

Qu'Appelle; and the last being composed of the Rocky Mountain Stonies, the Swampy Crees, and the Salteaux of the country lying between Manitoba and Fort Ellice. This classification marks in reality the distinctive characteristics of the Western Indians. On the one hand we find the Prairie Tribes subsisting almost entirely upon the buffalo, assembling together in large camps, acknowledging the leadership and authority of men conspicuous by their abilities in war or in the chase, and carrying on a perpetual state of warfare with the other Indians of the plains.

On the other hand we find the Indians of the Woods subsisting by fishing and by the pursuit of moose and deer, living together in small parties, admitting only a very nominal authority on the part of one man professing to entertain hostile feelings towards certain races, but rarely developing such feelings into positive hostilities—altogether a much more peacefully disposed people, because less exposed to the dangerous influence of large assemblies.

Commencing with the Salteaux, I find that they extend Westward from Portage La Prairie to Fort Ellice, and from thence North to Fort Pelly and the neighborhood of Fort a la Corne, where they border and mix with the kindred race of Swampy or Muskego Crees. At Portage La Prairie to Fort Ellice, a few Sioux have appeared since the outbreak in Minnesota and Dakota in 1862. It is probable that the number of this tribe on British Territory will annually increase with the prosecution of railroad enterprise and settlement in the Northern portion of the United States. At present, however, the Sioux are strangers at Fort Ellice, and have not yet assumed those rights of proprietorship which other tribes, longer resident, arrogate to themselves.

The Salteaux, who inhabit the country lying West of Manitoba, partake of the character of Thickwood and partly of Prairie Indians—the buffalo no longer exists in that portion of the country, the Indian camps are small, and the authority of the chief merely nominal. The language spoken by this tribe is the same dialect of the Algonquin tongue which is used in the Lac la Pluie District and throughout the greater portion of the Settlement.

Passing North-West from Fort Ellice we enter the country of the Cree Indians, having to the North and East the Thickwood Crees, and to the South and West the Plain Crees. The former, under the various names of Swampies or Muskego Indians, inhabit the country West of Lake Winnipeg, extending as far as Forts Pelly and a la Corne, and from the latter place, in a North Westerly direction, to Carlton and Fort Pitt. Their language, which is similar to that spoken by their cousins, the Plain Crees, is also a dialect of the Algonquin tongue. They are seldom found in large numbers, usually forming camps of from four to ten families. They carry on the pursuit of the moose and red deer, and are generally speaking, expert hunters and trappers.

Bordering the Thickwood Crees on the South and West lies the country of the Plain Crees—a land of vast treeless expanses of high rolling prairies, of wooded tracts lying in valleys of many sized streams, in a word the land of the Saskatchewan. A line running direct from the Touchwood Hills to Edmonton House would measure 500 miles in length, yet would lie altogether within the country of the Plain Crees. They inhabit the prairies which extend from the Qu'Appelle to the South Saskatchewan, a portion of territory, which was formerly the

land of the Assinaboine, but which becomes the country of the Crees through lapse of time, and chance of war. From the elbow of the South Branch of the Saskatchewan the Cree nation extends in a West and North West direction to the vicinity of Peace Hills, some fifty miles south of Edmonton. Along the entire line there exists a state of perpetual warfare during the months of Summer and Autumn, for here commences the territory over which roams the great Blackfoot tribe, whose southern boundary lies beyond the Missouri River, and whose western limits are guarded by the giant peaks of the Rocky Mountains. Ever since these tribes became known to the fur traders of the North West, and Hudson's Bay Companies there has existed this state of hostility amongst them. The Crees having been the first to obtain firearms from the White traders, quickly extended their boundaries, and moving from the Hudson's Bay overran the plains of the Upper Saskatchewan. Fragments of other tribes scattered at long intervals through the present country of the Crees attest this conquest, and it is probable that the whole Indian territory lying between the Saskatchewan and the American Boundary Line would have been dominated over by this tribe had they not found themselves opposed by the Great Blackfoot Nation which dwelt along the sources of the Missouri.

