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Urtizens of Canada who are Scotch- | P.

******** Little Mrs. Blank

By CARL JOHNSON

***** If the ordinary household is upset by where from twelve to twent guests are being entertained and pect any of them. The only way out in most cases is to lay it on to the servpacking, with twenty pound notes their pocket alongside of a rather an biguous certificate of character To that doesn't bring entire satisfaction There is the loss of the money or jen els, the humiliation of the host and the

public scandal. When the hunting season was abto open on a certain year Sir James wrote to Abraham Croft to pay him business visit. It was not Croft's first. As a private inquiry agent he had been made use of on various occasions, and

"I shall have ten gentlemen and twelve ladies in my house for two weeks, beginning on the 3d," said Sir James as he sat in the library with Croft. "Here is the list."

"Good people," commented Croft as he glanced at the names. "None better, but I don't want anything to happen."

"Lady Sparrow, for instance, will be sure to bring her £15,000 worth of dia-monds and wear them every evening at dinner. She's proverbially careless

"Not a doubt of it." "I think the rest may look out for themselves, but you must act as a guardian in a way for Lady Sparrow. You will be assistant butler for the time being."

"At your service, Sir James."
"I'll bank on my own servants, but
you watch the gentlemen's valets and
the ladies' maids, particularly Lady parrow's maid. That's all." the guests was Mrs. Major



Fourteenth. She was handsome, petite and versatile, and she was generally spoken of as little Mrs. Blank. In a way she was not in the aristocratic set—in a money way. In another way sne was popular, and it was the thing to invite her. Every hostess found her a valuable coadjutor in entertaining, and if the major never showed up ing, and if the major never showed up and she flirted a bit with other men there was no one to speak ill of her. She was so mildly wicked, if wicked at all, that if didn't count. Of the twenty-two guests on the list she was the least known to Croft, and he was, therefore, prepared to watch her the closest. He had no sooner got sight of her, however, than he whispered to himself:

'I am way off there. She's got the innocence of a baby, and it would be time thrown away to watch her."

Lady Sparrow brought her diamonds, and she brought a new maid, and she sustained her reputation for carelessness. Sometimes Sir James coaxed her into letting him lock up the jewels for the night, but they were oftener left to the care of the maid or to no care at all.

"Bound to be picked up sooner or later," mused Croft, "and I shall keep an eye on the maid. She seems de-mure, but I believe she knows a thing

or two."
On the twelfth day of her stay Lady Sparrow got out her diamonds at mid-afternoon and saw her maid brush them up a bit. They were then left lying in their box on the table while the owner lay down for a nap before diamer. When she awoke the box was

WILLIAM ST., import direc the finest Ceylon, Assam and China Tea, Black Gunpowder and Young Hyson, Best English Breakfas Tea, 35c and 40c.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper

any of them.".
"But you can't suspect any of the guests!" exclaimed Sir James in con-

"Not in the slightest. It's a rum go, and I've got my work cut out for me." Two days later he had still nothing to report. The servants had been questioned and cross questioned, and valets and maids had been given the "third degree," and at length Croft was satis-fied of the innocence of all the under-

got in despite your vigilance," re-proachfully observed Sir James. "I should rather say it was one of your twenty-two guests," doggedly re-plied the agent.

"But think of it, man!"
"Aye, I'm thinking, Sir James," "Who among them can you possibly suspect? Why, sir, it's simply monstrous. I'd sooner pay for the jewels twice over than to hint that one of my guests is under suspicion. No, no, Croft. It's a queer case, and the thief was too much for you, and I'll pay the loss and hush up the talk."

"But I want to remain here for a week or ten days," said the agent. "I confess to being puzzled now, but my reputation is at stake, and I must try

and solve the mystery."

He was told to remain and do his best, and that night as he lay in his bed he whispered in his own ears:

"It's dollars to cents that the jewels

were taken by a guest. Now, who would be the soonest suspected and who the last? Let's say that Lady Sparrow stole her own diamonds, she being a seeker after notoriety. That charge won't hold, however, as she turned her whole baggage out for in-spection and her fainting away when she discovered her loss was the genuine thing. Now, who is last? Why, lit-tle Mrs. Blank, of course. I'll stake all on her innocence, but I'm going to watch her. Her room is five doors away; and she says she was out on the lawn from 4 to 5 on the afternoon of the robbery, but let us see what can be turned up."

