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Six-Day Trip from Metlakatla to Victoria on Old Steamer
Barbara Boscowitz in Verse

(By C. Harrison)

It took about six days for the Barbara Boscowitz to make the trip from Metlakatla to Victoria as she called in at every place on her way down wherever she could pick up any freight. I was one of the passengers that made the trip to Victoria the same time that the deputation to settle the troubles at Metlakatla commenced their journey homeward, having nothing else to do, the following medley was composed, and as it has never yet been printed, it may be of interest as it gives a full and clear description of the coast line and the Sounds that the vessels have to pass by and through on their voyage either up to or down from Prince Rupert. I will give it just as it was written in the year 1884.

Oh Barbara! My heart did wait and yearn
 For thine appearing—and thou didst appear
 And take me to thy bosom—and now, when,
 When shall I see the last of thee? Oh
 Man, they name is fickleness!

I sat and gazed
 Day after day, on Metlakatla's shore,
 Out seaward, towards the distant isles that rose
 Hazy and dim from out the shimmering waves,
 Till, one bright evening, brighter hope came up
 As from the under world—then forth I flew
 With bag and bundle, in the Bishop's boat
 To meet the sylph-like form that dancing came,
 Yet not too fast, to hear me far away.

Day set on Metlakatla's steep;
 And shookum house where captives weep,
 And Tugwell Island lone,
 The Mitre banner broad and high
 Above the belfry, toward the sky
 In yellow lustre shone.

The steamer's started! Fire, ye brave
 The gun ye did from Duncan save;
 Wave Mission house, they kerchiefs wave,
 And brandish your embroidery.

Merrily, merrily, out of the bay,
 Bumped on a rock as we steamed away,
 The gentle captain was ready to swear
 But for the parson who stood by him there.

The prayer bell tolls the knell of parting day;
 The Boscowitz winds slowly o'er the sea;
 The deputation homewards plods its way;
 And leaves the Mission not to T. and D.
 (i.e., the Bevs, Tomlinson and Duncan.)

Now fade the bathing vans right out of view
 (i.e. Indian's houses)
 And all the boat is bathed in solemn peace,
 Save where the engine gently turns the screw,
 And squeaks the steering gear for want of grease.

Barbara goes gently steaming

barous barber,
 He should shave the bear so bare,
 That her gentleman owner would sadly bemoan her,
 And wish she had never come there.

The postscript bears, 'tis widely known,
 The gist of every letter,
 So this in sympathizing tones,
 Asks kindly, are you better?

(Editor's note—This is the fifteenth of Mr. Harrison's series of articles. The sixteenth will appear in an early issue.)

PILING CONTRACT LET FOR WHARF AND MILL QUEEN CHARLOTTE CITY

QUEEN CHARLOTTE CITY, Jan. 16.—The contract has been let for the piling to be used in connection with the wharf and mill reconstruction here following the purchase of the mill by the new company. James Renner of Maudie Island will get them out. Other overhaul work is already commencing in charge of the manager, A. J. McCulloch. A great deal of money has to be spent before the mill is ready for operation and cutting will not commence until well on in the spring.

SMITHERS

Bulkeley Lodge, No. 30 I.O.O.F. held their installation of new officers at their last meeting. Those elected being: Noble Grand Matthew Norton; Vice Grand, B. M. Robinson; Secretary, A. E. Campbell (re-elected); Treasurer, R. W. Champion.

The appointments made were: Warden, W. N. Goheen; conductor, J. H. Kelly and chaplain, Jas. Porteous. Reginald L. Gale, the retiring Noble Grand will occupy the Junior Past Grand chair for the next term.

The Rebekah Lodge held another of their pleasant card drives on Wednesday night, a good crowd of whist and bridge enthusiasts turning out to make the affair a success.

The winners at whist were Mrs. Birnie and W. Lamb, and at bridge the prizes went to Mrs. G. Wall and S. Bennett. After the games were finished a dainty supper was served before the guests departed for their homes.

Chas. Wilson of Lake Kathleen who contracted to put up the ice for the Booth Fisheries of Prince Rupert has completed his job and has the three large ice houses filled to the roof with an extra good quality of ice. Mr. Wilson kept a large area of ice scraped clean from snow and the ice is very clear and about 22 inches thick. He had a large crew of men and teams at work and put up over 5,000 tons in eight days.

F. H. Taylor a C.N.R. brakeman working between here and Prince George had the misfortune to have his hand badly

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mangled last Monday morning when one of the wheels of a car ran over it. Mr. Taylor was repairing an air hose when the train started up and before he could get clear was knocked down by the steps, the wheel passing over his hand at the base of the fingers four of which had to be taken off.

HOTEL ARRIVALS
Prince Rupert
 J. B. Gillall, Sandspit; R. B. Maxwell, Buckley Bay; A. R. Malloy, Port Clements; George McAfee, Georgetown; Mrs. Senior, Surf Inlet; George F. Adams, Claxton; G. C. Mansel, Vancouver; D. Davidson, G. P. Fisher and C. S. Williams, Vancouver; W. N. Chater, Port Arthur; J. McNeil, Telkwa.

Central
 A. J. Wilds, Jedway; A. J. McCullough, Vancouver; J. Shortall, city; C. Keneb, Massett; A. Galipian, A. Wasden, W. Barstall, G. V. Legatt, L. Garfin, J. W. Tham, C.N.R.

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