

## THE WAR OF 1912.

A COMING EVENT OUTLINED FROM ITS SHADOW.

AFTER many years of N.P. rule, emigration to the United States had drained Canada of the enterprising and ambitious, to such an extent that when in 1912 the trade troubles between the two countries culminated in war, its population was no greater than it had been a century before. But the Tories were well satisfied with this result, and praised the N.P. as an improvement on Gideon's method of selecting a band of indomitable heroes. They said the poor but hardy yeomen that were left, living from hand to mouth, so to speak, would make the most desperate, hand-to-hand resistance. Having been so long debarred from selling anything, they would be sure to sell their lives to the best possible advantage.

Yet Canada, though poor, could still boast a few monopoly-made millionaires. But these preferred to serve the State in a civil rather than a military capacity. The booming of town sites was more congenial to them than the booming of cannon, for though the latter like the former created an artificial demand for real estate in small lots, none but bona fide settlers could hold them. The unturned increment could be manipulated only by the undertaker; there was nothing to attract the speculator in such land grabbing. Yet these rich men disclaimed selfish motives while refusing to enlist. They said, that as they represented the wealth of the land, it would be high treason to expose themselves to the risks of the battlefield. If they fell, like Cæsar, O, what a fall that would be! the fall of the *capital* of their country, none but traitors would put it in such jeopardy. So they generously left to others the bright laurels of war, and with praiseworthy humility applied themselves to the dull drudgery of securing fat contracts for army supplies.

The campaign opened with brilliant prospects for Canada. The aged but indomitable Col. Denison, at the head of a large force of Indians from the Grand River Reservation, carried fire and sword through the more sparsely settled regions of Michigan, scalping men, women and children. The gallant Colonel was determined to outshine the exploits of the British in 1812 in their sacking of Buffalo and other frontier towns, and would doubtless have succeeded had he not met with a misadventure. In looting a small town the Indians discovered a large quantity of fire water, and soon the Colonel found his braves transformed into useless sots. But this remarkable man was equal to the emergency. Hastily improvising a police court, he caused his entire force to be arrested as common drunks, and gave them the usual thirty days. Before this sentence expired, however, the Americans invested the place and captured the whole army. (July 4, 1912.)



IN A BERLIN BALLROOM.

FLOOR MANAGER—"What is the Emperor so angry about?"

HOST—"While he was talking to a friend he laid down his crown, and a fat duchess sat on it."

Meanwhile, the main body of the American army had crossed the Niagara, and found opposed to them only a few companies of raw militia. These were armed with a new untested gun, in the manufacture of which Sir Bogus Boodle, K.C.B., had found fame and wealth. The recoil of this deadly weapon was most effective; the front rank was hurled back upon the others with such force and precision as to throw the entire army into a state of inextricable confusion. The Americans coming up at double quick were thus able to capture it before order could be restored. Then the Canadians recognized in their captors, sons, brothers, and old friends, who had emigrated to the States in former years. The battlefield became a kind of family reunion. The bruises of the wounded were tenderly cared for, and the combined forces made the night ring with the strains of Auld Lang Syne. (July 1, 1912.)

These decisive victories brought the war to a close, and peace was soon after concluded on terms honorable and advantageous to both countries. The hostile tariffs were abolished, and all sources of irritation and friction in trade were removed by the adoption of unrestricted reciprocity, a term which has ever since proved itself synonymous with peace and prosperity. WILLIAM MCGILL.