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STORIES OF THE V.C.

SAILOR WAS FIRST TO EARN THE COVETED DECORATION.

A Lad Who Threw a Shell Overboard on H.M.S. Hecla in the Baltic and Got Distinction Sixty Years Ago Became an Admiral—Indian Mutiny Provided Many of the V.C.'s.

What will not a sailor do? Sixty years ago almost to a day the Russian fortress of Bomarsund in the Baltic Sea was being bombarded by an Anglo-French force.

Many a gallant deed on land and sea has since that day, June 21st, 1854, been duly rewarded by the bestial of the little Maltese cross of bronze which bears the simple inscription, "For Valour."

The Victoria Cross had its origin in the Crimean war, and was primarily intended to be conferred upon junior commissioned officers and the rank and file.

It would require a volume to describe the many acts of personal bravery which have made England what it is to-day, and which have won the V.C.; but perhaps the most heroic deeds were those performed during the Indian Mutiny, which provided the most V.C.'s.

Each V.C. is made from bronze which once formed part of some Russian guns captured during the Crimean war, and although the medal itself is intrinsically worth only about 9 cents, a number of them have been sold at sales for \$500 and over.

Mention of the fact that the campaign which provided most V.C.'s was the Indian Mutiny reminds one of the fact that several boys have "done the deed" for valour.

Later at Cawnpore we find Drummer Thomas Finn, of the 64th South Staffordshire Regiment, actually charging the guns of the rebels with the short sword, the only arms in his rank, with which he slew in hand-to-hand combat two stalwart gunners.

In a few rare instances the V.C. has been won by more than one member of a family.

BRITAIN'S RED ALLIES.

Home of Mohawks Near Brantford Has Historic Associations.

A visible link between the Red man and the white, the aboriginal and the civilized in Canada, is the Mohawk Church outside the city of Brantford, Ontario.

This old and historic sacred edifice was reared as a reward of the Redman's loyalty to the British crown.

History tells us that before the Revolutionary War between the American colonies and Great Britain, the Mohawk Indian lived along the valley of the Hudson in the State of New York, where a church had been built for them by the British crown.

They were granted six miles on either side of the Grand river, from its mouth to its source, and the greater part of the Mohawks, Senecas, Cayugas and others settled.

The building is of frame, and the timber for it was cut and sawn near Paris and floated down the river to the church site.

Early records of the church may be found in "Hull's Travels," where Lieut. Hall writes of his visit to the church in 1816.

In 1823 the Six Nations Mission was assumed charge of the New England Company, which charge is still retained to the present day.

The Y. M. C. A. has a staff of thirty men working at Valcartier camp and has also a canteen, barber shop, moving picture hall and post-office in operation there.

Never was there a time when Canadian consuls in foreign countries could be of more service than just now.

HONEY CROP LIGHT.

Cold, Wet Spring Reduced Supply of Clover Nectar.

It is generally conceded that the beekeepers of Ontario are not expecting to harvest a very abundant surplus of honey this year.

The clover fields suffered from the cold and wet weather of early spring. The May beetle, which was unusually abundant this year, was largely on the honey-producing trees and cut off part of the fruit bloom with the result that the pasture area, found their field of operation limited and their work cut short.

The same story is told by beekeepers over a wide stretch of country. The aparies have manifested conditions of unhappiness. The bees instead of multiplying their numbers, killed off the drones; instead of going early into the pastures the workers were like laborers on a strike, they hung about the yards all day long; instead of making wax and getting ready for a harvest of honey the colonies organized bands of robbers and were often harassed by other colonies.

A prominent beekeeper of western Ontario, who lives in an alkali clover district, says that he will not be able to pay expenses this year. He thinks he will be fortunate indeed if his losses do not aggregate hundreds of dollars before the harvest of 1915 arrives.

The beekeepers are still hoping that Nature's compensations will start in good shape before the season closes. They hope that the honey flow from the buckwheat, golden rod and from other autumn plants will be good.

Prince Rupert Fisheries. The Prince Rupert fisheries are developing very rapidly, and during the month of July the fleet gathered in catch, valued at \$49,335.

Snakes In Squirrel's Cage. A small red squirrel caged in the natural history section of the Government building was so frightened recently that it held by its claws to the sides of its wire cage nearly all night.

Will Know In February. Prof. John Patterson has returned to the Meteorological Office, Toronto, after his long Arctic Government trip, having traveled by canoe and snow as far north as Fort McPherson, inspecting the frozen territories and making experimental kite flying observations on route.

Promise is most given when the least is said. In a manner of speaking, the dentist is a dealer of extracts. Gems of thought never were of will be a drug on the market.

DETROIT UNITED STOCK.

Only 4 per Cent. of 125,000 Shares Held in Europe.

Montreal, Oct. 9.—Of 2,045 stockholders registered on the books of Detroit United railways June 1st, 1914, 62 were European, holdings amounting to 4,497,769 of outstanding stock of \$2,500,000.

October Dividends. Montreal, Oct. 9.—The Financial Post estimates October dividend distributions in Canada at \$21,794,452 dividends as follows:

Canada's Paper Exports. Ottawa, Oct. 9.—In the eleven months ended May 31, 1914, (the latest official figures available) Canada exported 474,615,105 pounds of wood pulp to the United States, as compared with 467,444,800 pounds and 468,870,801 pounds, respectively, for the corresponding periods of 1913 and 1912.

Railway Taxes Rise. New York, Oct. 9.—The banking firm of Speyer and company, which was originally founded in Frankfurt, Germany, and still maintains German connections, notified the stock exchange that in view of the proclamation of King George for forbidding British subjects to give aid to Germany, financial or otherwise, Sir Edgar Speyer, their London partner, had temporarily severed his connection with the firm.

Financial Notes. The stock transfer tax in New York State netted \$19,091 in September, against \$249,853 in July. Toronto Street Railway earnings for September amounted to \$525,264, as against \$542,849 for the week of last year, and \$507,912 for August.

One On The Bishop. Bishop Brindle, the well-known English clergyman, sometimes tells this story against himself. Dining at Sir Evelyn Wood's he narrated the old story of the small boy who, going to a party was instructed to refuse cake, as he had not been very well.

Out For Lunch. In a club in the west-end of London there sprang up two factions. One criticized the manager because he did not provide the members with good meals, the other defended him. The dispute got fiercer and fiercer. Half the club wanted to fire the manager at once. The other half said he was efficient.

Frenzied Finance. "It's no use talking," remarked Banks dejectedly. "It's impossible to make a woman understand even the first principles of finance."

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