

## THE TRIUMPHS OF PEACE.

Lines written for the opening of the Dominion Exhibition at Montreal, September 14th, 1880.

"Peace hath her victories  
No less renowned than war."

MILTON.

Though green the laurel round the brow  
Of warring and triumphant WAR,  
PEACE, with her sacred olive bough,  
Can boast of conquest nobler far:  
Beneath her gentle sway  
Earth blossoms like a rose—  
The wild old woods recede away;  
Through realms, unknown but yesterday,  
The tide of Empire flows.

Woke by her voice rise cities grand, and towers,  
ART builds a home, and LEARNING finds her bower—  
Triumphant LABOUR for the confidant girls,  
Speaks in great words instead of empty words;  
Bends stubborn matter to his iron will,  
Drains the foul marsh, and sends in twain the hill—  
A hanging bridge across the torrent flings,  
And gives the car of fire restless wings.  
Light kindles up the forest to its heart,  
And happy thousands through the new-born mart;  
Fleet ships of steam, deriding tide and blast,  
On the blue bounding waters hurry past;  
ADVENTURE, eager for the task, explores  
Primeval wilds, and lone sequestered shores—  
Braves every peril, and a beacon lights  
To guide the nations on untrodden heights.

H. MOTT.

## A FEMALE CRUSOE.

AN INDIAN WOMAN WHO LIVED 18 YEARS ALONE  
ON AN ISLAND.

Mr. George Nidever, of Santa Barbara, has given a complete account of his discovery of a lone Indian woman on San Nicolas Island, in the Pacific ocean, in 1853. Mr. Nidever is an otter hunter. He went to Santa Barbara in 1835, and found two other Americans, Isaac J. Sparks and Lewis T. Burton, engaged in the same business. They chartered a schooner of twenty tons burden, built at Monterey, called *Peor es Nada* (Better than Nothing), for a trip to the coast of Lower California, leaving Santa Barbara about the first of May, 1835. Mr. Nidever did not accompany them. Not being as successful as those in charge expected, three months later the *Peor es Nada* put into San Pedro, the port or landing of Los Angeles, on her return trip. From San Pedro she went to the island of San Nicolas, about seventy miles south-west from San Pedro and a little further south-east from Santa Barbara, for the purpose of removing the Indians then on the island to the mainland, and returned with eighteen men, women and children. How long the Indians had been residents of the island, how they got there, and by whose authority they were removed, Mr. Nidever does not know. One of the Indians, rather dwarfed in intellect, but possessing physical strength equal to three or four ordinary men, remained at San Pedro; two of the women were taken by two Americans living in Los Angeles county; the remainder of the party divided, part going to Los Angeles and part to San Gabriel mission. The two men who selected their partners from the party took an active part in having the Indians removed from the island.

An Indian woman was absent gathering wood when the others were taken away, but returned to the camp or quarters, and, finding them deserted, followed in time to be taken aboard the schooner; but, not finding her children there, one a babe at the breast and the other about three years old, she plunged into the water and swam ashore in search of them. Unable to find them, she returned to the beach just in time to see the schooner leaving. She called to those on board, but the only reply she got, and which she remembered to the day of her death, was "Manana," pronounced mah-nah-nah, the Spanish word for "to-morrow," evidently meaning that the schooner would return for her to-morrow or the following day. She threw herself down on the beach and cried long and bitterly. She did not find her children, and supposed they were either taken off with the others or carried away and devoured by the wild dogs on the island. She became very sick and lay for a long time (she could not compute time) without water or food, but finally recovered, and forgot her grief in wandering about the island. She lived on a plant resembling the cabbage, called by Californians "palesanto," and a root known by the name of "corcomite," also a yellow root, the name of which was not given, and seal or sea-lion blubber. As she had abalone shell fish-hooks, and lines made of the sinews of the seal, it is probable she supplied herself with fish from the ocean.

An approaching storm, and night coming on, the water being quite shoal about the island and unsafe for a vessel during a high wind, those in charge of the *Peor es Nada* were compelled to leave for the safety of the ship, intending to return at a future time for the deserted woman. The vessel ran before the gale and reached San Pedro harbour in safety. But circumstances did not permit a return prior to the loss of the schooner in a storm a few weeks later, and the distance to the island was too great to be made in the small shore boats.

