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 Special Christmas Sailings via Allan Line  
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 CORNICIAN - 25 Nov. From MONTREAL  
 VINCIGIAN - 19 Dec. From HALIFAX  
 TUNDANIAN - 16 Dec. From ST. JOHN, N.B.  
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 HESPERIAN - 11 Dec. From BOSTON  
 NORMAN - 19 Dec. From PORTLAND  
 These Steamers call at Halifax, sailing 12 and 14 Dec. respectively.

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**GATE CITY EXPRESS**  
 LEAVE TORONTO - 2.30 p.m. DAILY  
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 There were makers of gas of a sort before Murdoch lit his house at Redruth, in Cornwall, with the new illuminant. In 1785, at Culross, in Ayrshire, although Murdoch did not know of this until long afterwards, in the ovens of Lord Dundonald, a member of the ingenious Cochrane family, gas had been produced and rejected as a waste product. Others seemed to have been on the point of making the gas discovery, but, as has been said of Murdoch, the merit of the first idea of applying and the first actual application of carburetted hydrogen gas to economic purposes as a substitute for oils and tallow's first belongs to him.  
 Murdoch inherited his inventive genius. His father was the inventor of toothed circular iron gearing, and other clever contrivances. Even as a boy, William Murdoch showed skill and ingenuity in mechanics, and a wooden horse of his own contrivance, on which he and his brother rode to school at Cumnock, is claimed as the forerunner of the modern tricycle, and even of the locomotive.  
 From his boyhood's days, Murdoch impressed his friends with his unusual ability. Boulton was so struck with him that he engaged him at their first interview and wrote to his partner, Watt, from Cornwall where the big Scotsman had been sent as the agent of his principal.  
 Murdoch had been indefatigable since he began. He has scarcely been in bed or taken the necessary food. Of his stay at Redruth—where he remained for nineteen years—an amusing story is told. It is related of him that, with a gas-filled bladder under his arm, and squaring the gas with his elbow, "just as if he were playing the bagpipes of his native land," the gas burning at the end of a pipe attached to the bladder, he used to light his way about in the early and late dark hours of the winter days.  
 Murdoch did other things to scare the wits of the people of Redruth. One of his contrivances was an engine that ran on wheels—a forerunner of the motor-car—and his excursions on this used to alarm the natives, much as the first flying machine would frighten them almost out of reason.  
 In 1792, while living at Redruth, Murdoch carried out the experiments in the distillation of different classes of coal that resulted in the discovery of a gas with which he lighted his house and offices. In 1797 he returned to Scotland, and there also he lighted his house at Old Camnock with gas. In 1798 he was back in Birmingham, and there constructed apparatus upon a larger scale, with which he lighted the principal building at the Soho Steam Engine Works of Boulton and Watt. He was slowly but surely coming into his own. Up till his forty-fourth year this benefactor of mankind was never paid more than \$5 a week, but his departure for Scotland seems to have awakened Messrs. Boulton and Watt to his value. To a man of his temperament, however, money mattered little; but, on his return to Birmingham, he was not averse to accepting a salary of \$5,000 a year.  
 Murdoch died at Handsworth, Birmingham, Nov. 15, 1839, in the 55th year of his age; a neglected, but not a disappointed, genius.  
 Nowadays the meek man is the target for the rankest kind of imposition. If able to avoid it, none of us should be too frugal to drive away pleasure.

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**FROM CANDLES TO GAS**  
**CENTRE OF GREAT STEP IS SOON TO BE OBSERVED.**

