

# THE FAMOUS GUN

## WAS NOT REALLY TAKEN AT BUNKER HILL.

### President of Quebec Historical Society Gives Full History of the Weapon—Ticking the Fancy of American Visitors.

Quebec, June 19.—An interesting letter in connection with the Bunker Hill gun has been written to a local paper by Col. Nelson, the president of the Quebec Literary and Historical Society. It clears away a good deal of the confusion and adds color to the theory that the inscription to the effect that the gun had been captured at Bunker Hill was placed on it by a saboteur.

In his letter Col. Nelson says: "The so-called 'Bunker Hill Gun' has engaged the attention of the press and the public for some weeks. The real story of this piece of cannon appears to be unknown. I am of the few remaining who do know its history, and therefore feel justified in making the following statement concerning it.

On the 4th of November, 1871, Capt. C. E. Montizambert, Quebec Garrison Artillery, and I were commissioned to recruit "B" battery, C.A. (the first of the permanent corps) at the same time to take charge of all the military buildings and stores, transferred to the militia department when the last of the imperial garrison sailed from Quebec on the 6th of November. Among a multitude of obsolete materials we noted this strange bronze gun in the rear of the present R.C.H. quarters, of Louis street. A few days later Major W. H. Tapp, a retired British officer, whom we both knew, came to us, claiming that this bronze gun was his personal property, that it had been an heirloom in his family for about a century, that being determined to fix himself permanently in Quebec he had caused the gun to be brought from his home in England, and that, pending the creation of a new home here, he had requested one of the military storekeepers to house it where we found it. He asked us to take charge of it until such time as he would claim it. He further volunteered the statement the gun had formed part of the armament of an American sloop of war or privateer captured off the harbor of Boston in the early days of the revolutionary war by his grandfather, then an officer in the royal navy. This officer had either received the gun as a reward or kept it as a legitimate loot.

During the summer of 1872, our new commandant, Lieut.-Col. T. B. Strange, R.A., caused the gun to be mounted on an improvised carriage in the centre of the citadel square, in the exact position it now occupies. In May, 1875, being on leave of absence, I visited the United States and among other cities Boston, and among its sights, the Bunker Hill monument. At the summit of this monument, reached by a long flight of stairs, is a quadrangular chamber. To my surprise I found affixed to the walls two bronze guns of the exact size and appearance of our citadel gun. A third, but similar gun, was in several fragments, also affixed to the walls. (In one of the walls was an inscription to the effect that: In the year 1772 or 3 (?) four bronze guns were cast by order of the commonwealth of Massachusetts, that all were used during the war of independence. Two of these were intact at the close of the war—the third exploded, (hence the fragments) and that the fourth had completely disappeared.

There could be no doubt that Maj. Tapp's gun was the fourth gun referred to in this inscription. It exactly corresponds to its fellows, in size and above all by the embossed oval escutcheon with the arms of Massachusetts—namely, an Indian holding a bow—above a lone star.

# THREE GENERATIONS

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Over fifty years ago people began to find out the effectiveness of Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills in correcting constipation and toning up the system. Since then the popularity of this reliable old family medicine has grown steadily, and the increase in sales during the past year was the greatest in the whole half century.

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Sick headaches, coated tongues, indigestion, biliousness, dyspepsia, rheumatism and similar disorders are almost invariably caused by impurities which should be removed from the system by the bowels, the kidneys and the pores of the skin. By toning up these organs so that they can do their work properly, Dr. Morse's Indian Root Pills cure, or prevent altogether, a large proportion of the common everyday ailments which keep so many people miserable.

Made by W. H. Comstock Co., Limited, Brockville, Ont., and sold by all dealers at 25c. a box.

Tapp's first statement to Montizambert and I. He replied, laughing, "What does it matter? No one will be the wiser, but it will tickle the fancy of our American visitors."

Whether Maj. Tapp gave his consent to this inscription I never heard. In 1880—when "B" Battery, C.A., was transferred to Kingston, we left the custody of the gun to the incoming garrison commanded by Lieut.-Col. Delacherois Irving, R.A., now a resident of Ottawa.

