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BENEATH THE WAVE.

This interesting story is now proceeding in large instalments through our columns, and the interest of the plot deepens with every number. It should be remembered that we have gone to the expense of purchasing the sole copyright of this fine work for Canada, and we trust that our readers will show their appreciation of this fact by renewing their subscriptions and urging their friends to open subscriptions with the NEWS.

CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

Montreal, Saturday, Jan. 11, 1879.

PRINCE AND PRESSMAN.

Strangely enough, the Canadian press has taken little notice of a curious and rather important incident connected with the arrival of the Marquis of LORNE and the Princess LOUISE at Halifax. We refer to an interview said to have taken place between the Duke of EDINBURGH and the special correspondent of the *New York World*. In an account of that interview, the Duke was reported to have unequivocally expressed his disgust at the Peace with Honour policy of the Earl of BEACONSFIELD, his complete disapproval of the occupation of Cyprus, and to have spoken very harshly of the sickness which the troops had undergone in that island. When we first read these statements they appeared to us so extraordinary that we felt sure they would not be allowed to go unnoticed so soon as Prince ALFRED had been advised of them. The "Black Prince" had hardly anchored at Spithead, when his Royal Highness received two very disagreeable messages—one announcing the death of his sister, the Grand Duchess of HESSE-DARMSTADT, and the other from the Admiralty, communicating the report of the *New York Journal*. He forthwith sent to official headquarters an absolute denial, in which he declared, first, that he had never met a correspondent of the *World*, at Halifax, and, secondly, that he had never uttered the offensive and exceedingly compromising criticisms attributed to him. This denial was immediately telegraphed far and wide and, of course, implicitly accepted, and the incident would have had no further issue had not the journalist promptly reiterated his report and reaffirmed its absolute truth. On the part of the proprietor of the *World*, Mr. JENNINGS, the well-known correspondent of that paper in London, and himself, an Englishman, was thereupon commissioned to repair to the Admiralty for fuller particulars. The reply he received at this office was a brief but categorical repetition of the Princely denial, and this Mr. JENNINGS at once telegraphed to the *World*. Then appeared a rejoinder from the implicated correspondent, Mr. JOHN GILMER SPEED. This gentleman, after giving a brief account of the circumstances connected with the interview, declares that the Duke of EDINBURGH *did* make the remarks attributed to him, and that his denial must be the result either of "political duress," or of "a trick of memory." He concludes thus:

The evening after my visit, or the following day, I told several of the English correspondents what I had learned, and each of them assured me that it "did not make any difference what the Duke of EDINBURGH thought on any public question." It seems, however, to have been of enough importance to have justified the British Board of Admiralty in making an inquiry, and the importance attached to the inquiry has, I fear, embarrassed the diffident Prince into forgetting simple justice to a stranger who treated

him with all possible respect and fairness. I trust these details of the conversation will be sufficient to recall the occasion to the memory of the Duke, but should they fail, I may have to ask of you for a further opportunity to vindicate my veracity in a manner which shall leave, I think, no doubt on the subject in any honest man's mind.

From the last passage, we infer that Mr. SPEED stands prepared to affirm his accuracy under oath, and if he does so, it must be allowed that the matter will assume a new complication. And for this reason, that while we may not, for a moment, doubt the word of a Prince who is the model of a gentleman as well, we must not hastily impeach the veracity of a man who fills a lower social position. For the honour of our profession also, we must add, that while all its members are by no means beyond reproach, they stand, as a class, as high as any other in any community, and in the particular case of Mr. SPEED, we believe that he enjoys a high reputation. We imagine that there is a way of reconciling the two parties in the controversy, and that lies in the fact that, of course, the Duke did not know that he had met a correspondent of the *World*, because that individual was too wise to reveal his mission, and that he was led by skillful manipulation—which is the science of "interviewing"—into saying things which he afterwards wished he had not said, and which he would never have said had he imagined that they were to appear in print. And herein lies precisely the evil of "interviewing"—that a man should worm himself into your presence, listen to your unguarded conversation and then deliver it remorselessly to the world. The system is both mean and dishonest, and it is certain that Prince ALFRED, at least, will keep at a safe distance from it hereafter.

THE VITALITY OF THE INDIAN.

