every day. TURKEYS, CHICKENS, GEESE. J. E. QUINN, CITY MARKET Telephone 636.

WHERE TO BUY? Xmas Confectionery At Reasonable Prices. Robnison's 173 Union St. Phone 125-11. Arnold's Department Store Tel. 1765. 85-85 Charlotte Street. BRANCH STORE, 687 MAIN STREET. HUGH H. McLEAN, K. C. M. P. NORMAN L. McGLONAN.

GREAT SALE of Men's & Ladies' Underwear Men's & Boys' Sweaters, etc. These goods are of the finest quality and are of the latest styles and designs satisfaction guaranteed. HATTY, LAHOOD & HATTY 282 Brussels Street.

Impossible to be Well. It is impossible to be well, simply impossible, if the bowels are constipated. Waste products, poisonous substances, must be removed from the body at least once each day, or there will be trouble. Ask your doctor about Ayer's Pills, gently laxative, all vegetable. He knows why they act directly on the liver.