

mode to be adopted for crossing the Gut of Canso.

It also recommends that a full and complete survey be made to ascertain the practicability of building a railroad from Paspébiac to some suitable point on the Intercolonial Railway.

SIX MONTHS IN THE WILDS OF THE NORTH-WEST.

BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST AND CORRESPONDENT.

IX.

HOSTILE INDIANS. SUPPLY OF OATS. CRIPPLE CAMP. FEATHER LAKE. MY BUFFALO HUNT.

On the 15th of August, young Morin, our new guide for the Cypress Mountains, arrived. Having left Wood Mountain at ten in the forenoon, he reached camp at eight in the evening, having travelled forty miles. He reported that the Boundary Commission Depot on White Creek had been robbed by Sioux Indians. Furthermore, some of the men of the Boundary Commission, who had come on to Wood Mountain, reported that some Indians and one white man had been killed on the road. The latter was tied to a tree and gashed all over with knives. It seems that the Black Feet Indians did not fancy our coming into their country. In company of Morin were a Sioux and an American scout by the name of Morse. The latter excited a great deal of curiosity and some anxiety as to the object of his visit. He represented himself as wanting work and wishing to hire himself as scout West of Cypress Mountain, stating that he knew all that country well, and all about Bow River and its people. He informed us that the smugglers in that region were strongly fortified in block houses, with underground magazines and hiding holes.

On the 17th, our Sioux friends broke up camp and moved a few miles up the creek, having been joined by Rising Bull and a few wigwags. Rising Bull is the son of old Standing Bull who was in 1864-65 Subject under White Bonnet.

A couple of days later we also moved off two miles and founded a cripple camp where we left all our sick men and disabled horses in charge of Constable Sutherland and a couple of companions. Having thus provided, we made a start, in the afternoon, of twelve and a half miles, which again brought us to Old Wap's Creek. Here we received 15,000 pounds of oatmeal from Wood Mountain and forthwith rationed our horses thereon. At the rate of eight pounds a day, the poor brutes threw on the luxury for some time. This refreshment to our animals gave us a chance to push on our way more rapidly.

On the 21st, at noonday halt, we met two traders from Fort Benton, having in their company the missionary Father Lesbaigne, who was on his way to Fort Edmonton by Lake Qu'Appelle. These traders, with Léveillé and the Welsh brothers, were to winter at this lake, not returning to Garry on account of the total destruction of the crops by grasshoppers. Continuing our route, we came to another branch of Old Wap's Creek which was nearly dried up. It holds large quantities of sulphate of soda in solution, and no doubt, silicate of soda as well, as petrified wood, clams and other articles were found all along its course. About three miles from it, we found the petrified leg of a buffalo. A train of twenty-six carts belonging to two or three traders was camped in the neighborhood. Our officers examined them, as was their duty, but found no liquor. Honest traders!

On the 24th, we came up to Lake La Plume, a small body of water containing sulphate of soda in light quantities. Ten miles more brought us to River Du Courant, so called from the turbulent course of its water in Spring. It lies in a beautiful valley, but like the rest of the country it is deficient in wood. We used "prairie chips" altogether.

On the following day, we reached Cypress Hills, and camped on the banks of one of several small lakes on the northern side. These hills lie between the 49' and 50' parallels, nearer the latter, and run on the edge of the great Missouri watershed. We remained there several days until the arrival of McLeod and Walker with 2100 lbs of oats which they had gone forward to fetch.

On the 1st of September, we resumed our journey with fresh vigor. The 2nd, was a special hold day. Five buffalo bulls were brought down. Colonel French particularly distinguished himself, killing two, the largest of which furnished 355 pounds of ration meat.

I was determined not to let the occasion slip without having my little fun also. Sallying forward with two companions, I reconnoitred among the gullies and bluffs for a considerable time without meeting any encouragement. My comrades fell back, but determining not to be balked, I took courage and "went it alone." The road was very discouraging. The declivities and ravines were covered with boulders, and cut up with holes. Scrambling through as well as I could, I at length thought I deserved three black points in the far distance. I rode on in that direction and was rewarded by the sight of a grand skei-daddle. Three fine bulls leaped up from their lair and darted off across the plain. Of course, here was my chance and I followed. Two of the stronger bulls got away from me, but the third remained within range, and I let fly at him. My first shot took effect, but did not retard the pro-

gress of the goaled animal. So away in his wake! A second successful shot, but still the brute pushed forward. He fell on one knee, as he felt his second ball, but immediately rose and fled for his life. I pursued a considerable distance and had a third shot which proved fatal. The noble animal stopped, fell, quivered and died. My companions standing on a hill watched my chase in the prairie below, and when they beheld my success, sent up a cheer. When I got off my horse to survey my victim, I found that I was nearly half dead myself. Riding at a such a pace over rocks and rills, holding a heavy rifle poised in my hands, loading and firing, anxiety and keen desire, all these had completely exhausted me. My back was nearly broken, my knees and ankles were peeled. And as for poor Old Rooster, to whose honor it must be said that he did his whole duty on that eventful day, his flanks and belly streamed with sweat and blood. In my excitement I had spouted him unmercifully, and my towels were all bent.

