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DAILY EDITION.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15

DEAR COLLIER'S, PLEASE EXPLAIN.

In a recent issue of Canadian Collier's Weekly, under the caption of "Armand Lavergne's Splendid Defiance," the editor, H. F. Gadsby, probably the cleverest paragrapher in Canada, has the following to say:

"The latest word is that Armand Lavergne will oppose. Armand Lavergne is like the Irishman who had just landed in New York. 'What are you?' he was asked, 'Democrat or Republican?' 'What's the government?' 'Pat inquired. 'Republican.' 'Well, then, I'm agin it.' 'Whatever government is in power, Armand Lavergne is 'agin' it. He is the direct antithesis of the gentleman who said: 'Whatever king may rule still I'll be the vicar of Bray, sir.' Armand Lavergne is 'agin' any or all Canadian governments because he has a reputation to keep up as an amateur Prince Rupert. He is the chevalier of desperate causes because there is better fighting and greater appearance of romance on the off side. As a speaker he can make better speeches, as a writer he can write snappier articles, when he has something to criticize, and since governments are continually doing things it follows that governments are continually providing food for criticism. Besides, it is easier to knock than to boost any day. Armand Lavergne has chosen the better part which shall not be taken from him. We cannot but admire his courage in standing splendidly outside in the wet when so many others are scurrying for the sunshine. Armand Lavergne defies any government to please him."

All this about Armand Lavergne is very understandable. But what does the reference to Prince Rupert mean? It cannot be the original Prince Rupert that H. F. G. had in mind, for that ancient swashbuckler, believed in always being in the government. For his allegiance to the Royalist cause, the nephew of Charles the First and his "band of seventeen roving gentlemen adventurers" who formed the Hudson's Bay Company received the biggest monopoly in the annals of Canadian graft. Prince Rupert did not believe in being "agin the government."

It must be that the fame of our aldermanic white hope has spread abroad, or that the free for all scrap in the Council Chamber every Monday night is winning the kind of fame it is calculated to bring.

THE Pillar of Light

By Louis Tracy

Soon after seven o'clock the watch reported that two vessels were approaching from the Bay. One was the Falcon, and the sailors soon made out that the other was the Trinity tender from Plymouth.

When they were both nearing the buoy, Brand was aroused. It was evident that the brief rest had cleared his brain and restored his self-confidence. Instantly he took up the thread of events, and his first words showed how pleased he was that someone of authority in the lighthouse service should be in active communication with him.

Through his glasses he distinguished Stanhope on board the Trinity steamer, standing by the side of the inspecting-officer of the South-Coast lights. Other officials were there but near Stanhope was a tall elderly man, unknown, and certainly a stranger in Penzance.

"The Falcon" was now chartered by press-men, so the civilian on the official boat was evidently a person of consequence. Indeed, Brand imagined long before Pyne was able to verify the impression, that the newcomer was Mr. Cyrus J. Trull, whom he had failed to notice in the poor light of the previous evening.

He knew quite well that the experienced chief of the lighthouse service would appreciate fully the disabilities under which he labored, with eighty-one mouths to feed from a stock already far below the three months' maximum.

The first telegraphed question betrayed the prevalent anxiety. "Hope all is well?"

What was he to say? Was it not best to speak boldly and let the men know the truth, not alone as to their present desperate plight but revealing the measures he had devised for the protection of the light? He could not make up his mind to launch out into a full explanation that instant.

So he signalled: "Everyone alive, but many cases of grave collapse."

Stanhope was again the signaler—evidently he had arranged matters with the Admiral at Portsmouth—so Brand expected the prompt reply. "Hope all is well?"

"Quite well and cheerful."

The tall man near Stanhope bent closer. "Are Mrs. Vansittart and Pyne all right?"

Brand assumed that the lady was in no worse condition than others. Constance, telling him the state of the sick during a hasty visit, had not mentioned her name.

So he sent the needed assurance, and went on forlornly: "Suppose no effort can be made to open communication?"