Maj. William Horatio Tapp never created for himself a home in Quebec, he resided with a private family at Mount Pleasant. Probably for that reason he never claimed the gun, at least as far as I know. He died on the 25th of June, 1895, aged eighty-eight. He was of a retiring disposition, but very fond of sport. His tall, gaunt figure will be remembered by many citizens of Quebec. He was a great pedestrian and was invariably accompanied by a couple of good pointers.

Who can lay claim to the rightful ownership of the so-called Bunker Hill gun—Maj. Tapp's heirs, whoever they may be, or has the militia department acquired prescriptive rights? May the gun ever remain within our walls is my earnest hope and desire.

# FORTUNE KEEPING FOX FARM.

## Dealer in Skins Sells Consignment—Will Enjoy Heat.

St. Louis, Mo., June 21.—Silver fox "farming" in Alaska in twenty years has netted enough profit to Capt. O. B. Anderson for him to retire and pass the rest of his days in peace in Sweden with his only daughter, Capt. Anderson arrived in St. Louis this week on his way to Europe. He brought with him a cluster of seven ten silver fox skins, valued at \$6,000, which were sold to Funsten Bros. & Co., St. Louis furriers.

The captain has been selling silver fox pelts to this St. Louis firm for many years, and rarely did he ever bring the skins in person, usually shipping his annual catch and then receiving a draft by mail.

Twenty years ago, Capt. Anderson went to Alaska, working on board a vessel. While cruising along the Alaskan coast he visited a small island named Ugak. The captain quit the sea then and there and henceforth devoted his time to raising silver foxes.

He said that his silver fox ranch was a paying business. Each season he would trap the male foxes and send their hides to the United States. During the last score of years the captain has acquired a snug bank account, and now, a man sixty-five years old, but still hale and hearty, he has said good-bye to the north and will have his daughter enjoy life with him.

# BURSTING CABBAGE HEADS.

## Police Accused Him of Discharging Firearms at Night.

Bucyrus, Ohio, June 20.—John Stahley, of the Stahley Transfer line, claims to have the champion garden and vegetables. He complains that the cabbages grow so fast that the heads burst with such loud reports as to keep him awake at night.

The police bothered him about the shooting in his back yard and would not believe that it was cabbages until they investigated themselves. His tomatoes grew so fast and high that he could not get poles enough to support them, and as a result he lost several hundred bushels of them by their falling over on the ground and bursting.

He planted the lettuce one evening after he quit work and had a mess for early morning breakfast next morning, but the leaves grew so fast and large that he could not use them without running them through a feed cutter.

His radishes were so juicy and tender that the neighbors complained of them because in a high wind the tops would break off and destroy the neighboring fences.

# THINKS KISSING A CRIME.

## Dentist's Want Law Passed Prohibiting It.

Guthrie, Okla., June 21.—Kissing is the most dangerous thing in the world, a national crime, and laws should be passed making it such, according to Dr. George W. Bowling, a dentist, of Lindsay, Okla., who incorporated the first society in Oklahoma to fight the habit of kissing.

"I believe when people are educated," said Dr. Bowling, "they will learn to eliminate a great part of the present habit of kissing.

"If you have noticed it there is a tendency among more educated people to teach their children never to kiss on the mouth, but on the cheek.

"Kissing is, as I look at it, a national crime, which should be made such by law."

# THIRTY MILLION BUSHELS.

## Expects G.T.P. to Haul Out of West This Year.

Montreal, June 20.—E. J. Chamberlain, president of the Grand Trunk Pacific and Grand Trunk railway, has made an estimate of the amount of grain the Grand Trunk Pacific would probably haul out of the prairie country this year. Against 15,000,000 brought out last year he believed that the figure this year would be near 30,000,000.

Spoke Highly of Service.

Rev. J. W. Spears, of London, Eng., travelling through Canada with his daughter, was a passenger on the steamer Sironic from Sarnia to Port Arthur. In a letter to H. H. Gildersleeve, the general manager of the Northern Navigation company, he says: "The board on your line is superior to that served on the greatest vessel floating. The service is prompt and capable and the courtesy shown was all that could be possible to avoid familiarity, by both captain and crew." Generally the service is considered the best on the great lakes.

The Criminals Gathering.

New York Herald.

Chicago just now is one huge criminal resort. If half we hear is true, most of the leading criminals of the country are there and the rest are on the way. There never before has been such a gathering in the history of the United States, not even in Sing Sing, Joliet or San Quentin.



