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NOTICE.

OUR NEW SERIAL STORY.

In the next number of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS we shall begin the publication of our new story

BENEATH THE WAVE:

BY

MISS DORA RUSSELL,

Author of "Footprints in the Snow," "The Miner's Oath," "Annabel's Rival," &c., &c.

We have acquired the sole right for the Dominion of publishing in serial and later in book form. We trust our friends will appreciate this effort of ours to supply them with good and entertaining literature, and that they will induce many of their neighbours to subscribe, so as to secure this new story from the beginning.

OPINIONS OF THE PREEES ON DORA RUSSELL'S NOVELS.

FOOTPRINTS IN THE SNOW.

- "Footprints in the Snow" is entitled to stand well in the fiction of the year."—*Graphic*.
- "With a deep knowledge of the ways of wicked aristocrats."—*Standard*.
- "Miss Russell uses the pathetic, and uses it with effect."—*Queen*.
- "The incidents are skilfully dealt with."—*Pictorial World*.
- "The interest is fairly sustained throughout the book."—*Saturday Review*.
- "Several characters are drawn with a skill that deserves much praise."—*Spectator*.
- "Elizabeth Gordon's character is well drawn. The story is fairly told."—*Athenaeum*.
- "Elizabeth's struggles for independence in London are particularly well described."—*Whitehall Review*.
- "Footprints in the Snow" is a novel which can be read with satisfaction and even enjoyment."—*World*.
- "Miss Russell's story is unquestionably clever, extremely amusing, and will, we doubt not, be a favourite in the libraries."—*Academy*.
- "There are here all the elements of tragedy, enough to have satisfied Webster or Marlowe, and Miss Russell's scenes are of a dramatic kind."—*Daily News*.
- "A plot which will highly interest romance readers."—*Stamford Mercury*.
- "Miss Russell has effected considerable progress as a novelist."—*Carlisle Journal*.
- "Miss Russell writes with so much vigour and gives so much flesh-and-blood interest to her novels."—*Scotsman*.
- "Novel-readers should find 'Footprints in the Snow' very much to their taste."—*Birmingham Daily Post*.
- "The best and truest thing we can say of it, that it is extremely popular."—*Warrington Guardian*.
- "Miss Russell has made herself a name by this work which must bring her considerable fame."—*Bury Times*.
- "The authoress has displayed considerable skill in the way in which she has put her figures into contrast one with another."—*Bradford Observer*.
- "Will be read with interest. . . . There is a good deal of originality in the plot, and its elaboration is skilfully carried out."—*Leeds Mercury*.
- "We have read this story with great pleasure, and consider it deserves to be classed amongst the best specimens of English fiction."—*Monk's Herald*.
- "There is a freshness of description and a facility of expression which is a treasure beyond price in these days. . . . One of the best novels that have come under our notice for some time."—*Nottingham Guardian*.
- "A really interesting and well-written story, and one which we can heartily recommend to our readers. When we say that it is rather sensational we have mentioned the only fault we have to find with it."—*Hersford Times*.
- "Racily written, and full of stirring incident, brilliant description and spirited dialogue, the tale is one of the most successful and interesting pictures of modern life which have come under our attention for several years."—*Kent Messenger*.
- "Is well—and in parts powerfully—written; will become—and deservedly—a popular story. . . . The female characters are admirably drawn, the style is excellent, and the incidents are so varied that the interest never flags."—*Sheffield Telegraph*.
- "Is one of the really good novels which have been published during the last few months. . . . It shows a firmer and more practised hand, has more strength of plot, and is altogether more complete and artistic than any of the writer's earlier stories. Miss Russell is steadily marking out a line for herself."—*Newcastle Chronicle*.
- "We regard Miss Russell as a very successful follower of some of the most popular novelists. . . . The characters are fairly and consistently drawn, while the leading one only falls slightly short of real excellence. . . . 'Footprints in the Snow' is the work of one who has a talent for this species of literature."—*Sussex Daily News*.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Nov. 2, 1878.

COLONIAL REPRESENTATION IN ENGLAND.

