

Nicholson, (Capt.) C-H

~~Nicholson~~ x x x x Belleville - Arg.
BELLEVILLE HAS CONTRIBUTED many notables to the hall of fame in this and other countries—kinda looks as if we maintained an export business in brains. Among recent Belleville Old Boys to gain Front Page celebrity is Capt. C. H. Nicholson, who has many friends here and recently visited Belleville. Capt. Nicholson was featured in Toronto Globe's "Toronto Personalities" this week, with drawings by Jack Moranz, and the artist has captured his good looks and winning smile, besides reproducing his fresh, youthful appearance, gained from a long life of good living, exercise and open air. With a boyhood ambition to be a steamer captain, he early realized that ambition, and after being mate on the famous old steamer Hero, became the captain of that vessel, which plied between Bay ports in the heyday of Sunday School picnics and water trips to Alexandria Bay and other places. The steamer Hero was indeed a very popular craft in those days and many residents of Belleville have happy memories of good times on the bounding deep of the Bay of Quinte and St. Lawrence with Capt. Nicholson at the wheel. Capt. Bloomfield, who succeeded Capt. Nicholson on the Hero, will also be remembered with pleasure. Leaving the Hero Capt. Howard Nicholson became Master of the Norseman, and from there he transferred to the famous and popular North King, which took the Norseman's place, and sailed between Port Hope and Charlotte (Rochester), N.Y., touching at the town of Cobourg on week days. Weekend trips from Rochester, through the Bay of Quinte to the Thousand Islands were very popular, and old-timers will remember the bar on the boat and what the bar stirred up in fun and trouble—fights used to break out as the result, no doubt, of crossing the bar too much, but the well-trained crew speedily placed the disputants below decks where a special cooler was provided to take the fire out of booze-inspired warriors. Whenever the Norseman or North King was in port, day or night, discharging passengers and freight, the bar of the old Ferry House, opposite the dock, would open unofficially and do a roaring business. Captain Nicholson commanded the Hero between forty and forty-five years, according to the recollection of one of his friends here.

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