GOVERNOR WILSON AND MRS. WILSON. Latest picture of the Governor of New Jersey, who may be the democratic nominee for the presidency of the United States.

# CONQUERING DEAFNESS.

## Unable to Hear a Sound for Twenty Years.

Great Barrington, Mass., June 20.—From boyhood George Day, now twenty-one years old, has been deaf. He could not hear even the report of a gun.

Skilled experts have pronounced his ear drums perfect and there was no apparent reason why he could not hear. They could only suggest as a theory that the nerves of the ear had become unresponsive through lack of exercise.

But a few days ago he began to hear under certain conditions. His hearing is now developed by means of the phonograph.

Frank A. Minkler conceived the idea that Day might be made to hear loud records played on the phonograph and he secured an extra loud record soft record and fitted to the phonograph and ran a long rubber tube from it to Day's ears.

The phonograph was started and immediately over the face of the listener there stole an expression of wonder, followed by one of delight. For the first time in twenty years George Day could hear. No ordinary ear could stand the shrill, sharp noise.

# A Spaniard's Report.

Pittsburgh Leader.

"Henry Clay Ide, our minister to Spain," said a Washington official, "gets on well in Madrid because he has a great affection for the Spanish people."

"Mr. Ide, while no champion of the bull-fight," hates to hear the Spaniards abused for cruelty on this head.

"He tells an anecdote of a Spaniard travelling from San Sebastian to Biarritz in a first-class compartment with an American."

"You Spaniards are a great nation," the American said. "But I can't understand how a nation that produced Velasquez and Valdes can stomach the savage cruelty of the bull-fight."

"The Spaniard rolled his black eyes at this, inhaled a great cloud of cigarette smoke, and said: "You have in America a number of societies for the prevention of cruelty to children. I believe?"

"Yes."

"And they do good work?"

"Oh, splendid work!"

"Now the Spaniard showed his white teeth in a smile.

"Well, senor, such societies would be useless in my country," he said. "The man who would lift his hand against a little child has not been born in Spain."

# Getting His Reward.

London Advertiser.

Mr. Borden says the naval question "bristles with difficulties." Yes—difficulties for Mr. Borden. That is the penalty for making it an election dodge.