THE LAND SWAP: A SATIRE.

It is always a healthy sign of intellectual vigour in a community when any test political or social incident, brings out a smart criticism in the shape of satire or burlesque. It argues keen interest in current events for one thing, and a lively sense of humor, which is one of the chief elements of literary vitality, for another. The Pacific scandal gave rise to several clever satires, and the Tanneries Land Swap is the subject of another which lies on our table. It is a well printed pamphlet of seventy eight pages, divided into four parts, with appropriate change of scenes. The material affords a canvas for a wide range of amusing criticism—the preliminary arrangements for the purchase of the land, the hoodwinking of the Ministry, the sudden revelation of the scheme, the Tanneries indignation meeting, the fears of the Bleus, the sharp hopes of the Rouges, and their disgust on the advent of a new government, after weeks upon weeks of delay.

All these scenes are well worked out in the pamphlet, and, on the constructive portion of his work the author deserves to be congratulated. He is evidently well acquainted with the whole ramifications of the case. His execution, however, is not equal to his conception. It is a pity he should have adopted blank verse for his vehicle, as it is unwieldy, heavy and sluggish, except under the touch of a master hand. The French, for light themes of the kind, invariably use prose, and make their dialogue light, crisp, sparkling, and occasionally idiomatic. Their scenes are also divided with a keen view to effect. Our writer has certainly an ear for rhythm, but many of his lines are hazy and all the same. Besides, he has written in an evident hurry. Still, several of the passages are well turned and full of character. Referring to the revelation of the bargain in the papers, H. says:

I would not be too rash; still will I put The matter in strong colors, hitting more Than plainly speaking, the exactest worst-course. 'Tis easy to insinuate with art, And do more injury than articles; Tempestuous our effect; the former wound, If but the venom skilfully is placed Within the shaft, the keener from the little Salt, the vagueness rouses apprehension.

And later: Inspire your article with just a spice Of wholesome wrath; weak sarcasm sometimes fails In its desired effect; be vigorous, bold, And manly, breathing honest rage and hate. For these, when honest, most respect, not scorn.

The following is quite trenchant, and in the true vein of satire:

Don't put it on that score lest we should lose, But rather ape that grand hypocrisy, Which prayerful souls, clean hypocrites, Affect when they dissemble mouth in public. Let down your jaws two inches, if possible, For four—roll up your eyes with hideous grace, And then with stutterings and stoppings in your speech, To mark the bashful meekness of your soul.

Begin. The close and moral of the whole are in the words of the new Attorney-General:—

An honest trial granted, we will show, While tempests rage, and storms do blow, That we possess the hour, judgment, tact, And truth required to make success a fact.

So mote it be!

CARNIVAL ON THE ICE.

On Easter Monday, the last Fancy Dress Entertainment of the season took place on the ice of the Victoria Rink in this city. We shall not enter upon any elaborate description of it, as this was amply and ably done by writers on the daily press. We shall merely record our opinion that, everything considered, it was the most satisfactory exhibition of the kind which we have witnessed in Montreal, and we have been present at the most of them. Having said thus much, we shall perhaps be allowed the liberty of making a few suggestions which would tend, without any doubt, to make future entertainments of a like character even more successful.

In the first place, steps should be taken to relieve the monotony of the scene. However brilliant the costumes, and skilful the skating, it is after all always the same round and round which fatigues the eye and wears out the aesthetic feeling. Nothing is easier than to introduce variety into the performances, and variety is the chief secret of artistic enjoyment. Let a programme of exercises be drawn up, something in this wise.

First. A grand turn out of all the masqueraders pell-mell, to give a general view of all the costumes. This might last twenty minutes or half an hour.

Second. A walk round in couples or threes so as to give an opportunity to inspect the costumes minutely. For this purpose every spectator should be furnished with a printed programme indicating the costumes, with or without the names of the wearers.