Detective Croft did something in do-

ing nothing. He wouldn't tell Sir James or any of the guests his thoughts, and to have tried to watch thoughts, and to have tried to watch the little woman as she flitted about would have been ridiculous. He there-fore passed most of his time in the conservatory wondering where he could take hold of the case. On his first day he saw little Mrs. Blank enter the place twice and wander about and sing to herself. On the second day she was in and out three times. On the third day she slyly took from her pocket a letter which she read with considerable agitation and, woman-like, dropped it on the floor as she went out. She returned for it in five minutes, but Croft had possessed him-

self of the contents.
"Well?" briskly demanded Sir James as the agent asked for an interview "I think I have found the jewels,"

was the reply.
"You think, but don't you know?" "Not exactly. I have saved the pleasure for you. Let us go into the conservatory and lock the door." "Well?" again queried Sir James mpatient tones.

You have several artificial plants in tubs, your honor, and this one in par-ticular is so light that even a woman could lift it. Will you please have it

Sir James looked at the agent in a sir James looked at the agent in a puzzled way, but seized the plant and lifted it from the tub and then held up his hands in amazement. At the bottom of the tub was the missing jewel box with contents intact.

"You see," said Croft, "in three or

four days more the box would have gone home with one of your guests." "Croft," said Sir James as he laid his hand on the man's shoulder, "you must know the thief?"
"I do, Sir James."

"But don't tell me his name. I'll send him off with £50 in his pocket and not even read him a moral lec-

"Right you are, Sir James," replied Croft as the ghost of a smile stole over his face, and he winked at himself.

County Names.

County names in the New England and middle Atlantic states are almost exclusively of English or Indian origin. In the border states of the south they are chiefly English, in the gulf states English and Indian, with French in Louisiana and traces of Spanish origin in Florida and Texas. In the Missishipul yellow they are again of English in Florida and Texas. In the Mississippi valley they are again of English and Indian origin, with some French names coming down from the Jesuit explorers. In the Rocky mountain states they are again English and Indian, with a larger proportion of the latter than elsewhere, and on the Pacific coast Spanish county names again crop out. Texas has a Deaf Smith county, about the only instance of a crop out. Texas has a Deaf Smith county, about the only instance of a nickname having been fixed upon an important political division. A pretty fair history of the political and social influences at work in the early development of a state could be written from a study of county names.

Intexicated Wasps.

Wasps have a great fondness for overripe fruit, especially pears, plums and sweet apples. The sugar of these fruits has a tendency to pass into a kind of alcohol in the ordinary process of rotting, and after imbibling large quantities of this liquid the wasps become outrageously intoxicated. They crawl away in the grass in a semisomnolent condition and remain till the effects have passed off, when they will go at it again. It is while in this condition that they do their worst stinging. A person receiving a sting from one of these intoxicated wasps will suffer severely from nerve poisoning for days.

Could Not Sleep At Night.

Was All Run Down.

Had No Appetite.

FOOD WOULD NOT DIGEST.

Mrs. I. W. Warner, Riverdale, N.S.,

Burdock Blood Bitters.

IT CURED HER AND WILL CURB YOU.

She says ! "I wish to add my testimony to the many others who have spokes so highly as to the unfailing virtues of Burdock Blood Litters. I was all run down, had no appetite, lost all ambition, could not sleep much and had terrible headache and buckuche, and my food did not digest properly. I saw B B B, advertised, so concluded to give it a trial, thinking if it did no good it could do no harm. But after using one bottle I began to feel better, and by the time I had used three bottles I was feeling like a new person. I am so glad there is such a remedy provided for suffering humanity, and cannot praise it enough for I think there is as medicine like it on be market."

Deakhobors Are Doing Well.

Prof. James Mavor, of Toronto University, gave an account recently at Winnipeg of the phenomenal progress made by the Doukhobor colonists since his first visit, made to them five years ago. "The leader of the Doukhobors, Peter Verigin," said Prof. Mavor, "is indeed a remarkable man. He has been in the colony just eighteen months, having come in November, 1902. In this short time he has altered the character of the community, has changed their mode of agriculture, gradually introducing modern methods, and has built up an organization out of has built up an organization out of chaos."

chaos."

Several thousand acres of land have been broken, and the area under cultivation this year will be greater than that sown last year. Verigin is determined to have first-class horses and cattle. Just now he is negetiating for the purchase of some high-class stock.

In the past year or two the colony has expended \$60,000 in the purchase of land, and invested largely in farm machinery. The north and south colonies, comprising the villages te the north and to the south of Fort Pelly, are moving forward to great prosperity.

to great prosperity.

The Doukhobors near Rosthern, whose settlement was also visited, are more individualistic. They do not hold their land in common, and only to a small extent co-operate with their brethern of the north and

with their brethern of the north and south colony.

"II." said Prof. Mavor, "Verigin succeeds in organizing the labor of the large body of men he has to deal with, and in holding them together, there is no doubt that in a few years the Doukhobor lands will be among the most productive in the Northwest. By his wonderful management he has already saved the community at least \$40,000.

