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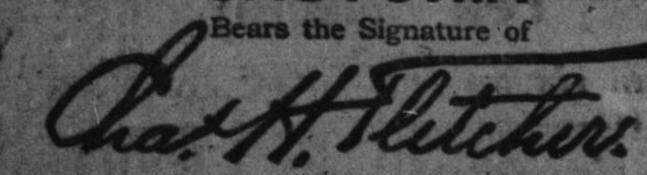
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VISIT TO CANADA'S GRAVEYARD OF THE ATLANTIC.

On the Approach of the Steamer the Place Presents a Picture of Desolation But When One Lands the Islanders Are Seen to Be Happy and Busy-Many Wild Horses Roam About-Total Population Is 30.

I cannot imagine a more desolate picture than that presented by Sable Island from the deck of the steamer. says a writer in The Montreal Standard discussing the "graveyard of the Atlantic." Sand hills, averaging in height about forty feet above the sea level, covered with a heavy coarse brown grass for miles on either sid: of the main station. Only a few houses were visible—the Marconi and one or two lifeboot stations and the two light. two lifeboat stations and the two lighthouses that tower up at the extremi-ties of the island. For the rest one sees nothing more than sand and ever surging waters, that break and toss against the island shore.

But upon landing my first impres-sion of Sable Island were quite dispelled, and in their place came the conviction that "The Graveyard of the Atlantic," was far from being the forsaken spot which it has so often been represented. In fact, I, like those who live there, found it decidedly fascinating, for there is a something. that cannot be explained which charms and delights every visitor to the Island. The climate is perfect. thermometer registering many degrees higher than it does in Nova Scotia. Flowers of all kinds were growing in the garden that surrounds the superintendent's house, flowers that were as yet untouched by even the lightest frost.

The superintendent's home, a large and modern structure, stands at the west end of a little hollow about the sides of which are to be found the houses of those who live at the main station—the lifeboat crew, the light keeper and the stablemen.

The island is about twenty-eight miles long and one mile wide. The inhabitants number about thirty. Most of these are single men, though some of them are married and have their wives with them. In case of necessity, all the men upon the island are prepared to man the lifeboats and put out to the reseue.

The life-saving men receive the princely renumeration of \$200 a year. in addition to board and lodging, and uniforms. I believe that in the case of a married man the amount is increased to \$225.

There are four life-saving stations on the island, all of which are connected by telephone with the main station. Should a ship strand on the shoals that run out into the Atlantic for miles at either end of the island, the main station is communicated with, and the large lifeboats (there are also surf boats at each station) with the crew and the rocket guns are rushed to the scene of the disaster.

drawn by the sturdy Sable ponies that are always in readiness.

Not a tree is to be found throughout the length and breadth of the island. Some years ago no less than eighty-four thousand trees were plant-ed there. To-day not one remains. The fierce winds that sweep over the island have blown, them all out of the sand and carried them far out into

the broad Atlantic.

The wild horses, of which there are about three hundred, roam from one end of Sable Island to the other, and subsist upon the grass that grows in the sandy soil, if soil it can be called. When horses are wanted on the mainland, about thirty are rounded up, taken to the beach and either carried off in boats, or forced into the water and towed to the ship by the launch. Once alongside the steamer a belt is slipped under them and they are hoisted aboard, or, as more often happens, a noose is caught round their feet, attached to a boom, the donkey engine started and they are swung aboard in this manner and placed in

Cranberries are the chief agricultural product of the island, and barrels of them are annually-shipped to the mainland. Potatoes, also, are raised with considerable success.

The island is governed by Superintendent Boutilier, who for nearly 30, years has administered justice and directed the affairs of this interesting

yet dangerous strip of land.
Of course, Sable Island, like all well
conducted islands, has its folk lore: that has been handed down from father to son and from one boatman to.