In 1851 Mr. Nidever visited the island otter hunting, and saw signs of a human inhabitant. He saw a footprint made during the previous rainy season, sunken deeply in the now dry, hard ground, and, from the size, judged it to be that of a woman. Also three small circular enclosures about 200 yards from the beach, and about a mile apart. They were about six feet in diameter, made of brush, the walls five feet high, with a small opening on one side. Near

these openings were sticks of drift-wood stuck in the ground in the form of a tripod, supporting dried seal blubber. These enclosures appeared to be simply wind-breaks, affording no protection from the rain. The investigation was pursued no further, as an approaching storm compelled them to leave the island. Mr. Nidever, having seen many others on his first trip to the island, made a second during the winter of 1852, and being requested by the Mission Fathers of Santa Barbara, had determined to make a careful hunt for the supposed lone inhabitant of the island. The head of the island being better supplied with fresh water closer to that portion of the beach affording the best facilities for fishing, and the altitude such as to command a view of the greater portion of the island and coast, he supposed, if alive, she would be found there, and made his arrangements accordingly. He and his party found the same or similar enclosures above-mentioned, and the tripod sticks supporting renewed pieces of blubber. In the neighbourhood of the huts or wind-breaks were seven or eight wild dogs, about the size of a coyote (a small wolf on this coast), and in colour black and white. Mr. Nidever said he had seen the same kind of dogs among the North-West Indians. They appeared to be very wild. Within half a mile of the head of the island they discovered a basket in the crotch of a bush or small tree, covered with seal skin (the shag is a species of duck that can neither walk nor fly), carefully folded up, and several square pieces of skin similar to those of which the dress was made, a rope made of seal sinews, abalone shell fish-hooks, bone needles, &c. As it was late, and time for them to return to their boat for the night, Mr. N. scattered the contents of the basket on the ground, so that on his return he could judge of the presence or absence of the owner by finding them gathered up or remaining as he left them. The following four or more days were busily spent in otter hunting, and before the search for the Indian woman was renewed a south-east gale compelled them to seek a more hospitable harbour at the island of San Miguel. A third voyage by Mr. N. and six others, four of whom were Indians from Santa Barbara Mission, was made to the island in July, 1853; and, although otter hunting was the main object of the visit, the Indian woman was not forgotten. They landed on the north-east side of the island early in the day, and having selected their camping site, all but the cook started for the head of the island.

Fresh footprints were observed leading from the beach to the ridge, or higher elevation, but were soon lost in moss-covered ground, which ended the search for the day. The following day they were more successful. One of the party, Mr. Deitman, discovered the object of their search at a distance, and cautiously approaching in an opposite direction from the balance of the party, got quite close to her without being observed. She was in one of her pens, or wind-breaks, clothed in a garment made of the skins of the shag, without sleeves, low-necked, and, as observed when standing, extending almost to the ankles. She was sitting cross-legged, skinning seal blubber with a rude knife made of a piece of hoop-iron driven into a piece of wood. There was no covering on her head, excepting a thick mass of matted hair of a yellowish brown colour, due to its exposure to the sun and air. The hair was short, looking as though the free ends had rotted off. She would occasionally raise her hand, shade her eyes and look toward the beach, where she evidently saw those from whom Mr. Deitman had recently separated. There were two or three of the wild dogs around the enclosure, which began to growl as Mr. Deitman approached, but ran off at the bidding of their mistress. The balance of the party were now signalled, in order that she might be captured if she attempted to escape. To the surprise of all, she made no attempt to get away, but greeted each one as he approached with a bow and a smile, and chattered all the while in a dialect which none of them understood, although the Indians accompanying Mr. Nidever were acquainted with several Indian dialects. She was talking apparently to herself from the time Mr. Deitman approached within hearing until she was made aware of his presence.

Within the enclosure a fire was smouldering, and a large ash pile outside showed that to have been her abiding place for some time. She was very hospitable—preparing a meal from her limited store of roots before named, and serving the party with a grace and bearing that surprised them all. The expression of her face was pleasing, and her features were regular. Her complexion was much fairer, and her form more symmetrical than the Indian women on the main land, and she is believed to have belonged to a different and superior race, which opinion is strengthened by the fact that Monsieur Leon de Cessac, a Frenchman, now engaged in collecting archaeological and other specimens of bygone years on the Pacific coast of North and South America for a Paris museum, has found many things on the Island San Nicolas similar to those previously collected in Oregon, Washington Territory, and further north, and unlike anything found either on the mainland or the other islands. And the skulls and other bones of the human skeletons found there are unlike those found in other sections of Southern California. Near her enclosure were several stakes, between which was stretched a rope made of the seal's sinews, supporting seal and seal elephant blubber. Further on were three huts made of whales' ribs, covered with brush, but giving no

evidence of having been lately occupied. By signs and other means of communication she was made aware that they wanted her to accompany them, and without any apparent hesitation she made ready to follow. She filled a basket—with provisions, fishing tackle and other articles, and taking it on one arm, and a firebrand in the other hand she followed the company.

