

PREFACE.

THE "KIDNAPPERS" is the style of a new farce which is about to be produced at one of the leading Theatres in London.

The author is a Canadian and naturally desires the applause of his countrymen, before submitting this, his literary pet to the criticism of a foreign audience.

We have therefore secured a few of the advanced sheets for circulation in Canada, in order that the public here may pass an opinion upon the merits of the farce.

Many of the *Dramatis Personæ* will be readily recognized by every one acquainted with the current of events in Canada.

The whole farce is founded upon facts which have occurred within the remembrance of the oldest (or some of the young) inhabitants.

The characters are drawn from life, every one of them being now living.

The soliloquies were taken down by intimate friends of the speakers and are in their very words. The very peculiarities of idiom and expression being carefully preserved.

This little piece when completed will present a life-like picture of the manners and customs of Skitzland. Our descendants who it is hoped will be more virtuous (politically) will read it with surprise and perhaps disgust--wondering at the degeneracy of their forefathers rulers.

We hope at some future time to submit to an anxious and appreciative public the remainder of this great and unrivalled literary effort.

The talented author may be able in the last acts of the farce, to show how the outraged community of Skitzland rose in its might and hurled from power, the horde of unprincipled adventures and political cormorants which infested the body politic.

We have suggested to the author that his play should be dedicated to "The first politician of Skitzland who pursued an honest and patriotic course, or observed the pledges made to his constituents before election." He is seriously considering the suggestion.

"THE PUBLISHERS."