Many have heard of the old man in the lifeboat, the man who mysteriously makes his appearance in the bow seat when the life-saving crew are putting out to the rescue. Some say he is always with them on these oooasions. Others say the story is a myth. Some say they have seen him. Others, men who have rowed with the boat for years, disavow the state-ment. However, whether it be true or false, the story is an interesting one, as are many of the "yarns" that

Maurice Newan, "the father; of Sable Island" is a mine of information. For ove rsixty years he has lived there, and vivid are the stories he can tell regarding the angry nights, and the frightful wrecks that followed with death in the wake. He can tell y how in the days before steamers pli to and fro across the Atlantic, the on the shoals, and the crews made heroic rescues in boats that in these days of modern life-saving appliances, would be considered unsafe in the

Mr. Newan, if you ask him, will German steamer in 1890, when Mr. Boutilier further demonstrated his bravery. For his heroic rescue he was presented with a gold watch by the German Emperor.

Biggest In the World. of any of the large cities of the world, and St. Petersburg is the only city

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all right if it were not appears artist's temperament.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE

Drastic Rules Regarding Solvency of Members Are Strictly Enforced. There are times of crisis and panic

It is in such a roaring maelstorm calendar a fixed calendar having regu-as this that hundreds of frenzied lar periods, of which the week is a

removes his hat, and strikes three vails on Sundays. At the third stroke he cries, "Gen date for each of the movable holy days hat "Mr. XX. begs to inform the act a fixed date only for Easter.

posted on the notice-board. In former and in the calendar act of 1751, proimes, defaulters' names were painted on a big black board, and formed a of age and other events which may permanent record of the disgrace. Nowadays, the name only remains on the notice-boards for a few hours.

Then, again, the Stock Exchange used to hush up these little domestic | concurrence has been secured. scandals; they now publish broadcast the name of every defaulter.

haps never to rise again, but his coleagues must continue the mad rush.
As a rule, the "hammered" man does not assist at his own execution. But a waiter once announced the name of a creditor, instead of the debtor. The former, a choleric old

Purple with indignation, he hopped uto the rostrum, grabbed the hammer smote the rostrum, and roared:
"Gentlemen, it's a lie!" And so it

One of the most sensational "hammering" campaigns occurred as a re-sult of the Whitaker Wright failure in December, 1910. The crash was sudden; the value of the shares of all the Wright companies was cut down by half at one fell stroke. The year-end festivities were overshadowed by the saddest scenes. In one day twenty-nine members were "hammered" amid deathlike silenos by a waiter, who was pale as death and shook like an aspen-leaf. Sub-sequent failures increased the holo-caust; many eminent firms were ruin-ed; the honor of the Stock Exchange was involved; public and stockbrokers

Wright, after escaping to America, was brought back to London, tried. and convicted, and he terminated his meteoric but tragic career by poisontrial. Superstitious people will probably see something significant in the fact that the most disastrous "hammerings" have occurred on Friday.

Whistled the Tune. The death, at Snainton, Yorks, of Rev. Wm. S. Salmon recalls a curious custom that obtained in Elinton Parish Church, near Welback, Notts, architects believe that these plates will solve the problem of housing in the tropics, since a house built with announced the parish clerk used to stride over the pews to the chancel, will resist damp, heat, disease and and there, facing the congregation, white ants. gravely whistle the tune.

High Brow Prisoners. The program of a concert given by the Maidstone (Eng.) Orchestral So-Mendelssohn, Grieg, and Schu-

A Regular Preacher. Rev. Leonard Wood, who died at singleton Vicarage, Lancashire, Eng., aged 92, had been absent from his parish and pulpit on only two Sun-days throughout his sixty-seven years'

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REFORMS IN CALENDAR.

Changes In Months and Holy Days Before British Parliament.

Some novel proposals are contained in the fixed calendar bill presented by on the Stock Exchange when the excitement is so tremendous that prices. Mr. Wilkee, Mr. Pringle and Mr. Munfluctuate with epileptic suddenness; ro Ferguson. The memorandum acclients fail to "cash up"; fortunes companying the text of the bill, are lost, and big firms are ruined in explains that the measure purposes to substitute for the present irregular

brokers live in haunting fear of that dread "hammer" by which those who "come a cropper" are summarily executed on the floor of the "House" by one of their menial servants. There is no more impressive or poignant caremony in the entire world of finance, no other Stock Exchange has adopted this curious disciplinary procedure.

It differs in some important features from the calendar reform bill introduced on March 45, 1908, by Mr. Robt. Pearce. That bill sought to make the months as uniform in length as possible, but as a difference in this respect is unavoidable in a year with twelve months it is thought better to

adopted this curious disciplinary procedure.