In their course to where the schooner lay at anchor, they found a beautiful spring of water issuing from the bank above the beach, under a shelving rock. The cracks or fissures in this rock were stuck full of bones and there were other evidences of an encampment of the lone inhabitant of the island. These bones were used for nourishment, obtained by sucking; they had been dried and re-sucked many times, showing that, occasionally, she was put upon short rations; but at the time of her discovery, she appeared to have an abundance, such as it was. She retained all her teeth, but they were worn low, supposed to be due to the chewing of tough and solid articles of food. Her age appeared to be about 50 years. Further on was another spring near the beach, under the bank. Here she indicated a desire to bathe, and was permitted to do so by the balance of the party retiring out of sight. After her bath she joined the others and went direct to the shore boat, and thence to the schooner. She was prevailed upon to abandon her firebrand and seal blubber before leaving the beach. Going aboard the vessel, she went directly to the stove and warmed herself, indicating that she knew its use. She ate heartily of the food of the crew, appeared to enjoy it, and it agreed with her. Mr. Deitman made her a skirt of ticking, with which, and a sailor's cotton shirt and a black necktie, her attire was complete. She assisted in making her dress, but could not see to thread her needle. Her sewing was quite rude. She appeared much pleased with her new apparel. The following day she went ashore with the men, who made a separate shelter for her, which she occupied about a month—the time spent on the island otter hunting. She was quite industrious, carrying wood and water without its being required of her. She appeared contented and happy, frequently singing and chatting to herself. The men could not understand what she said, nor she they; but Mr. N. said it was truly wonderful how she could converse with them by signs. She occupied a portion of her time making water vessels of grass and asphaltum—a substance plentiful on the islands and shore of the main land. The grass was plaited into a shape resembling a demijohn, but wider at the top, and lined with asphaltum. She would put in several small pieces of the last-mentioned substance, then drop on them small pebbles or stones about the size of hulled walnuts, heated sufficient to melt the asphaltum, and grasping the neck with both hands, the lower end being on the ground, would give it a rapid rotary motion for several minutes and then empty the stone on the ground.

The vessels had a continuous coating on the inside, and are reported to have been water-tight, the lining even resisting the heat of the sun when covered with water. She had both stone and earthen vessels in which to boil water and cook if desired. To procure seal blubber, she could kill the seals with a club, when on land sunning themselves, or snare them with her sinew ropes. She obtained fire by rubbing two dry sticks together. One of them, partly flat, had a groove along its entire length; the other was pointed and fitted into the groove, in which it was rubbed rapidly backward and forward until it burned. As usual, a storm compelled the party to leave the island, and, embarking with their island queen, they soon found themselves at sea in a storm. She made signs that she could stop the storm, and, obtaining permission, knelt on the deck facing the quarter whence the wind came, and commenced muttering something supposed to be a prayer. She soon got up, and continued the prayer at intervals during the day, apparently without fear; and when the wind began to abate, she turned to her fellow voyagers, and, with a smile, made signs that her prayers had been answered.

When they came in sight of Santa Cruz island, off this coast, she told them by signs what it was, and indicated how she had seen from her island ships pass up and down, but never land, and how, the day previous to her discovery, she had seen the Nidever party pass to the head of the island. She was afraid to make herself known until she knew that there was no danger to her person. There were many places of concealment on the island, and unless taken unaware she would have been hard to find.

As she was about to land at Santa Barbara an ox team passed, which so delighted her that she talked, laughed, danced and gesticulated; and before that excitement ended a man on horseback approached, which gave her even more pleasure than the ox team. At first it was supposed that she thought the man and horse constituted one animal; but if so, the mistake was soon corrected, for, on landing, she went up to the horse and carefully examined it. The examination gave her additional pleasure. She would turn to her late companions and laughingly request them to look at the beast. She straddled the thumb of the left hand by the index and middle fingers of the right and moved them to represent the horse and the rider as they passed along the beach. She was taken to the house of Mr. Nidever, where she became the centre of attraction. The Mission Fathers took a great interest in her—sending to Los Angeles and other places, hoping to find some one who