We do not refer here to so ambitious a subject as the Federation of the Empire and the consequent representation of the colonies in the British Parliament. Our aim is the more lowly, although practical one, of encouraging the means by which our material Colonial possessions and products may become better known and appreciated by the Mother Country. The Royal Colonial Institute has already done a deal of good work in the diffusion of this knowledge, and the last volume of "Transactions," for which we have to thank the Hon. Secretary, may be pronounced of extraordinary importance from both the variety and the value of the topics discussed. But it has long been felt that something more might still be done in this direction, and we are very much gratified that an initial step has at length been taken in the matter. A few days ago, at the British Embassy, in Paris, the Prince of Wales received an address from the members of the Colonial Commission at the Exhibition, which Mr. KEEFER—whom we have the pleasure of being the first to salute as a C.M.G.—had the honour of reading to His Royal Highness. The object of the address was to urge the erection of a permanent Colonial Museum in London, where the products and manufactures of Her Majesty's more distant possessions might at all times be on view. It was urged that the nucleus of such a collection might be at once commenced with the articles now in Paris. The Commissioners therefore begged His Highness to prevent their dispersion by using his influence to secure at least temporary accommodation for their exhibition in London until further steps could be taken. In reply, the Prince, after expressing his entire concurrence in the fitness of the plan thus laid before him, very properly reminded the Commissioners that the carrying into effect of such a scheme required mature deliberation on the part of the several Colonial governments, and its success depended upon their readiness to provide the means to found and support it. Meantime, however, he promised to apply to the Commissioners of the Exhibition of 1881 to place at their disposal a space requisite for the preservation, during the ensuing year, of such goods as they may desire to retain as a nucleus for a permanent collection. Both the initiative of the Colonial Commissioners and the ready response of the Prince will be hailed with genuine satisfaction throughout the Colonies, and nowhere more so than in the Dominion. We have too long suffered from the ignorance of our products and resources in the British markets, and American rivalry has been too much in the habit of depriving us of a just recognition. There is every reason to believe that the new Canadian Government, fresh from the electorate, with a special mission to promote the cause of our national industries, will enter heartily into this project, and that, at the next session of Parliament, ways and means will be provided to secure our share of a permanent exhibition in the British metropolis. The advantages to accrue from the step are too evident to need enumeration.

The new Dominion Cabinet is now complete and has pretty well entered on its functions. So soon as the Ministers have secured their re-elections, we may rely upon their "settling down" to business. The public feeling in regard to them is depicted in our front page cartoon this week. Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD and his colleagues are afforded a new trial by a generous electorate. If they do their whole duty—as we have reason, from their ability and patriotism, to believe that they will do—the whole country will support them. But it must be remembered that an honest

and economical administration will be insisted upon. The old style of government which prevailed ten or fifteen years ago cannot be revived. The Conservatives have before them a magnificent opportunity, and we trust that, for the sake of the whole country, without distinction of party, they will improve it.

It would seem that we are returning to the era of the Carbonari. The form of secret society now rampant bears different names—Socialist in Germany, Nihilist in Russia, Communistic in France, and International elsewhere. But the end is the same everywhere, and the revolver is the universal weapon of fanatical slaughter. The last attempt at official murder is that of the young King of Spain. He was fired at in a public street of Madrid by a dastard named Moncassi. His Majesty was fortunately not injured and the assassin was captured. The assault has naturally created a profound sensation throughout Europe, and will lead to more stringent measures against secret political societies. Meantime, the whole movement is significant of peril, and mere legislative repression will be powerless to stem it.

It is expected that the proclamation of war against the Ameer of Afghanistan will be gazetted shortly, specifying in full the reasons which decided the British Government to take the step. We were almost prepared for this announcement, but it is a matter of regretful surprise all the same. The prospect of an Afghan war is by no means a pleasant one. It appears from the latest advices that England's first step will be the occupation of South Afghan, in which event it is quite probable that the Russians will occupy the North. That the Muscovs are quite alive to the situation is evinced from the fact that the Russian general staff has had printed several thousand copies of a new Afghan dictionary for the use of army officers.

We have official information that, at length, the Sublime Porte has decided to acquiesce in all the British demands for reformation in Asia Minor. Lord SALISBURY has sent a despatch expressing the satisfaction of Her Majesty's Government, and thus a most important advance in the fulfilment of the Anglo-Turkish Convention has been secured. We may judge of the extent of these concessions when we further learn that Sir A. LAYARD has been energetically insisting on that clause of the Convention which proposed abolishing the sale and importation of slaves.

AFGHANISTAN.

The old adage that the unexpected is that which always happens never found a better exemplification than in England's present agitations in regard to Afghanistan. After having triumphantly overcome, both at the time and since the Russo-Turkish war, a series of complications that from moment to moment made her participation in the struggle seem inevitable, she now finds the gauntlet thrown down to her by an Eastern power so insignificant as scarcely to have been named in the recent chapter of great events. Undoubtedly the ruler of Afghanistan feels that he has the hosts of Russia at his back, or the recollection of the power of British bullets in 1839 would have made him more cautious. Certainly his conduct toward the British envoy, Sir Neville Chamberlain, indicates an amount of audacity that could scarcely exist even in an Eastern chief secure in his own mountain fastness, unless he were supported by some such belief.

So far as we can learn, the recent English mission to Afghanistan had for its object the confirmation of friendly relations between the Afghan and Indian governments, and to put a limit to the growing influence of Russia in the Ameer's dominions. But instead of being received with the courtesy due from one power to the envoys of another, the party were informed that they must not proceed beyond the border. Not only were they stopped at Ali-Musjeed, but Major Cavagnari, the officer sent forward by Sir Neville Chamberlain, was graciously informed by the commander of the fortress that but for personal friendship he would have shot him then and there. At the same time a large body of Afghan troops were paraded on the heights. Whether such an insult as this is likely to be followed by serious consequences depends, of course, on the action of the Ameer, and whether he will disavow all responsibility in regard

to his subordinate's conduct, and punish him accordingly. In the meantime, while negotiations are pending, the mission has been withdrawn, and considerable activity is observable at the British military posts in the vicinity.