It is one of the boasts of British rule in Canada and the North-west that the aborigines have been generally well treated and allowed to develop according to their own notions and opportunities. The consequence has been a remarkable preservation of the old historical tribes throughout the Dominion. The Micmacs are still strong in Nova Scotia; the Abnakis hold their own in New Brunswick; there are deep traces of the gentle and faithful Hurons in Quebec; Ontario has thousands of Iroquois and Algonquins within her borders, while Keewatin, Manitoba, the Saskatchewan Valley, the Rocky Mountain region and British Columbia are the homes of tribes quite too numerous to mention. All this is gratifying enough, but what is really remarkable is the vitality of the Indian tribes under the adverse circumstances in which they have always been placed by the American policy. Notwithstanding all the injustice and cruelty they have endured from this cause, we are assured by a writer in the last number of *Lippincott's Magazine* that they have not appreciably diminished in numbers during the past hundred years. It seems to be a fallacy that the American aborigines ever exceeded the figure of three hundred thousand, and that is still about their number within the limits of the United States. Montcalm's Indian contingent at Fort William Henry, in 1757, was only 2,000 to 11,000 whites. The Iroquois of the Lake Champlain region, their old headquarters, numbered 11,650 souls in 1763, and they now count 13,666; 5,246 of the Six Nations living at Forestville, New York, alone. The Seminoles are said to be more numerous to-day than when they withstood, for five years, the whole military force of the United States. The noble Cherokees and Choctaws are, perhaps, more populous in their Arkansas Reserves than they were fifty years ago in Georgia and Alabama. The redoubtable Sioux are said by Captain Mallery to have quadrupled in one hundred and forty years, and doubled in twenty-nine. Notwithstanding the terrible retribution visited on the Modocs, fully one-half of them survive, while the California tribes still muster three-fourths of their original strength, in spite of the ferocious levelling

of the "Forty-niners." We are informed that fragments of tribes which have for generations been legally isolated in Massachusetts, on Long Island, on the Pamunkey, in North Carolina, and other Southern States, retain as sound a vitality, both physical and moral, as similar bodies of whites would in analogous circumstances. "Indians enough are employed on the boats of the Mississippi, Missouri and St. Lawrence, to equal the Prophet's force at Tippecanoe." These facts are interesting and important because they lead to the following conclusion—that, as the Indian nature, when left to itself, and even in the face of persecution, has conserved itself so well, steps should now be taken *ab extra* to give it that fuller development of which it must surely be susceptible. Hence the Indian as a coming citizen should, in Canada, at least, be made the subject of further beneficent legislation.

THE universal Postal Union was completed on New Year's Day by the admission of Newfoundland, the British Colonies on the West Coast of Africa, the Gold Coast, Senegambia, Lagos, and Sierra Leone, the Falkland Islands and British Honduras. This constitutes one of the grandest social works of the day. There is one detail, however, which deserves consideration at the hands of the authorities. We mean some kind of an international postage stamp. It is very inconvenient, for instance, for a Canadian correspondent to parties in the United States that he cannot enclose stamps for return postage, especially when such return is set down as obligatory to ensure a reply. The Canadian cannot enclose Dominion stamps, on the one hand, nor can he procure American stamps, on the other.

Lord DERBY may be a somewhat timorous statesman, but he is very practical. At Liverpool, last Saturday, His Lordship made an exhaustive review of the condition of England's trade and the obstacles which stood in the way of its revival. He showed how the increased ability of other nations to manufacture for themselves was constantly diminishing the market for English goods, and how difficult it would be for England to keep on paying large sums of money in return for articles of food which she was compelled to purchase from America and other countries. The only remedy, his Lordship said, which suggested itself to his mind after long and anxious reflection, was wholesale emigration to America and Australia, and he urged this with great earnestness.

OUR readers will hear with pleasure of the marriage of Miss SALLIE HOLMAN, which took place last week, at Toronto. Miss HOLMAN—now Mrs. DALTON—is a Canadian artist of rare talent and successful achievement. Had she enjoyed the training accorded to others of her sisters she would have risen to the highest rank. As it is, she has held her own for years as a most agreeable interpreter of light opera and established quite a name for herself. She carries the good wishes of her numerous friends throughout the country in her new sphere.

It is a source of gratification to learn, from the returns, that both the Post Office Savings' and the Postal Order Departments are in a flourishing condition. With regard to the latter, however, we have several times heard complaints of the delay occurring between the receipt of the money at the Post Office, in this city, for instance, and the order for paying it which must come from Ottawa. In some cases this delay leads to positive distress. Our remark has particular reference to Money Orders from Great Britain.

WE are gratefully returning to our old-fashioned winters. Snow is piling high on all the roads, and many a man that really wants to work can easily earn his

daily dollar by shovelling. The St. Lawrence has not "taken" yet, but next week we shall probably be able to chronicle that it is "took" in earnest. The ice-bridge is a positive blessing in such weather.