The rules and regulations of the London institution, drastic in character, are emforced with remorseless severity, says Answers. Woe to the man who transgresses them!

Curiously enough, the "waiter" is not a waiter, but a messenger, and the "hammer' is not a hammer, but a mallet. When a member notifies the committee—or his exasperated creditors do it for him—that he cannot meet his engagements, his case is considered, and instructions fare gissued to the executioner.

The following morning, soon after the "House" has opened, the roaring, hustling, gesticulating crowd of members observe the head-waiter pushing his way to the fatal rostrum. There is a sudden and ominous hush. Armed with the big wooden mallet, he remuneration thereof shall conform as far as possible to what preed with the big wooden mallet, he form as far as possible to what pre-

men!" and then proceeds to notify it has been thought sufficient to en-House' he cannot comply with his wirich is to be upon April 15, as allthe others are calculated from the Then the hapless victim's name is date of Easter. As in Mr. Pearce's bill vision is made regarding the comings

be affected by the passing of this bill. The bill if passed by Parliament will not become operative until the crown decides that sufficient international

A table giving the proposed fixed calendar shows that the months of No sooner has the victim's name January, February, April, May, June. been posted than the previous uproar August, October and November would is resumed. A man hase-fallen, per- each consist of twenty-eight days. while the remaining months of March. July, September and December would each have thirty-five days. New Year Day is set apart, thus bringing the total of days up to the requisite num-ber of 365, while for leap year a special day is set apart as Leap Day, entleman, happened to be standing which is to be intercalated between the last day of June and the first day of July as reconstituted by the bill. A clause of the bill lays down that from the bewildered waiter, viciously the New Year Day and Leap Day shall neither of them be accounted days of the week, and shall not, except where specially mentioned or proany computation of days, but shall otherwise be public bank holidays.

Porcelain Walls.

Walls of porcelain at a comparatively cheap cost, have been made possible by an English pottery expert, W. H. Turner, who has been working. out his patent for many years, and now has succeeded. The material is simply glazed slabs of pure porcelain, the material commonly known as "china," so translucent that light can be seen through its half inch of thickness. The slabs are made in single pieces of any size up to that of the largest sheets of plate glass, and "are so strong that an elephant could stand on one without breaking it."
It is said to offer a means of imperi bable decoration, which "in color, grace and brightness, rivals the painted wall decorations of Pompeii," for there can be printed on the slab in its "biscuit" or porous stage of manufacture designs or pictures with such. gradations of coloring that any masterpiece can be faithfully copied To line the walls of a room with this everlasting covering costs no more than ordinary panelling, and walls, floor and roof of these plates,

Salt In the Beer.

Some curious superstitions are gathered round even so eminently practiused to be the custom to throw a' handful of salt and a little dry malt into the mash to keep the witches from it, and the cautious housewife in houses where they brewed their own beer used to throw a live coal into the vat to save the liquor from the tralicsome interference of fairies. The addition of salt, by the way, to beer in the course of brewing was supposed to be for the unholy purpose of exciting thirst. It may possibly have been used to this end by the unscrupulous, but the real reason was legitimate. Sait moderates the fermen. London Chronicle.

"Nice and Snug."

Duckworth was such a delicate courtier he could afford to jest with a queen on a very unpleasing subject even. Once he was showing Queen Victoria over Westminster Abbey. When they came to the spot where kings and queens lie Queen Victoria shivered a little and said, "I should so cold and damp." "Madam," repli-ed Duckworth, "I assure you it is perfectly dry. You would be quite nice and snug."-London Saturday

Cemetery for Pets,

The picturesque village of Molesanusual cemetery. It has been esto date there have been interred about 200 pets, mostly dogs, although there are a few birds, about fifty cats, a Montreal has the largest birth rates | Pinex is a special and highly concen- marmot, and four monkeys. The place |

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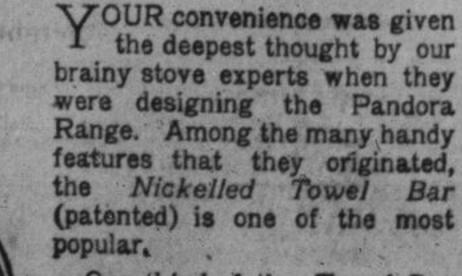
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