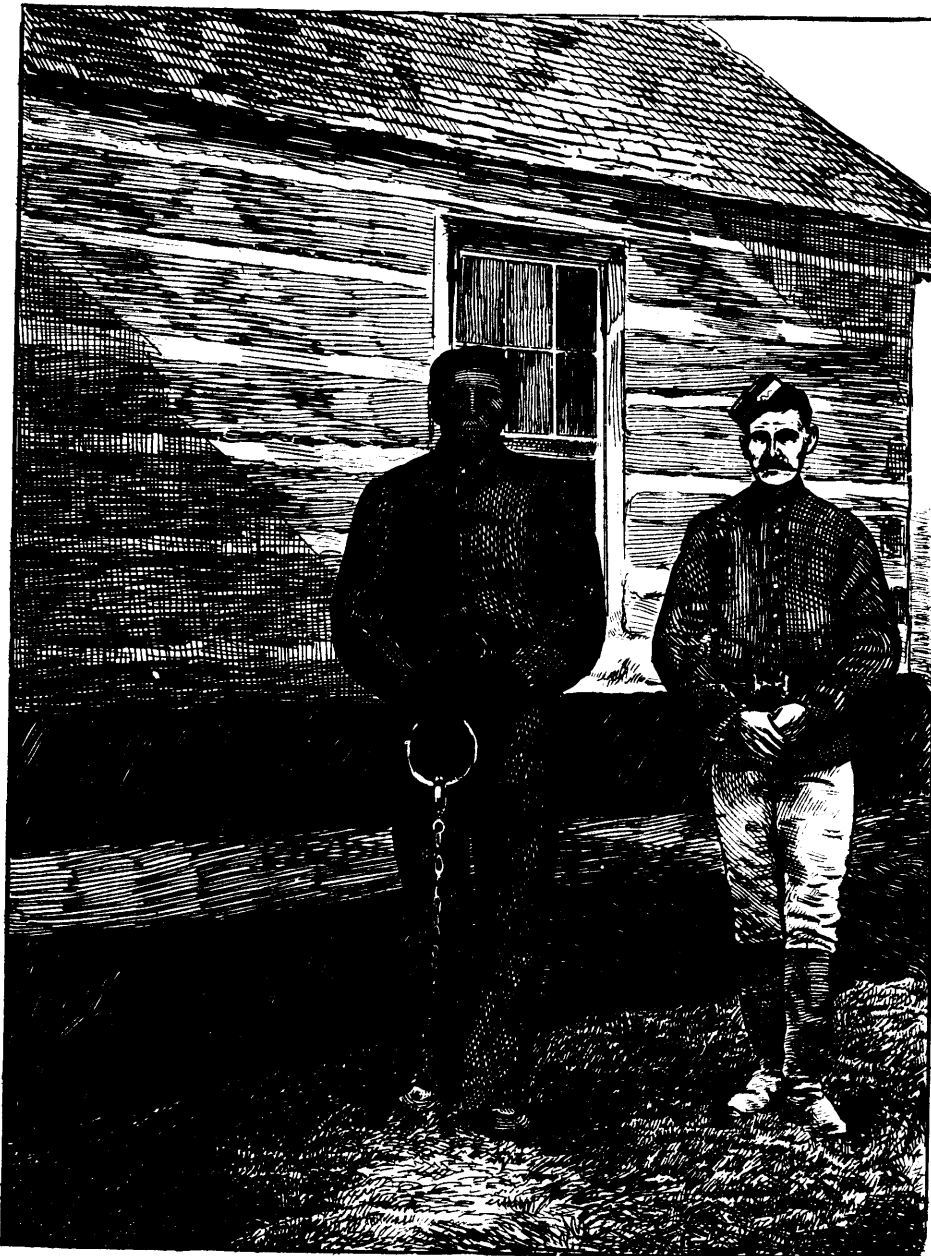


A CANNIBAL OF THE NORTH-WEST.