HANDSOME prices were received for the Canadian cattle and sheep sold at the Smithfield Market, during Christmas week. We are glad to hear it. The exportation of cattle to England, which is as yet only in its infancy, bids fair to become one of the most prosperous industries of the country and a never-failing source of wealth.

NOTES FROM HAMILTON.

MUSICAL.

Handel's sublime Oratorio, "The Messiah," is so universally known as to render much in the way of an introduction to it superfluous. The highest musical authorities of all the great centres, for a hundred years back, have pronounced it to be the grandest of all that great composer's works. All who are in any way familiar with London, must have had occasion to remember the general enthusiasm attending the Handel festivals, which usually last for several days, and are spoken of as being the grandest musical exhibitions of the times. The great composer, although born in Germany, lived so long in England that the British people almost claim him as their own, and his works occupy much the same place in the music world that Shakespeare's dramas do in literature. It must be very gratifying to students and appreciators of the higher order of music, to find a taste for the same gradually expanding and strengthening in our Canadian cities. As has been before mentioned, in the way of accomplished musicians and musical attainments, Hamilton occupies a leading position in the foremost rank. To Mr. Theodore Thomas, and his famous Orchestra Company, is, no doubt, due some measure of credit for the fostering of a general taste for high class music, but it is to such organizations as the Sacred Harmonic Society that the people are indebted for the development of a musical taste which enables the public to become familiar with, and appreciate, the works of the master composers. Last spring this Society delighted the citizens with two successful renditions of the oratorio of the "Creation." The result was so eminently satisfactory that the Society was encouraged to go on and prosper. The officers of the Society are: President, ex-Mayor Charlton; 1st Vice-President, ex-Mayor Roach; 2nd Vice-President, Mr. James F. Egan; Treasurer, Mr. T. Littlehales; Secretary, Mr. James A. Patton. Committee of Management—Dr. Chittenden, C. J. Robinson, Jos. Herald, James F. Egan, E. L. Parker, Wm. Herald, Jas. Johnson, Wm. Frier, George Mainwaring, James A. Patton, T. Littlehales, W. H. Clark.

Some time ago the Society decided to give two renditions of Handel's Oratorio "The Messiah," during the Christmas festival. Accordingly, the first public exhibition took place in the Mechanics' Hall, on the evening of Thursday, 26th ult., as follows:

Conductor, Mr. George Robinson (Bandmaster XIII. th Battalion Band); Organist, Mr. W. E. Fairclough; Soloists—Soprano, Mrs. Caldwell (of Centenary Church choir), Miss Egan (St. Mary's Cathedral choir), Miss Chittenden, Miss Jones. Contralto—Mrs. Parker, Mrs. Chittenden, Mrs. Bull, Miss Howard. Tenor—Jos. Herald, James Johnson, C. Poves. Bassi—Jas. F. Egan (of St. Mary's Cathedral choir), W. H. Clarke, James A. Patton (Secretary of the Society).

Orchestra, comprising 36 instruments, as follows: 7 First Violins—Wm. Frier, Robt. Cowan, D. J. O'Brien, Wm. Addison, Albert Stares, Jasper Hurrell, Thos. Wavell. 7 Second Violins—George Steel, Wm. Kraft, A. Grossman, J. Suelson, Gilbert Hutton, F. Domville, Emil Woolnig.

Violas—D. Jennings, Geo. Salter, H. Barnard. Cellos—E. L. Parker, Geo. Thompson, Dr. Chittenden.

Contra Bass—Thos. Littlehales, Geo. Waite, Wm. Wilson.

1st Clarinet—H. Fricker; 2nd do., J. Quinn. 1st Oboe—A. Russell; 2nd do., J. Birns. Flute—W. Gardner.

Bassoons—T. Foster, R. Watson. Horns—J. Nickling, L. Schwarz. Trombas—T. King, J. Dillon. Trombones—H. Sweetman, S. Bennett, J. Foster.

Tympani—J. Grossman. The vocal force consisted of one hundred and thirty-three voices, the ladies and gentlemen all belonging to the city. The audience was large and most appreciative.

The conductor was greeted with applause, and a moment later he had secured the attention of the vast musical force before him. Obedient to his signal, the orchestra led off in the overture. The music, so descriptive of the forlorn and unhappy state of the people before the promise of a Messiah had been given them, was very effective. After which, the recit. (accompanied) "Comfort ye my people" (tenor, Mr. Joseph Herald), and "Every valley shall be exalted,"