Unfortunately for any prospect of a peaceful settlement of the difficulty, Shere Ali, the present Ameer, is described by those who have had personal experience of him as an "uncompromising and morose barbarian," who has never ceased to nurse a bitter hostility toward England. The latter sentiment is perhaps only natural, considering his past experiences, while the peculiarities of his temper may be accounted for by the difficulties he has had with his subjects and his domestic misfortunes. When Dost Mohammed, the father of Shere Ali, died in 1863, he left several sons, and the right of succession, according to the usual rule, belonged to Afzul Khan. His claim had, however, been set aside during his father's life by the appointment of Shere Ali as heir-apparent. Thus, when Dost Mohammed died, a strife at once commenced for the throne; but, after the manner of Eastern royal houses, the struggle was not confined to the principals concerned, for every scion of the dynasty at once struck a blow for individual independence. Obstinate ill fortune followed Shere Ali's arms, and at last Afzul Khan was proclaimed, under a royal salute, Ameer of Cabool. The new ruler, however, soon alienated the affections of his subjects, who at once cast their eyes toward the exiled Shere Ali. But the fortunes of war were still against the ex-Ameer, who suffered in person a decisive defeat in January, 1867, while his general, after gaining two victories, was finally defeated in September. Afzul Khan died at Cabool, the capital of Afghanistan, in October, and Azim Khan, at the head of a victorious army, formally assumed the throne. Shere Ali was at this time in Turkestan, and his son Yakub Khan at Herat, and against these the new ruler now directed his army. But Shere Ali, waiting till Abdul Rahman was well into Turkestan, slipped past him into Cabool, and while the Turkestan chiefs kept the enemy occupied, he dispatched Yakub Khan against Candahar. That gallant soldier defeated the forces opposed to him, and then Shere Ali leaving his son Ibrahim Khan at Herat, marched upon Candahar, which he entered in triumph in June, 1868; and a successful intrigue soon after leading to the mutiny of the army at Cabool, the capital also declared for Shere Ali, who thus in September re-entered Cabool as Ameer.

Some idea of the character of the country over which Shere Ali rules may be gained from our engraving of the Khyber Pass on the succeeding page. The main features of Afghanistan, which measures about 430 miles from east to west, and 400 miles from north to south, are the mountain chains, the general direction of which is east and west, but which throw out huge spurs to the north and south. The Khyber Pass, from its Peeshawur end, near Jamrood, to its Jelalabad end, at Dakka, is twenty-eight miles long. Excepting the valley of Lalbeggurhee, six miles long and one and a quarter broad, the rest of the pass, twenty-two miles in length, is completely commanded, and there are few places where an advancing army could find cover. As in the course of these twenty-two miles the width of the passes ranges mostly from 100 to 200 yards, and nowhere exceeds 300, and as an Afghan jazail, fired from a rest, will kill at 800 yards, it follows that any troops entering the defile with hostile intent would be exposed to a murderous fire. The summit of the pass is near the village of Lundeekhana, nine miles from Dakka. Here the greatest height, 2,488 feet above the sea-level, is reached. The descent to Dakka is not very abrupt, but the road is contracted between precipitous bluffs covered with stunted bushes, and the path is rough and stony for the best part of the distance. Beyond Dakka, again, comes the Kum or Khoord Khyber, otherwise the "Little Khyber"—a gorge three-quarters of a mile long, where two horsemen can scarcely ride abreast. The most important section of the pass, however, is at Ali-Musjeed, and here it is that the English are usually met when the rulers of Afghanistan are disposed to offer any opposition to their advance into Afghan dominions. It was at Ali-Musjeed that Sir Neville Chamberlain received the rebuff which is likely to lead to war, and it was here that in 1839 opposition was made first to the advance of the troops under Sir Claude Wade, and later to a force of Sikh auxiliaries. The section is about a mile and a half long, and is commanded by jaghirs (towers) and sungahs (stone breastworks) at every point. Ali-Musjeed itself is perched on a rock 2,433 feet above the sea. The fortress is about 150 feet long, and there are three hills within a short distance of it, each of which is fortified.

The town of Candahar, of which we give an illustration, is one of the most important in Afghanistan, for an army that should succeed in reaching this point would have the whole district south of the Hindoo Koosh virtually at its mercy. Through it passes also the best line of communication between Cabool and Herat. Candahar is on the site of an ancient city, supposed to have been founded by Alexander the Great, and named Alexandria, whence came the old name Iskandaria. This also suffered a change, so that the present city, founded by Ahmed Shah in 1747, is known as Candahar. It was the seat of government until 1774, when Cabool became the capital. The city is large and populous, containing, it is supposed, about 150,000 inhabitants, chiefly Afghans. In general form it is oblong, and planned with great