William Murdoch, Who Was Responsible For the Commercialization of Precious Lighting Fluid Was a Quaint Genius—He Wore Wood's Hat and Made the Forerunner of the Modern Bicycle.  
 The discovery of gas as a lighting power is only one of the many romances of modern industrial development. William Murdoch, son of a millwright, of Old Cumnock, Ayrshire, Scotland, is the acknowledged inventor of coal-gas lighting. He was born on August 21, 1754, in a low-roofed, thatched cottage, a replica almost of the little "biggin" in which Robert Burns was born—his portraits show a face of striking manly beauty and strong character.  
 In celebration of the centenary of what may be called "the commercialization" of gas as an illuminant, there is to be a National Gas Congress and Exhibition at the White City, Shepherd's Bush, London, shortly. A long list of popular lectures has been prepared and the exhibits will cover the whole ground of the invention and development of gas-lighting.  
 William Murdoch's share in the development of this enterprise will be fully acknowledged. Murdoch was a quaint genius. His father and grandfather, although they followed other occupations, had been gunners in the Royal Artillery, and pay-sheets bearing their signatures are still preserved in the records of Woolwich Arsenal.  
 Brought up with his father as a millwright and miller until he was twenty-three, Murdoch went south, and entered the service of Messrs. Boulton and Watt (Watt being the famous inventor of the steam engine) of Soho Works, Birmingham. He changed the spelling of his name from Murdoch to Murdock out of consideration for the Englishman's natural inability to pronounce the guttural.  
 Among the unusual things which Murdoch was always doing was the wearing of a wooden hat. According to the accepted story, Murdoch was so nervous at his first interview with Mr. Boulton, of the Soho works, that he let his hat fall on the floor. Boulton had previously been struck by the strange appearance of Murdoch's headgear, and the noise it made falling prompted him to ask some questions. In answer to those Murdoch confessed that the hat was made of wood and that he had turned it on a lathe of his own construction.  
 There were makers of gas of a sort before Murdoch lit his house at Redruth, in Cornwall, with the new illuminant. In 1785, at Culross, in Ayrshire, although Murdoch did not know of this until long afterwards, in the ovens of Lord Dundonald, a member of the ingenious Cochrane family, gas had been produced and rejected as a waste product. Others seemed to have been on the point of making the gas discovery, but, as has been said of Murdoch, the merit of the first idea of applying and the first actual application of carburetted hydrogen gas to economic purposes as a substitute for oils and tallow's first belongs to him.  
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**APOSTLE OF PEACE.**  
 Langdon-Davies is an Exponent of the Angell School.  
 Mr. Langdon-Davies, who has just concluded a ten days' visit to Canada, with the record of an exceptionally large number of addresses delivered one after the other to various audiences and societies in Toronto, Montreal, and Hamilton, is a young man, thirty-six years of age, and one who has left behind him a favorable impression on all those with whom he has come into contact.  
 He is an interesting man for more than one reason. For example, he is a disciple and colleague of the famous Norman Angell, the author of "The Great Illusion," embodying the thesis that war, even from an economic and material aspect, does not benefit the victor, and that the aggression is therefore futile. Mr. Langdon-Davies is on a three months' tour of America, preaching the doctrine of anti-militarism, advanced by the "Little Man." This is the term of pride and endearment with which the friends of Norman Angell refer to the world-famous peace advocate. Angell is small of stature, but colossal in intellect.  
 Quite apart from his relation to his illustrious chief, however, Langdon-Davies is an attractive personality in himself, and by his own right. He is a brilliant graduate of Cambridge University, and is a man of active, effective energy, of keen disposition, and of polished, persuasive eloquence. He is equally at home in discussing the problems of peace and international relations at gatherings of students, labor men, or Canadian Clubs.  
 Before joining Norman Angell and the Garton Peace Foundation, Mr. Langdon-Davies was a tutor in London. His pupils were not all the ordinary, every day English people who usually make a tutor's life rather uneventful. Within a couple of years he had under his charge several Parsees, a number of sons of Indian rajahs, and quite a generous installment of Chinese, in addition to the heirs of Prussian nobles, and Parisian aristocrats. This incident illustrates in rather a fresh outlook the cosmopolitan nature of English education and learning. Langdon-Davies remarks on the deep respectability involved in tutoring, and especially those from India and the Orient. Strangers in a strange land, and amid a civilization quite different from their own, they pass through quite a normal and intellectual crisis.  
 Mr. Langdon-Davies tells a story, which shows the traditional habit of the Chinaman in his "lackadaisical" manner, and his refusal to become excited or alert. While sitting in his study one day, this tutor heard the door open and someone come in quietly. After a moment's delay, he looked up and saw three young Chinamen standing in a row before him. One of them was a pupil of Langdon-Davies who had returned to China. Without writing a line or letting the tutor know in any way, he had returned to England, and had brought with him two of his companions, who also had a thirst for western education and western pleasures. The tutor's time might have been completely taken up, and their coming might have been embarrassing to him and untimely for themselves, but they had evidently not thought it worth while to make any preliminary arrangements, and had left China and went to England, entirely unheralded.