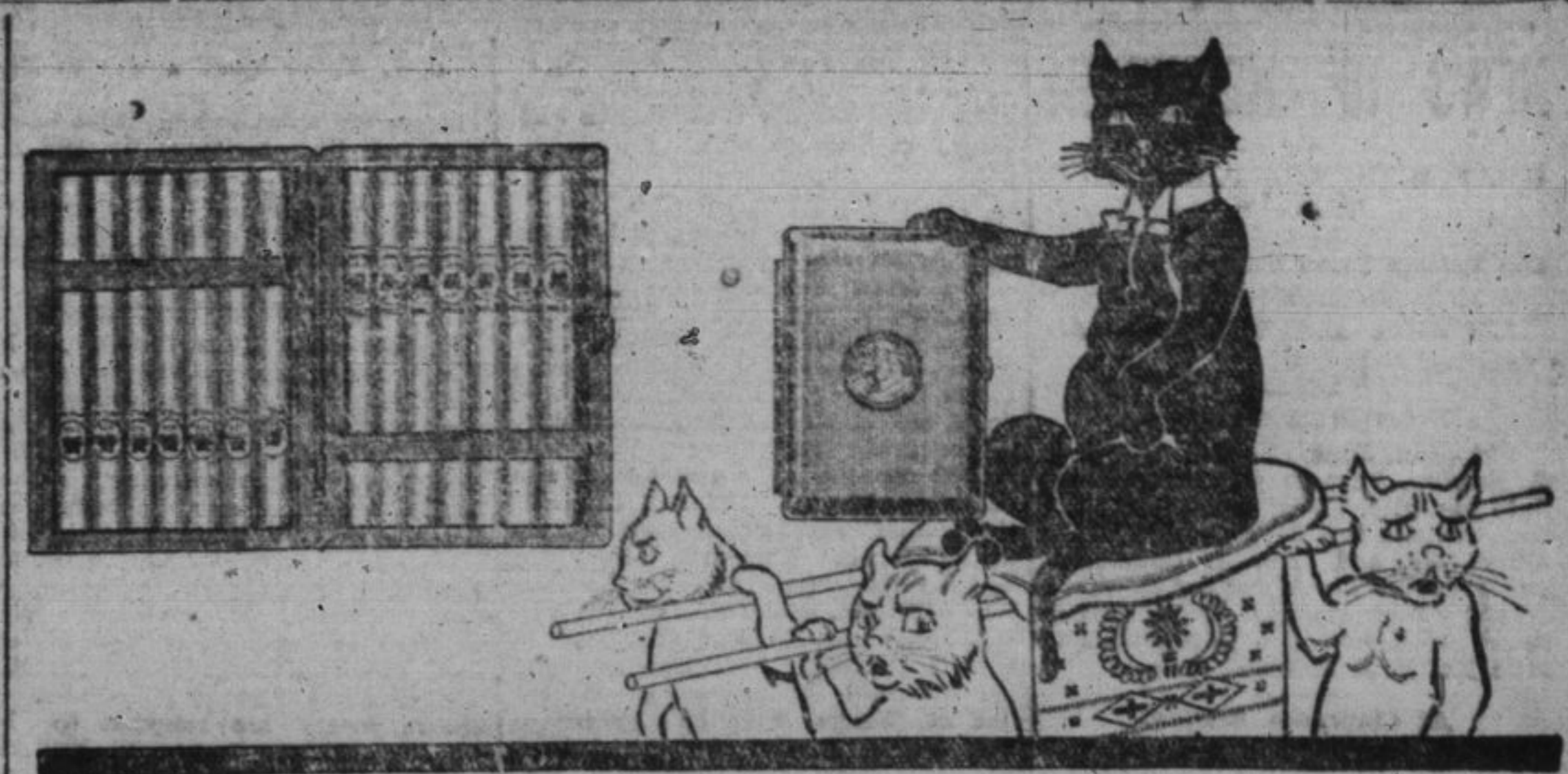
# FATE OF ANDREE.

## Norwegian Explorer Brings the First Evidence.

Christian Loden, a Norwegian explorer, has returned to this country with what he believes to be the first evidence of the fate of Andree's balloon. Loden was commissioned by the Royal Museum of Berlin, the University of Christiania to explore the unknown region of North-western Canada and to obtain data about the Indian tribes in that region, some of which have never before been visited by white men.

At a point 200 miles north by west of the point at which it has been generally believed that Andree perished, Loden encountered a tribe of Eskimos, who related a story to the effect that several years ago a large bubble fell from the heavens, containing two creatures supposed to be "devils," and that these creatures were able to hurl forth fire and thunder from strange implements that they carried. The members of the tribe attacked the two creatures and succeeded in killing one of them with arrows, whereupon the other made motions to them signifying that he and his companion were shooting at birds for food and had come in peace.

When the Eskimos realized that they had attacked human beings, who had no unfriendly motive, they and in dismay, leaving the surviving white man alone, went because of him they do not know.



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# Towns Without Taxes.

It was recently reported from Germany that there was a little town within the empire in which there were no taxes. The town possessed benefactions the revenues from which enabled it to pay its way without the intervention of the tax gatherer.

France never likes to be outdone by anything German, so a Paris contemporary has set itself the task of finding a parallel. Something more than a parallel has been discovered, for not only are there no taxes, but the timber on the communal lands is sufficient to grant each person a small annuity. This happy land is Montmarion, in the Midi. There are seven electors in the hamlet, so to avoid anything like rivalry the seven return themselves to the local council.

Cutting down the trees and selling them is sufficient to provide a livelihood for these simple people, whose tastes are so modest that they may be termed by some uncivilized.—London Globe.

# Tuberculosis Most Expensive.

That tuberculosis in the United States causes an estimated monetary loss to society of \$570,000,000 annually, not including the losses to the victims of the disease, was the standpoint made by Irving Fisher, professor of economics at Yale University, before the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis. This includes the loss of earnings suffered by the families whose wage earners are crippled and then killed by the disease.

# A Mere Bagatelle.

From the New York Sun.

The Panama canal is almost done. It will cost only \$100,000,000 more to finish it.

# Gold Medal, London, 1911

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