Passing West from Edmonton we enter the country of the Rocky Mountain Stonies, a small tribe of Thickwood Indians, dwelling along the source of the North Saskatchewan and in the outer ranges of the Rocky Mountains. A fragment no doubt of the once powerful Assinaboine nation, which has found a refuge amidst the forests and mountains of the West. This tribe is noted as possessing hunters, and mountain guides of great energy and skill. Although at war with the Blackfeet, collisions are not frequent between them, as the Assinaboines never go upon war parties; and the Blackfeet rarely venture into the wooded country.

Having spoken in detail of the Indian tribes inhabiting the line of fertile country lying between Red River and the Rocky Mountains it only remains for me to allude to the Blackfeet with the confederate tribes of Blood, Lurcees and Penguins. These tribes inhabit the great plains lying between the Red Deer River and the Missouri, a vast track of country, which with few exceptions is arid, treeless and sandy—a portion of the true American desert, which extends from the fertile belt of the Saskatchewan to the borders of Texas. With the exception of the Lurcees, the other confederate tribes speak the same language—the Lurcees, being a branch of the Chipewagans of the North, speak a language peculiar to themselves, while at the same time understanding and speaking the Blackfeet tongue. At war with their hereditary enemies, the Crees upon their northern and eastern boundaries—at war with Kootenais and Flathead tribes on South and West—at war with the Assinaboines on the South-East and North West—carrying on predatory excursions against the Americans on the Missouri, this Blackfeet nation forms a people of whom it may truly be said that every man is against them. Essentially a wild lawless, erring race, whose natures have received the stamps of the regions in which they dwell; whose knowledge is read from the great book, which Day, Night and Desert unfolds to them; and yet who possess a rude eloquence, a savage pride and a wild love of freedom of their own. Nor

are there other indications wanting to lead to the hope that this tribe may yet be found to be capable of yielding to the influences to which they have heretofore been strangers, namely Justice and Kindness.

(To be continued.)

CANADIAN LONGEVITY.

A Mr. G. Pontbriant recently died at St. Ours on the River Richelieu, at the patriarchal age of 105 years. He has a brother living in Sorel, who is no less than 108, and is probably the oldest man in Canada. When he was born George III, sat on the throne, the United States were colonies, and the last French soldiers had scarcely returned to France from Canada. He was 13 year old when the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed in 1776; 49 years old when the war of 1812 broke out; 74 when his countrymen rose in arms in '37; and 104 when Confederation went into effect. The population of Canada when he first saw the light did not exceed 80,000 souls; it now exceeds 4,000,000! Upper Canada was a trackless wilderness; the furthest settlement of the British Crown was at Detroit; Ontario now blossoms like the rose, and the time honored old flag has crossed Lake Superior, the Mississippi, the Saskatchewan, and the Columbia, and now floats on the waters of the Pacific. We have recently recorded many instances of Canadian longevity but Mr. Pontbriant's great span with its many instances far exceeds them all.

A BEAUTIFUL INCIDENT.—A gentleman relates that many years ago he was on a visit to the Isle of Man, and during his walks he strolled into the quiet churchyard, where repose the bodies of many faithful and humble Christians. Near a grave in the corner of the churchyard, he noticed a lady with a little girl (the latter about twelve years of age) to whom she was relating the story of the Dairyman's Daughter, whose remains lay beneath their feet. As the lady proceeded with her narrative he observed the little girl lift up her eyes filled with tears, and heard her say she would try and be as good as the Dairyman's Daughter had been. After planting a beautiful lily on the grave, they walked slowly away. The gentleman upon making enquiry, found that the lady was the Duchess of Kent and the little girl her daughter. The latter is now the Queen of England.

A Kentuckian has killed himself at the early age of 90 by drinking a pint of whiskey daily for the brief period of thirty years, and the temperance press points to his untimely end as an illustration of how swiftly retribution follows a vicious course.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—The very agreeable character of this preparation has rendered it a general favorite. The CIVIL SERVICE GAZETTE remarks:—"The singular success which Mr. Epps attained by his homoeopathic preparation of cocoa has never been surpassed by any experimentalist. By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills." Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold by the Trade only in 1lb., 1lb., and 1lb. tinned packets, labelled—JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London England.