To his great surprise the answer came: "We are constructing a raft. When the tide falls this afternoon we will try what can be done."

Ah, how glad he was that he had not obeyed his earlier impulse, and horrified the anxious rescuers by a prophecy of lingering death for many, with the promise, perchance, of murderous excesses committed by men on the verge of madness. If that story had to be told he would not flinch, but it was a grateful thing that the hour of its telling might at least be deferred.

A long message followed, a string of loving words from relatives ashore to those known to be imprisoned on the rock. During the merely perfunctory reading off of the signals his active mind was canvassing the probabilities of success or failure for the venture of the afternoon. It was high-water about three o'clock, and in his judgment, with the wind in its present quarter, about northwest by west, the cross seas which would sweep the reef and engulf the lighthouse at half-tide would render it wildly impossible for any raft ever built by man's hands to live in the immediate vicinity of the rock.

However, the issue lay with others now. He knew that they would do all that brave men would dare. He was tempted to make known the inspiring news to all hands, but refrained, because he feared ultimate failure. Beneath his feet was a human volcano. Stirred too deeply, it might become active and dangerous.

So the apathetic multitude in his charge, hungrily awaiting a scanty morsel of food which only provoked that it failed to gratify, must rest content with the long statement written out by the purser and read by him at the door of each room.

Pyne took to Mrs. Vansittart the news of his uncle's presence on the steamer.

leave her to the quiet misery of the packed bedroom. As the day passed, a wearisome iteration of all that had gone before, a new feature in the relations of the crowded community made itself disagreeably apparent. Men drew apart from each other, singly or in small groups. An incalculable gloom settled on the women. By some means, the knowledge spread that they might all starve to death in the heart of this cold dungeon. They began to loathe it, to upbraid its steadfastness with spoken curses or unrestrained tears. The sanctuary of one day was becoming the tomb of the next. No longer was there competition to look at land or sea from the open windows. Everywhere was settling down a pall of blank, horrible silence and suspicion.

Even Constance yielded to the common terror once when the men of the watch escorted the bearer of a tray-load of provisions to the occupants of the coal-cellar.

"Enid," she whispered, "did you see the light in their eyes? What is it? Does hunger look that way?"

"It must be so, yet it is almost unbelievable. They are far removed from real starvation."

"One would think so. But it is so hard to realize things beforehand. And they have nothing to do. They are brooding all the time. We are slaves of our imagination. Many a sick person is allowed to eat far less than the previous evening, and the deprivation is not felt at all."

"What will become of us, Constance, if we are detained here for many days?"

"Dear one, do not ask me. We must not think of such things."

"But dad is thinking of them. I watched his face when I took him a scrap of food just now, and—"

"Hush, dear. Let us pray—and hope."

There was a clatter of feet down the iron stairs. The men of the watch were hustling to unbar the iron door. A solidly built, circular raft had been lowered from the Trinity tender.

An assistant-keeper, wearing a cork jacket, with a rope about his waist, was clinging to a stumpy mast in the centre. Two stout guide-ropes were manipulated from the deck of the vessel. The assistant-keeper, wearing a cork jacket, with a rope about his waist, was clinging to a stumpy mast in the centre. Two stout guide-ropes were manipulated from the deck of the vessel.

The door of the column opened towards the east, so the wind, with its pelting sheets of spray, was almost in the opposite quarter, and the stout granite shaft itself afforded some degree of protection for the entrance.

The scheme signalled from the steamer was a good one. None but a lunatic would endeavor to approach the rock itself, but there was a chance that the raft might be made to drift near enough to the door to permit a grapple to be thrown across the rope held by the gallant volunteer on the raft.

It was his duty to attach the two ropes and thus render it possible for a stronger line to be drawn from the vessel to the pillar. There was no other way. The lighthouse did not possess a rope of sufficient length to be drawn back by the raft without the intervention of some human agency.

This was precisely the puny, half-despairing dodge that the reef loved to play with. Catlike, it permitted the queer flat-bottomed craft to approach almost within hailing distance. Then it snatched a claw of furious surf, the heavy raft was picked up as if it were a floating feather, turned clean over, and flung many fathoms out to sea, whilst both of its guiding cables were snapped with contemptuous ease.