understood her dialect, but failed. Even the Pepimaro Indians, who were said to have had an acquaintance with the Indians on the island, could not understand her. The family of Mr. N. became very much attached to her, and although the captain of the brig *Fremont* offered largely for the privilege of taking her to San Francisco and placing her on exhibition, it was refused. Many people called on her and she received them kindly; but the afternoon was her favourite time for receiving calls, when she would put on her shagskin dress and entertain her callers with a song and a dance. She cared nothing for money—giving it to the children when given to her. She did not wish to sleep in a bed, and when in bed did not desire bed-covering, but was careful not to expose herself. Her manners were not rude, and in many things she was more refined than many who enjoy civilized privileges; yet in many things she was very much like a child. She wanted everything which she saw that appeared pleasant to the eye or seemed good to the taste; and if fruit was withheld from her she would plead for it in such a child-like manner that it was hard to refuse her. When found she was in excellent physical condition, strong and active; but the eating of fruit and vegetables brought on a summer complaint in about three weeks after she landed, and that, in connection with an injury to the spine received by falling from a porch, terminated her life four weeks later, or seven weeks from the time she landed. During her sickness she reluctantly permitted her kind hostess to dress her in flannel underclothes, and took her bed under proper covering, but positively refused to return to her former plain diet, as was proposed by some of those who called to see her. Her dress of shagskins, basket and trinkets were given to Father Gonzales of the mission, who, it is said, sent them to Rome.

Statistics in civilized life show a greater longevity in the marital and social relations than in celibacy and the life of the recluse; but here is one who had attained the age of 50 years with a physique indicating that a period in the future might be reached equal to that of the past, that for eighteen years had been absolutely alone. With the exception of the sickness immediately after her desertion, she reported no illness during the time of her exile. She appeared to enjoy perfect health, with no failure of any of the bodily functions, excepting that of sight, which may have been either hypermetropic or presbyopic; if the former, most likely it was congenital; if the latter, it may have been hastened by the little use made of the power of accommodation for near objects—she daily cultivating the power of distant vision, in commanding a view of the island and looking seaward. The extremes of heat and cold are unknown on the islands off this coast; frost is seldom seen in the winter, and the heat of summer is not oppressive, owing to the ocean winds, which give a most equable climate the year round, favourable to an out-door life. During the rainy season she, probably, took shelter in a cave, or under-shelving rocks, as found upon the island; but that as it may, the vicissitudes of the weather did not appear to affect her unpleasantly. Her out-door life gave a digestion equal to the use of the seal blubber, and her supply of the small variety of vegetables assisted in nourishing her without deranging the secretions. On this island, estimated at fourteen miles in length and averaging about four in width, its highest elevation being not more than six hundred feet above sea level, but sparsely timbered, with its rocks, sandy plains, and limited vegetation, clear spring water, which invited repeated ablutions, with no roof to intercept the welcome rays of the sun, our female Crusoe possessed and used the means conducive to a long life. But the change from such a life to one of more luxury and indolence soon demanded the penalty of the violated laws of health—sickness and death!

## BRELOQUES POUR DAMES.

THEY were at a dinner-party, and he remarked that he supposed she was fond of ethnology. She said she was, but she was not very well, and the doctor told her not to eat anything for dessert but oranges.

THE savage of the Fiji Islands, who knows nothing of chastity, sins less, says a recent writer, than the beauty who plays with temptation and stands on the verge of danger calculating how far she may go without ruining her reputation.

AT a fruit and flower tent at a fashionable London entertainment one beautiful young married lady sold a buttonhole bouquet for \$50. One or two gentlemen collected much money by charging five shillings to point out and name the professional beauties.

ENGLISH ladies in Portugal play lawn tennis in flowing English trousers, laced at the ankle. There is a bright coloured, square bodice, without sleeves, and tied at the waist, and a loosely-laced skirt comes nearly to the knee. It is an adaptation of the country costume in which are Moorish features.

"Ah! madame," exclaimed the customer, "you are so admirably fitted by nature for the tableau! [madame is delighted]—so utterly devoid of life, you know!" Madame smiles sweetly, but there is life enough inside her just now—life that means death to him, if wishes are fatal.

## NEW NOTICE.

PIMPLY ERUPTIONS ON THE FACE can be driven out of the system by ACUE PILLS. They contain no arsenic or any poisonous drug; nor do they debilitate, but strengthen and tone up, aid digestion, and purify the blood. Box with full particulars mailed to any part of Canada or United States for \$1. Sample packets 25 cents (stamps). Address, W. HEARN, Druggist, Ottawa, Canada.