The subject of our illustration, a thick-wood Cree Indian, was hanged at Fort Saskatchewan, about twenty miles from Edmonton, on the 26th of last month. He is represented not in his native costume but in prison dress and in charge of one of the Mounted Police. He is supposed to have killed and eaten in all eight persons during the winter of 1878-79. These included his wife, five children, his mother and half brother. He seems to have gone about the matter deliberately enough as even the bones which were found had been broken to extract the marrow. It was proved that he could not have been actually starving and the last victim was a boy whom he killed not far from Victoria, to which place he might have come for relief if really in want. He was tried at Fort Saskatchewan last summer by Col. Richardson, the Stipendary Magistrate, and acknowledged the correctness of the charge in respect to four of the victims though denying it for the others. His wife had been heard to say long ago that she was afraid her husband would some day kill and eat his children as he had told her that his familiar spirit or Manitou—a moose—had urged him to do so. Instances of cannibalism are not very uncommon among the natives of the northern part of the continent, but generally occur only in cases of actual starvation. Swift Runner is said to have met his death bravely, and his execution was heartily approved of by all the Indians of the region. The execution of Swift Runner is probably the first official execution in the North-West Territory.

A NOBLE DONATION.—Mr. John Jacob Astor has presented to the trustees of the Vctor Library a plot of ground adjoining the present building, with funds for the erection of a new building, which will increase the capacity of the Library for books from 200,000 volumes to 350,000. When it is completed, a million of dollars will represent the liberality of the Astor family in behalf of the library since the date of its foundation. The first sum given by the elder Astor \$400,000. In the construction of the first building \$100,000 was expended, and the erection of the second building involved an outlay of \$150,000. These figures do not include the value of the land upon which the library stands. Since its opening contributions of from \$15,000 to \$20,000 have been made yearly by the Astor family for the purchase of new books.

HERBERT SPENCER.—A forehead that would have suggested the term "dome-like" quicker

