

Prince Albert, Battleford and Edmonton. The primitive town, however, was built by the *Bois-brulé*, or half-breed plain hunters, in their palmy days. It was called Keeskatahagan-Otaynow, or Stump Town, from its situation on a wooded bend of the river. Mackenzie in his journal mentions that Spanish horses, with their original owners' brands still upon them, were plentiful, when he wrote, on the Saskatchewan. It is hard to believe that they were raided out of remote Mexico by the Blackfeet, though they were a very daring race. The Spanish horse was the progenitor of the existing Indian ponies.

"Huskies," a corruption of the word *Esquimaux*, are train dogs which are summed in large numbers at fishing-posts in the interior. The true "huskie" is believed to be a cross between the wolf and dogs seduced from trading-posts when in season.

"Moniyas." This is the Cree word for Canadian; but it means, as well, any new-comer or "green-horn." *Moniya* stands for Canada, and, as in the Cree alphabet the letters "l" and "r" are wanting, it is probably the Indian's effort to pronounce the word *Montreal* as the French voyageurs did. Another derivation refers the word to the sailing of the first English ships into the offing at Nelson River on Hudson Bay; but this is fanciful. The word is in common use on the Saskatchewan, even among whites who have mingled much with the natives of the country.

"The trip to York," namely to York factory on Hudson Bay, used to be made in spring and summer, and by this route the supplies for the North-West, including Red River, were largely brought until the transfer of the Territories to Canada. It was a very laborious trip, owing to the numerous portages, which taxed the voyageur's carrying powers to the utmost.

"Pandion *Carolinensis*." This bird (the American osprey) frequents the Grand Rapids, though not in great numbers. Pelicans and cormorants are abundant, and, when running the Rapids, are frequently flushed together with startling effect.

"Prisoners' Island" lies at the foot of the Rapids, and, during the strife between the rival fur companies in times past, was used by the successful side for the time being as a place of safe-keeping of prisoners. Hence its name, which it still retains.

"*The Iroquois at the Stake.*"

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In these verses an attempt is made to represent the ruling spirit, strong in death, of an Iroquois warrior of the highest rank, when his nation was at the culmination of its power, and keenly alive to the import of white encroachment and aggression. Readers of Canadian history are familiar with the pages of Parkman, and a few with those of Warburton, an antecedent historian of the conquest, strangely neglected nowadays. But though many readers are familiar with the record of the struggle for supremacy between the French and English, and for independence, on the part of the Indians, which raged with