Third. A straight race or game of some sort, first for gentlemen, next for ladies.

Fourth. A grand promenade of combined costumes; as for instance, King with Queen, Night with Morning, Faust with Marguerite, the Corsair with Medora, Punch with Judy. This would be drawing harmony out of confusion and presenting a most agreeable spectacle.

Fifth. A grand waltz or quadrille. Nothing is more beautiful on the ice.

Sixth. A general pantomime, all the maskers acting their parts with their legitimate partners.

We merely indicate the programme. Other and better elements might be introduced by the Directors.

A word about the costumes. The inexorable rule is that they must be in keeping. If historical, they must be true to history; if ideal, they must be poetic; if simply fantastic, they must be cleverly pointed. A programme of these should be drawn up by a Committee. The choice should not be left to individual tastes. Otherwise there will be a mixture, as is always the case, with too much of one thing and not enough of another. For instance, last Easter Monday, there were too many negroes and Indians, and not historical characters enough.

Another remark. The costumes are too common and cheap. Spangles of paper, paste-board ornaments, calicoes and flimsy muslins were the rule, instead of being the exception. In Europe such deception would not be tolerated. The other night, we noticed only two or three *bonaparte* dresses of material suited to the period or the personage which they were intended to represent.

A distinction should be made between a Fancy Dress Entertainment and a Masquerade. A mingling of the two, as is done with us, is against all the traditions. One or the other. Never both together. A Fancy Dress Entertainment is more stately, more aristocratic, more *comme il faut*, and very beautiful. A Masquerade is jollier, more democratic, more *laissez aller* and very pretty. One Carnival of both might be given in the same winter, but the exclusion of masks and *hops* at the former should be rigorous.

Finally, the spectators. Some mode of seating them should be provided. Walking around the narrow passages from eight till eleven or twelve o'clock is no way of enjoying the Carnival. The men have a hard time of it; the women are squeezed out of breath and almost out of their dresses.

At the risk of being too severe, we should object to the presence of very young children on the ice. They are better in bed. On Monday night a couple of small boys, dressed as the Imps that they were, made an intolerable noise with tannatus, whistles and other tools.

The Carnival on the ice is one of the most novel and magnificent of spectacles. And it is because it can be seen nowhere in the world better than in Montreal, that we are anxious to have it raised to the highest artistic standard.

FASHIONS FOR MEN.

People think that men do not care for their own fashions. That is a mistake. They are just as fickle about it as women, only they have not the taste of the latter. Here are the latest Spring fashions for them. The principal novelties are in fancy checked suitings, of which the Knickerbocker is the leading one. They are made up in the new style of a single-breasted three-button sack-coat, or two-button morning coat. In point of novelty the three-button sack-coat has the preference. It is cut of medium length, and shaped so as to define the figure smartly; the top button is rather high, and the forepart is sufficiently cut away from the third button to display the waistcoat. There are four outside patch-pockets, and the coat is always worn with the three buttons buttoned. The sleeve is finished with a single hole and button, and stitched round the bottom to correspond with the edges. The waistcoat is made single-breasted, without a collar, cut long, and with four outside patch-pockets, to match the coat. The two-button morning-coat, from fancy suitings, is cut of good length, and made with flaps on the hips and pockets under, and one outside breast-pocket, patch and button, or with a welt. The waistcoat single-breasted, with a step collar. Trousers are cut straight and full to the leg, with side-pockets and welt on the side-seams, without any spring at the bottoms, and fall naturally on the boot. For better wear the frock coat is still the leading garment, the principal change being that it is now sometimes made to wear four buttons buttoned. This style, however, is likely to be more popular in England, where the climate will better admit of its being worn, than here. They are worn somewhat shorter in the skirt than during the winter, but still of good length. The lapels are cut rather bold and inclined to droop a little at the top, with silk breast facings to the button holes and edges that braided, or plain facing and bound narrow. A white double-breasted waistcoat is worn with this coat to show above the turnover of the lapel, and the trousers of a medium colored stripe in a neat pattern. In England it is

very general to wear rough chevrot checked trousers with a frock coat, especially for morning wear."

THE FASHIONS.

Fig. 1. DINNER DRESS.—Half low body, cut square; sleeves and chemisette in beaded blonde. Spray of roses on left side.

Fig. 2.—CUIRASS BODY for evening wear in rose-coloured satin, cut square in front, trimmed with white and pink crimped silk fringe headed by a *ruche à la vieille* in white gauze. Gauze drapery passing under the arm; each fold of this drapery is separated by a narrow *plissé* in rose coloured satin. The sleeves are formed by a *puffing à la vieille* in white gauze, above which there are straps uniting the black drapery to the front. The hair is very much waved in front encircled by plaits from which falls a profusion of very long curls.