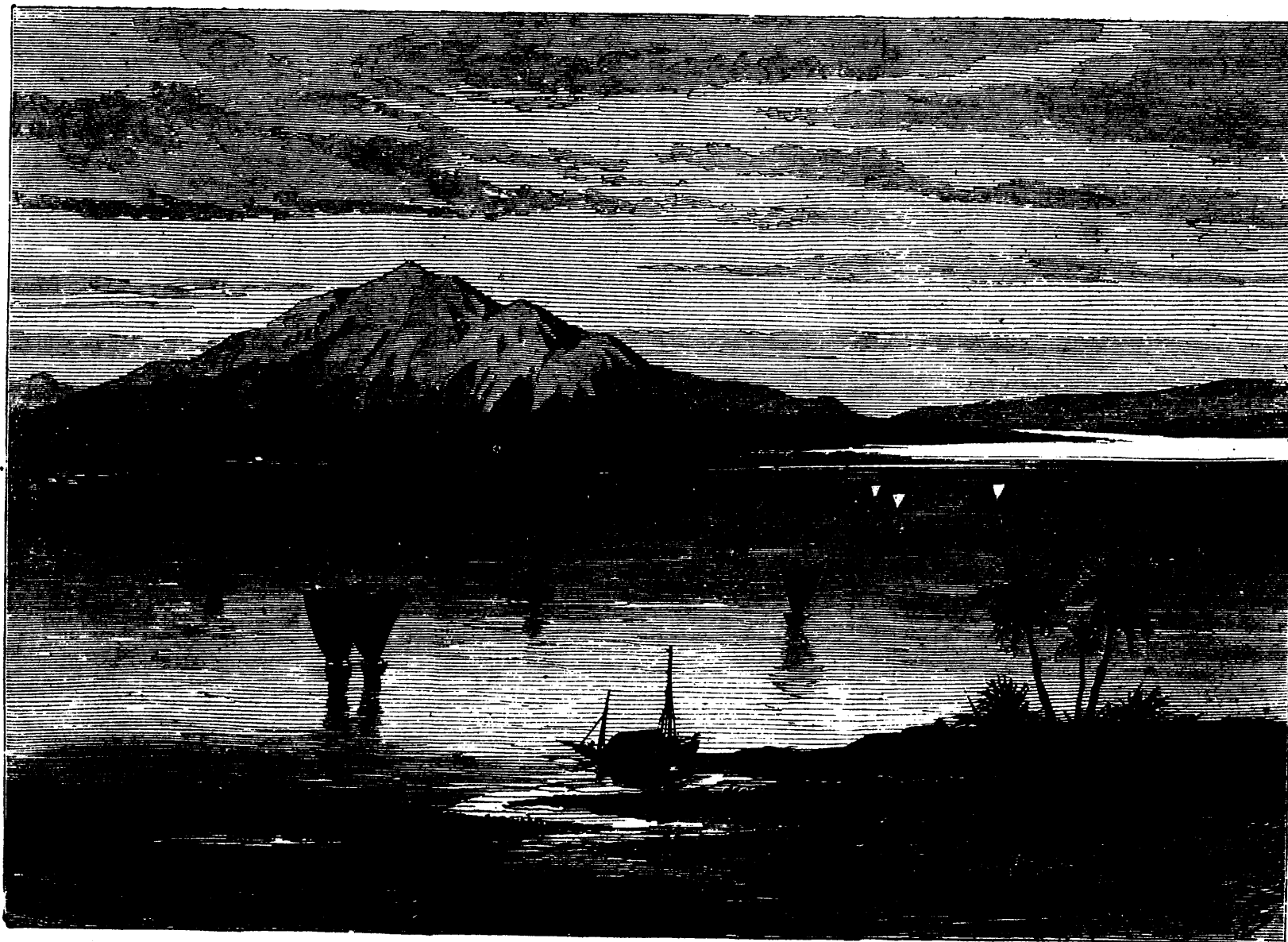


THE CANNIBAL OF THE NORTH-WEST.

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than WEBSTER'S, a pair of eager but kindly hazel eyes, an almost femininely delicate Roman nose, a singularly upper lip, a firm but gentle mouth, the whole framed in a dark beard, shaved from the lips and chin, and hair thin on top, but increasing into thick waves on the sides—such is the portrait which a correspondent of the Evening Post presents of Herbert Spencer, whom he saw as one of the regular attendants at Professor John Fiske's lectures on "America's Place in History." Mr. Spencer said afterward to the correspondent that, supposing himself to know the subject as well as his time would permit him to know it, he had gone to the first lecture solely from interest in the lecturer, but, to his surprise, he found himself so interested and instructed by the entirely novel treatment that he continued going to the end of the course.

DR. JOHNSON.—Hannah More and her sister visited London in 1773 and 1774, and were the guests of Garrick. They were received with favour by Johnson, Reynolds and Burke. Hannah More's sister has described their first interview with Johnson: "We have paid another visit to Miss Reynolds; she had sent to engage Dr. Percy—Percy Collection, now you know him—quite a sprightly modern, instead of a rusty antique, as I expected. He was no sooner gone than the most amiable and obliging of women, Miss Reynolds, ordered the coach to take us to Dr. Johnson's very own house. Yes, Abyssinian Johnson! Dictionary Johnson! Ramblers, Ilders and Irene Johnson! Can you picture to yourselves the palpitation of our hearts as we approached the mansion? The conversation turned upon a new work of his just going to press, 'The Tour of the Hebrides,' and his old friend Richardson. Mrs. Williams, the blind poetess, who lives with him, was introduced to us. She is engaging in her manners, her conversation lively and entertaining. Miss Reynolds told the doctor of all her rapturous exclamations on the road. He shook his scientific head at Hannah, and said she was a silly thing. When our visit was ended, he called for his hat, as it rained, to attend us down a very long entry to our coach, and not Rasselas could have acquitted himself more en cavalier. Dr. Johnson's wigs were in general very shabby, and their foreparts were burned away by their near approach to the candle which his short-sightedness rendered necessary in reading. At Streatham Mr. Thrale's butler always had a wig ready; and, as Johnson passed from the drawing-room, when dinner was announced, the servant would remove the ordinary wig and replace it with a newer one; and this ludicrous ceremony was performed every day."



AFFAIRS IN BURMAH.—THYETYMO, THE FRONTIER TOWN.