The assistant-keeper, kept afloat by his jacket, was hauled, half-drowned, back through the choking froth, whilst the wave which overwhelmed the raft curled up a spiteful tongue and almost succeeded in dragging out several of the men stationed in the doorway.

With a bang the iron shutter was rushed into its place, and when the sailor was rescued the Trinity boat steamed away to try and secure the raft.

So joyous hope gave way once more to dark foreboding, and the only comfort was the faint one to be extracted from the parting signal.

"Will try again next tide."

CHAPTER XIII. BEFORE THE DAWN. Discipline slackened its bonds that night. For one thing Mr. Emmett fell ill. Although inured to hardship in the elemental strife, being of the stocky mariner race which holds the gruff Atlantic in no dread, he had never before been called on to eat staid bread, to drink condensed steam flavored with vanilla, and to chew sustenance from the rind of raw bacon. These drawbacks, added to the lack of exercise and the constant wearing of clothes not yet dry, placed him on the sick list.

Again, there were ominous whippers of unfair division in the matter of food. It was not within the realm of accomplishment that the purser Constance, Enid, and others who helped to apportion the etables could treat all alike. Some fared better than others in quality if not in quantity. The unfortunate ones growled and talked of favoritism.

"Why are you dissatisfied?" he sternly demanded. "What do you suspect? Are you fool enough to imagine that you are being cheated by people who are dividing their last crust with you?"

"How do you know that? Dose girls—dey are chokin' mit Mr. Pyne all der day. Dey can't do dat und be hungry, like us."

"You ungrateful ass!" said the disgusted officer. "There in food here for three people. They have fed eighty-one of us for two days and will

keep us going several more days. Can't you figure it out? Isn't it a miracle? Here! Who's for guard and who not? Let us quit fooling!"

And the doubters were silenced for the hour. The hymn-singer endeavored to raise a chorus. He was not greeted with enthusiasm, but a few valiant spirits came to his assistance. A couple of hymns were feebly rendered—and—silence.

"By when," observed Pyne calmly when he entered the service-room to find Brand trimming the spare lamp. "Not to-night," said Brand. "Why not? Hell may break loose at any moment downstairs."

"What has occurred? I heard something of a dispute when the watch mustered at eight o'clock."

"Things are worse now. One of the men found a gallon of methylated spirit in the workshop."

"Good Heavens! Did he drink any of it?"

"He and his mates have emptied the tin. Eight are helplessly drunk—the others quarrelsome. The next thing will be a combined rush for the store-room."

"But why did not the second officer tell me?"

"He thought you had troubles enough. If he could depend on the remainder of the crew he would rope the sinners. Says he knows a slave knot that will make 'em tired."

Brand's eyes glistened. "The fools," he said, "and just as the weather is mending, too."

"You don't mean that?"

"L—"

He glanced up at the glass dome. Heavy drops were pattering on it; they looked like spray, but Pyne shouted gleefully: "It is rain!"

"Yes. I was just going to summon the watch to help in filling every vessel. By spreading canvas sheets we can gather a large supply if it rains hard. Moreover, it will beat the sea down. Man alive, this may mean salvation. The those weaklings and sum-moan ever sober man to help."

With a whoop, Pyne vanished. He met Constance on the stairs, coming to see her father before she stretched her weary limbs on the hard floor of the kitchen.

She never knew exactly what took place. It might have been politeness, but it felt uncommonly like a squeeze, and Pyne's face was extraordinarily close to hers as he cried:

"It's raining. No more canvas whiskey. Get a hustle on with every empty vessel."

He need not have been in such a whirl, however. When the shower came it did not last very long, and there were many difficulties in the way of garnering the thrice blessed water. In the first place, the lighthouse was expressly designed to shoot off all such external supplies; in the second, the total quantity obtained did not amount to more than half a gallon.