**Regimental Pets.**  
 Nearly every regiment in the British army has its regimental pet, varying from the famous goat of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers to the tame blackbirds and thrushes of the Coldstream Guards. Only a few army pets are dogs, however.  
 One of the most famous of these dogs was Drummer, which belonged to the Northumberland Fusiliers. Drummer went through three campaigns. He was present at the Battle of Omdurman, in the Egyptian campaigns, when he snarled at the bullets, thinking they were meat. During the South African War he was shot in the shoulder at Wynberg, but recovered, and was awarded the Queen Victoria medals and clasps by the way, was the only dog which Lord Methuen allowed to accompany his column from Orange River.  
**Nature Was Improving.**  
 James A. McNeill Whistler astounded many people by the egotism he frequently displayed in his conversation, but those who knew the artist best realized that many of his conceited remarks were inspired by a love of mischief rather than by vanity. Here is an example: At a Somerset party an effusive lady approached the artist.  
 "Oh, Mr. Whistler," she said, "I have just been up the river, and it reminded me so much of your pictures!"  
 "Indeed!" Whistler replied calmly. "Then nature is looking up."  
**The Most Graceful Act.**  
 A good subject for a dull season discussion, says The Manchester Guardian, would be what was the most graceful act you ever saw. As a contribution to such a discussion this would, I think, be hard to beat. A lady of much charm who is a rigid vegetarian had been living some time in a Somerset village. When she was leaving the village she received some little gifts from the villagers. The most beautiful was a fine bunch of roses sent to her by—the local butcher.  
**Deaf, Dumb and Blind at Wedding.**  
 A wedding took place the other day at St. George's Church, Gravesend (ENG.), when Mr. Herbert Thorndike was married to Miss Stiles. Both bride and bridegroom are deaf and dumb, and Canon Ovedy, who is totally blind, performed the ceremony.  
 The height of meanness is many times reached by the use of imitations. It is commendable, but not common, to give the good return for the bad one.

**SANE AND SENSIBLE.**  
 A Project Which is Arousing Widespread and Favorable Comment.  
 Once more rural England is to be rejuvenated, inspired and informed. Under the auspices of the Women's Imperial Health Association, the now famous Florence Nightingale caravan has started on its yearly trip throughout the country districts conducting a health crusade in the form of a lecture tour.  
 On former tours the caravan has been so successful that its fame has gone abroad. Germany has become interested in the movement and is planning similar caravans under the auspices of a Juvenile Health Association.  
 The Florence Nightingale caravan is a real caravan. It is a large wagon, drawn by two powerful horses. This year it is in charge of Miss Janet St. Clair, a nurse, who preaches the gospel of an open air existence. She is practicing this creed, too, for she gives all of her lectures out of doors, declining to hold them in stuffy halls. Miss St. Clair carries a motion picture machine, with full apparatus, with her. She drives to the public square or other central point of the small towns and then delivers her lectures. Among her health commandments are the following:  
 Keep the windows open day and night.  
 Take daily exercises in the open air, and in the sunshine when possible.  
 Always laugh when you can. Laughter is a cheap medicine.  
 Wash the whole body at least twice a week. A daily bath is better.  
 Drink plenty of good water and eat plain wholesome food.  
 All of Miss St. Clair's preachings are equally sane and sensible and will make for normal health, if followed. Fathers and mothers are listening to the daily lectures and are impressed enough to follow them. She is showing them the easiest road to health and happiness and the people are profiting by her advice.  
 Miss St. Clair is also conducting the juvenile health crusade.  
 "Catch them when they are young," is the motto of the crusade. "If children are taught to realize the importance of health and are taught in an easy and in an interesting manner to achieve and retain health," she says, "as they grow older they will take care of themselves as a matter of course. This is the best way to cause an interest in the business of being healthy."

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