

HISTORY OF CANADA.

BY BUTTERFLY BEESWAXES, ESQ.

No. II.

Having proceeded so far with our conjectures about the origin of the aboriginal Indians, we will at once proceed to details more authentically grounded on fact. The first person who entered the Gulf of St. Lawrence was John Cabot, who laid the foundation of the Family Compact, by depositing several nephews on the coast of Labrador. He was called Cabit, or Cabot, on account of his disdain- ing to adopt the pedestrian mode of locomotion— invariably preferring to *cab it*. A gentleman of such habits was well qualified to found such a race as now forms the aristocracy of Upper Canada. By a brilliant succession of advantageous swaps, the nephews in question gained considerable wealth in wampum and furs, and found themselves in a position to buy up large tracts of land in the neighbor- hood of Toronto. The next great discoverer was Jacques Cartier, the grandfather of our present (1859) Premier. A celebrated stratagem of his reveals greater ability and sagacity than all the adventures which made known the existence of fresh nations, races, and seas. One day he sat in conference with three dangerous tribes of Indians, viz: the Dinsku- tises, Yellow-Bellies, and Copper-Bottoms, and Ske- doodgeon, their great chieftain, stood up and said: "By the Great Spirit of High Wines and High- Water, O Braves of the Dinskutises have you for- gotten the day you roasted your enemies, the Brandy-Snag warriors. O Copper-Bottoms will you forever rest on your ignoble extremities, without raising your tomahawks to slit the ears of the invaders? O Yellow-Bellies don't be squatting there all day, hunting for grasshoppers in the long grass of your camping-ground. Arise, and cut every scalp from the heads of these cursed Pale Faces."

Thereupon Cartier, not at all alarmed, brought himself of some Cod Liver Oil and Black Draught, which Mrs. Cartier was in the habit of giving to the children every Monday morning, and which she had carefully packed in his portmanteau, as he was about to depart from her conjugal embraces and uxorial supervision. With promptitude he rose and said:

"Din-ah, ah, pardon, Din-sku-sku-tises, Yellow Bottoms, ah, pardon, et aussi Copper Bellies, che-s amis, prenez une verre d'eau de vie, et soyons amis."

The Indians failed to comprehend the precise meaning of his oration, but when they saw some- thing of a fluid consistency proffered for their consumption, they at once held out their outlandish skull cups and partook heartily of the stingo. In a very short time they began to feel the effects of the dose, and, Cartier taking advantage of their com- bined lassitude and confusion, shot them at his leisure. One reason why this incident never passed into the public press at the time is, that Cartier was afraid to let his wife know of the real use he had put her drugs, as he had the day before written home to say that he had consumed the whole of it in the course of a regular system of domestic dosing.

Our enterprising friend, according to the account given in the "*Relations des Juuits*," sailed one Queen's Birthday up the St. Lawrence from Quebec, and was much pleased with the Victoria Bridge. He soon came across the Lachine and Rideau canals, and his sailors sang cheerily the well-known "Canadian Boat Song," much to the delight of the natives. He then passed through the Welland Canal into Lake Erie to as far as Cleveland, where he got into a scrape with the Yankees, by trying to smuggle cheroots from that city to the Canadian side.

His successors developed that lucrative trade which has since been exhausted in almost every part of North America. The Frenchmen made a good deal out of the Indians, who were quite as invariably skinned, as the animals whose pelts they sold for whiskey.

The subject, however, is becoming too *fur-tile* for us and we will prudently close this chapter.

SERVANT GALISM.

What on earth are we coming to in Canada? Our servants or "helps" as the Yankees delicately put it, are decidedly getting the upper-hand of us. As one instance out of many we might give, what do our readers think of the degrading position Pater-familias must have reached before he could insert the following advertisement:

"WANTED, a good plain cook and laundress, in a small family with good testimonials. Apply at No. 29 Haberdasher's Row."

A small family with good testimonials! Has it at length come to this, that Biddy and Molly; and Susan must see a family's testimonials before enter- ing service? Talk about Russian serfdom and American Slavery; they are as nothing compared with such a system as this. Not content with trot- ting about with silks and satins as rich as their mistresses, and with painfully exaggerated crinolines, they must needs sit in judgment on the moral char- acter and domestic capabilities of their employers. Whither are we drifting, servant-galnally speaking? It is plain that unless some resistance is at once made to this alarming encroachment on our rights, we shall soon be under the rule of the kitchen. The roasting jack and the rolling pin will now be the emblem of authority, and law and authority will be given from the kitchen dresser. We claim from Paterfamilias a full explanation of the nature of these testimonials to be submitted to the scruti- nizing eyes of candidates for cookship? Why does not some one initiate an anti-servant-girls'- doing-as-they-like-society? *Old Double*, fine old lady, has doubtless often been cook-pecked, why does she not come to the rescue? The present condition of things is awful. Only fancy, "a small family with good testimonials!"

IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

The Montreal *Commercial Advertiser* has the honor of making an astounding discovery regarding the royal game of cricket. Sometimes great and start- ling discoveries are brought to light by the most

trivial events; at other times, great events herald great discoveries. The latter is the rule on this occasion. For it is in allusion to the great cricket match to be played between the All England Eleven and the All Eastern Canada Twenty-two, that the discovery in question was made. But our readers—especially those interested in cricket—must be waxing impatient to learn the development which so nearly affects them and the destinies mayhap of cricket all over the world; so we will at once cut short the preface, and, having stated that it is the *Tizer's* opinion that if the aforesaid All England were in Montreal on the 21st inst., the wet weather would not have allowed them to play the great game, we will give to the world, in the *Tizer's* own words, the following important information respecting the effect which rain exerts on cricket ground:

"The rain will not benefit the ground, but on the contrary will render it more difficult to play upon; from the excess of moisture which it must have im- bibed."

Comment on the character of this information is useless—as the critics say, when at a loss to criti- cise. The information is as novel as it is startling; and we would not be doing our duty to the public if we did not give it all the publicity in our power. Let us hope that the genius who made this discov- ery will not rest content with his achievement, but will prosecute his investigation right and left.— Who knows but he may discover a joke in *Old Double*.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE GRUMBLER.

We have great pleasure in laying before our read- ers the following correspondence, from which it will be seen that THE GRUMBLER is about to become the greatest publication on the face of the earth.

From John B. Gough.

LONDON, Sept., 1857.

DEAR MR. GRUMBLER,—In answer to your kind offer of a thousand a year and a seat in the Cabinet, if I should come to Canada and become a contribu- tor to your journal, I beg to say, I cannot come, as I hear that horns are as high as ten cents in the fashionable saloons.

Yours, &c.,

J. B. Gougar

From the Prince of Wales.

WINDSOR CASTLE, Sept., 1859.

His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales presents his serene compliments to the Editor of THE GRUMBLER, and begs the honor of being allowed to contribute to that valuable journal, on his arrival in Canada, which will soon take place.

ALBERT, JUN.

Answer.

TORONTO,

21 Nordheimer's Buildings.

The Editor of THE GRUMBLER presents his dutiful compliments to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, and wishes to be particularly informed if his Royal Highness' maternal relative is aware of his absence from the paternal roof?