But it did a great deal of good in other ways. It brightened many faces, it caused the drunks to be securely trussed like plucked fowls and dumped along the walls of the entrance passage, and it gave Brand some degree of hope that the rescue operations of the next day might be more successful.

When the rain cleared off, the moon flickered in a cloudy sky. This was a further omen of better fortune. Perhaps the jingling rhyme of Admiral Fitzroy's barometer was about to be justified:

"Long foretold,
Long last,
Short notice,
Soon past."

And the hurricane had given but slight warning of its advent. "I feel it in my bones that we shall all be as frisky as lambs to-morrow," said Pyne, when he joined Brand after the scurry caused by the rain had passed.

"We must not be too sanguine. There is a chance, now. I won't deny that, but the sea is treacherous."

"That's right," said Pyne. "At Bar Harbor, in Maine, where a mighty big sea can kick up in a very few hours, I have seen it go down again like magic under a change of wind."

LAND LEASE NOTICE

Bella Coola Land District—District of Coast Range. Take notice that H. M. Cliff of Dundalk, Ireland, occupation gentleman, intends to apply for permission to lease the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at the shore line of the N. E. corner of Lot No. 3, thence north 40 chains, thence west 80 chains more or less to east boundary of canopy lease, thence following the said east boundary south 40 chains more or less to shore line, thence following said shore line easterly 80 chains more or less to point of commencement, containing 320 acres, more or less. Dated August 31, 1911. H. M. CLIFF, Pub. Sept. 30. William McNair, Agent.

Bella Coola Land District—District of Coast Range. Take notice that H. M. Cliff of Dundalk, Ireland, occupation gentleman, intends to apply for permission to lease the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at the N. E. corner of Lot 23, thence north 20 chains, thence west 40 chains thence south 20 chains more or less to shore line, thence following the shore line east 40 chains more or less to point of commencement, containing 80 acres, more or less. Dated August 31, 1911. H. M. CLIFF, Pub. Sept. 30. William McNair, Agent.

Bella Coola Land District—District of Coast Range. Take notice that H. M. Cliff of Dundalk, Ireland, occupation gentleman, intends to apply for permission to lease the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at the N. W. corner of Lot No. 4, thence north 40 chains, thence east 40 chains, thence south 40 chains more or less to shore line, thence following the shore line west 40 chains more or less to point of commencement, containing 80 acres, more or less. Dated August 31, 1911. H. M. CLIFF, Pub. Sept. 30. William McNair, Agent.

Bella Coola Land District—District of Coast Range. Take notice that H. M. Cliff of Dundalk, Ireland, occupation gentleman, intends to apply for permission to lease the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at the N. W. corner of Lot 25, thence north 40 chains, thence west 40 chains, thence south 40 chains more or less to shore line, thence following the shore line east 40 chains more or less to point of commencement, containing 80 acres, more or less. Dated August 31, 1911. H. M. CLIFF, Pub. Sept. 30. William McNair, Agent.

Bella Coola Land District—District of Coast Range. Take notice that H. M. Cliff of Dundalk, Ireland, occupation gentleman, intends to apply for permission to lease the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at the S. E. corner of Lot 25, thence north 40 chains more or less to northern boundary of Lease No. 1, applied for by H. M. Cliff, thence north 20 chains along said boundary, thence north 40 chains, thence west 20 chains to point of commencement, containing 80 acres, more or less. Dated August 31, 1911. H. M. CLIFF, Pub. Sept. 30. William McNair, Agent.

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LAND PURCHASE NOTICES

Skeena Land District—District of Coast Range. Take notice that J. J. Stewart of Vancouver, B. C., occupation gentleman, intends to apply for permission to purchase the following described lands: Commencing at a post planted at the shore line of the N. E. corner of Lot 116, thence north 40 chains, thence west 80 chains more or less to shore line, thence following the shore line easterly 80 chains more or less to point of commencement, containing 320 acres, more or less. Dated August 31, 1911. J. J. STEWART, Pub. Oct. 10. Ernest Coyle, Agent.

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