

Berthier, the shores of which were lined by American bivouacs, whose blazing fires, reflecting far on the surface of the waters, obliged them often to stoop, cease paddling, and allow themselves to drift down with the current, exhibiting the appearance of drifting timber, frequently seen on the St. Lawrence. So near did they approach, that the sentinel's exulting shout, "All's well!" occasionally broke upon the awful stillness of the night, indicating their perilous situation, increased by the constant barking of dogs, that seemed to threaten them with discovery. It obviously required the greatest prudence and good fortune to escape the vigilance of an enemy thus stationed. The descent, however, was happily effected by impelling the skiff smoothly along the waters with their hands for a distance of nearly nine miles.

"After ascertaining that the enemy had not yet occupied Three Rivers, they repaired thither from Point du Lac, nine miles from the town; and remaining there for a short space of time to recruit from their fatigues, Lord Dorchester and the whole party narrowly escaped being made prisoners by a detachment of the American army, who were now entering the town. Overcome by exhaustion, the general, leaning over the table in an inner room at Mr. De Tonnanneur's, fell asleep. The clang of arms was presently heard in the outer passage, and soon afterwards American soldiers filled the apartment adjoining that in which was the general himself. The governor's disguise proved his preservation; and Captain Bouchette, with peculiar self-possession and affected listlessness, walked into the governor's apartment, tapped him gently on the shoulder, and beckoned him away with the greatest apparent familiarity, to elude suspicion, at the same time apprising him cautiously of the threatened danger. Captain B. led the way through the midst of the heedless guards, followed closely by the general; and, hastening to the beach, they moved off precipitately in the skiff, and reached unmolested the foot of the Richelieu Rapids, where an armed brig (the *Fell*) was fortunately found lying at anchor, which, on the arrival of the governor on board, set sail for Quebec with a favoring breeze.

"Arrived at the capital, the governor desired to land in Captain Bouchette's boat, and was accompanied by him to the Chateau St. Louis, where the important service he had just rendered his country was generously and magnanimously acknowledged in the presence of the assembled counsellors and notables.

"The successful defeat of the invasion of Canada, with the slender forces at the disposal of the commander-in-chief, and at so early a period after its conquest, when the country had comparatively but a few years been transferred from the subjection of one sovereign to the allegiance of another, is an event that has immortalized the services of the late Lord Dorchester—one of the most popular governors Lower Canada ever had, and one whose successive administrations of the government of that province are still recollected with pride and pleasure by the people."

Two thousand Spencer breech-loaders have arrived at Rome from America for the Pontifical army. The Zouaves will be armed with an English breech-loader, which Papal commissioners have gone to England to select.

Four thousand Egyptians have joined the Abyssinian expedition.

## REPORT OF THE INDIAN COMMISSION.

The following extracts from the report of the U. S. Indian Commission, will be found worthy of perusal:

While our missionary societies and benevolent associations have annually collected thousands of dollars from the charitable, to be sent to Asia and Africa for purposes of civilization, scarcely a dollar is expended or a thought bestowed on the civilization of Indians at our very doors. Is it because the Indians are not worth the effort at civilization? Or is it because our people, who have grown rich in the occupation of their former lands (too often taken by force or procured by fraud), will not contribute? It would be harsh to insinuate that covetous eyes have possibly been set on their remaining possessions, and extermination harbored as a means of accomplishing it. As we know that our legislators and nine tenths of our people are actuated by no such spirit, would it not be well to so regulate our future conduct in the matter as to exclude the possibility of so unfavorable an inference?

Naturally the Indian has many noble qualities. He is the very embodiment of courage; indeed, at times, he seems insensible to fear. If he is cruel and revengeful, it is because he is outlawed, and his companion is the wild beast. Let civilized man be his companion, and the association warms into life virtues of the rarest worth. Civilization has driven him back from the home he loved; it has often tortured and killed him; but it could never make him a slave. As we have had so little respect for those we did enslave, to be consistent this element of Indian character should challenge some consideration.