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People who have used Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets all tell you to quit being miserable and to start enjoying life. M. Mongeot, of Masson, Que., says:

ing life. M. Mongeot, of Masson, Que., says:

"I suffered from Dyspepsia and was terribly troubled with nervousness. For eighteen months I was miserable. One fortunate day an advertisement led me to try Dodd's Dyspepsia Tablets. The first box helped me and I was soon completely cured".

To flatter a women tell her that she is beautiful; to flatter a man tell him that he is working too hard.

************** Think it Over.

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STORY OF NIAGARA FALLS.

Iroquois Declare It Was Formed by Snake's
Body Lodying in the Rapids.
Geologists have written many
pages to tell how Niagara Falls came
to be: but the Iroquois Indians have
their own version of the formation of
the great cataract, and this is the
story they tell:

story they tell:

Once upon a time, a long while as there lived a beautiful Indian maiden whose parents wanted her to merry a hideous old chief because he was ealthy.

The maiden said that while she had

wealthy.

The maiden said that while she had made it a rule to obey her parents in all things, as a dutiful daughter should, in this case she must decline, unless they insisted upon it. They did insist.

The maiden went walking in the woods to think it over, and the first she knew she had reached the N'agara River, just below where it comes out of Lake Erie.

As the maiden stood by the river and saw it rushing down out of the lake her thoughts became more and more sad, and seeing a cance on the bank, she determined to trust herself to the mercy of the water rather than marry the old chief.

At that time there were no falls where the thundering waters of Niagara now roar, but there were rapids, whirling and swirling around lagged rocks. The whole place looked just as the rapids above the falls look now.

To be caught in these rapids was death, and the girl knew it but she

look now.

To be caught in these rapids was death, and the girl knew it, but she was so sad that she did not care what became of her. So she launched the cance, jumped M, and the swift waters began to huff? her toward the rapids.

Now the great Indian thunder god, Hinun, who brought the clouds and rain and controlled the lightning, had a cave at the junction of the lake and river where he used to spend his time fishing, and it was his cance which the maiden had launched upon the waters of the Niagara. ed upon the waters of the Niagara

ed upon the waters of the Niagara River. Sitting in the mouth of the cave, the thunder god saw the girl sailing away in his cance.

At first he was angry, but when he saw how beautiful the girl was and that she was drifting to death he was sorry and called to her to come back. Then he saw that she had left the paddle on the bank and was helpless

Spreading his wings—for Hinun had wings—he flew to the rescue and caught the maiden just as the canoe was being dashed against the rocks of the rapids. He took her back to the cave, and asked her te tell him why she did such a foolish thing as

why she did such a foolish thing as to venture out on the river without a paddle. He would say nothing about her taking the cance without asking for it.

The matden told him all, and he said: "Well, perhaps you would better stay here a while, as I happen to know that the chief you speak of will die in a few days, and then you cam go home in safety. But while you are here," added Himm, "you might as well learn something and I will be your teacher."

So the girl stayed on the shores of the river several days.

"Why," asked the maiden one day, "do people in my village die in such numbers? What causes so much illness there?"

numbers? What causes so much filness there?"
"I will tell you," replied Hinun,
"and you must tell the people and
make them move the village nearer to
the shoros of the lake."
Then he told how under the
ground on which the village stood
there lived an enormous snake, who
delighted in killing persons and who
crept out at night and poisoned the
springs from which they drank.
Finally Hinun told the meiden that
it was time to go home, that the old
chief was dead and she reed fear
nothing.

giad her parents were to see her, for they had believed that she had been saten by bears.

She told all what had happened to her. A council of the tribe was called and it was decided to do as the themser god had directed and move the village nearer to the lake Phis was done and for a long time there was hardly any illness and eath among the people, but by and by things began to be as bad as they were before, so the ma'den went to Hinun and asked him what was the matter now.

He told her the big snake had followed the village, dragging himself along under ground, and was now poisoning the water of the creek from which the people drank. He added that he would attend to the monster and the next night when the snake came out of the ground and went to poison the creek Hizun was watching and hurled a thunderbolt at him.

At the first thunderbolt the make.

watching and hurled a thunderbolt at him.

At the first thunderbolt the snake only laughed, but Hinun h't him again, and then a third time, and finally a fourth, and then let fly a thunderbolt of unusual size at him, so that the gigantic snake died.

At daybreak the Indians came, rejoicing at the death of their enemy, and laid the body of the snake out straight, finding that it stretched for twenty arrow flights.

Then, with songs of triumph, they rolled the body into the river, and it floated down the swift stream until it came to the rocks and the rapids. There it stuck and there it sticks to this day, with the Paters roaring over it, wedged in between the rcks and forming what the paleface calls Niagara Falls.

Graders for New Ontario.

Graders for New Ontario.



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