But suppose, when civilized, our pride had still rejected his association, we could at least have removed the causes of war by giving him a home to himself, where he might with his own race have cultivated the arts of peace.

Through sameness of language is produced, sameness of sentiment, and thought, customs, and habits are moulded to assimilate in the same way; and thus in process of time the differences producing trouble would have been gradually obliterated. By civilizing one tribe others would have followed. Indians of different tribes associate with each other on terms of equality. They have not the Bible, but their religion, which we call superstition, teaches them that the Great Spirit made us all.

In the difference of language to day lies two-thirds of our trouble. Instead of adopting the plan indicated when the contact came, the Indian had to be removed. He always objected and went with a saddened heart. His hunting grounds are as dear to him as is the home of his childhood to the civilized man. He, too, loves the streams and mountains of his youth. To be forced to leave them breaks those tender cords of the heart which vibrate to the softer sensibilities of human nature, and dries up the fountains of benevolence and kindly feeling, without which there is no civilization.

But one thing remains to be done with honor to the nation, and that is to select a district or districts of country, as indicated by Congress, on which all the tribes east of the Rocky Mountains may be gathered. For each district let a territorial government be established, with powers adapted to the ends designed. The governor should be a man of unquestionable integrity and purity of character. He should be paid such a

salary as to place him above temptation. Such police or military force should be authorized as would enable him to command respect and keep the peace. Agriculture and manufactures should be introduced among them as rapidly as possible. Schools should be established, which the children should be required to attend. Their barbarous dialects should be blotted out, and the English language substituted. Congress may from time to time establish courts and other institutions of government suited to the condition of the people. At first it may be a strong military government. Let it be so, if thought proper, and let offenders be tried by military law until evil courts would answer a better purpose. Let farmers and mechanics, millers, and engineers, be employed and sent among them for purposes of instruction. Then let us invite our benevolent societies and missionary associations to this field of philanthropy nearer home. The object of greatest solicitude should be to break down the prejudice of tribe among the Indians—to blot out the boundary lines which divide them into distinct nations—and fuse them into one homogeneous mass. Uniformity of language will do this. Nothing else will. As the work advances, each head of a family should be encouraged to select and improve a homestead. Let the women be taught to weave, to sew and to knit. Let polygamy be punished. Encourage the building of dwellings, and the gathering of those comforts which endear the home.

The annuities should consist exclusively of domestic animals, agricultural and mechanical implements, clothing and such substance only as is absolutely necessary to support them in the early stages of the enterprise. Money annuities here and elsewhere should be forever abolished. These, more than anything else, have corrupted the Indian service, and brought into disgrace officials connected with it. In the course of a few years the clothing and provision annuities also may be dispensed with. Mechanics and artisans will spring up among them, and the whole organization, under the management of a few honest men, will become self-sustaining. The older Indians, at first, will be unwilling to confine themselves to these districts. They are inured to the chase, and they will not leave it. The work may be of slow progress, but it must be done. If our ancestors had done it, it would not have to be done now; but they did not, and we must meet it. Aside from extermination, this is the only alternative now left us. We must take the savage as we find him, or rather as we have made him. We have spent two hundred years in creating the present state of things. If we can civilize in twenty-five years, it will be a vast improvement on the operations of the past. If we attempt to force the older Indians from the chase, it will involve us in war. The younger ones will follow them into hostility, and another generation of savages will succeed. When the buffalo is gone the Indians will cease to hunt. A few years of peace and the game will have disappeared. In the meantime, by the plan suggested, we will have formed a nucleus of civilization among the young that will restrain the old, and furnish them a home and sustenance when the game is gone. The appeal of these old Indians is irresistible. They say, "We know nothing of agriculture. We have lived on game from infancy. We love the chase. These are the plains, over which the vast herd of buffalo roam. In the spring they pass from north to south, and in the fall return, traversing thousands of miles. Where they go you