Fig. 3.—BALL TOILETTE, in black tulle over black satin. The skirt is covered with *passes* of tulle intermixed with narrow satin quillings. The tablier is made with three rows of Chantilly lace separated by silver and silk fringe. The back of the skirt is *maillonnée* draped with a scarf of black silk woven with silver. On the left side there is a thick garland of red rose buds of foliage falling neatly to the bottom of the train. Cuirass body in the same material as the scarf with drapery; small garland of roses going from middle of the body to the shoulder.

Fig. 4.—YOUNG LADY'S TOILETTE in striped white-silk gauze and rose-coloured faille. The skirt is in the latter, plain behind forming train; the front breadths are trimmed with closely plaited flounces, finished at either end with bows. Gauze tunic, open-heart shape in front, buttoned behind to about 6 inches below the waist, where it separates into two pointed ends which are crossed in the scarf style without forming pouf. The tunic is edged with a *plissé* of faille finished itself with a narrow white-silk fringe. The sleeves are trimmed to correspond with plaitings and bows of rose-coloured faille; two bows on the front of the body, one behind at the neck; scarf of faille fastening the folds of the tunic.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

MARCH 29.—John Martin, M. P. for Meath, died yesterday, at the age of 93.

United States Treasurer Spinner has tendered his resignation to President Grant.

A despatch from Trieste says great preparations are being made for the erection of a monument in memory of the late Emperor Maximilian.

A case of appeal from the Supreme Court of Missouri to the Supreme Court at Washington, involving female suffrage, was decided against the lady.

A meeting was held in Hyde Park, London, under the auspices of the Tichborne Release Committee, at which fully 100,000 persons are said to have been present.

MARCH 30.—The Swiss Postal Convention has been ratified by the French Government.

The Episcopal Conference now in session at Faldia is being held with closed doors.

A Papal encyclical has been issued, renewing the excommunication pronounced against the Old Catholics of Switzerland.

General Concha, late Captain General of Cuba, has addressed a petition to Alfonso XII, accusing his predecessor, General Jovellar, of being the cause of the undisciplined state of the Spanish soldiery in Cuba. The petition is said to create a profound sensation.

MARCH 31.—The Hon. A. G. B. Bannatyne was yesterday elected by acclamation to represent Provocher in the Dominion Parliament.

General Concha's charges against General Jovellar will probably force the latter to retire from the Spanish Ministry.

The ceremonies of installing Archbishop Manning as Cardinal were performed at Rome to-day, and were of a very imposing character.

The English Budget shows a falling off in revenue of about two and a half millions as compared with the previous year, but exceeds the estimates by five hundred thousand pounds.

The Carlist cause appears drooping; in several places they have held out flags of truce and are fraternizing with the Government soldiers. In another place, over one hundred Carlists have been made prisoners.

APRIL 1.—His Excellency the Governor General will sail for England on the 1st of May.

A financial crisis is pending in Berlin. Twenty-eight failures are reported, and two cases of suicide in connection with these financial reverses.

The Canal Board of the State of New York have appointed the Lieutenant-Governor, the Secretary of State and the Attorney-General a committee to investigate the alleged canal frauds, with power to send for persons and papers.

An ancient decree, prohibiting intercourse between the Pope and the Catholic clergy in Prussia, except through the Government, is about to be re-enacted, and it is said measures will shortly be introduced totally suspending Papal authority in Prussia.

Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was placed upon the witness stand to-day.

APRIL 2.—Cremation has been officially countenanced by the State Government of Oaxaca.

The jury in the trial of the Guine-war of Baroda for the murder of Col. Phayre have disagreed.

The proprietors of pawnshops in the city of Mexico refuse to conform to the new law compelling the closing of their establishments.

A verdict of guilty has been rendered against George Reynolds, of Salt Lake City, for polygamy, and the case is to be taken to the Supreme Court.

The Conference of Catholic clergy, held at Faldia, was closed to-day. The Pope sent his blessing to the members of the Conference, urging them to persevere.

The Police Board of Jersey City have rejected a petition from the Irish societies of New York, signed by O'Donovan Rossa, requesting permission to parade in Jersey City on the 12th instant.

APRIL 3.—Two Spanish men-of-war off Havana have respectively 40 and 36 cases of yellow fever on board. Since Cabrera's manifesto, 244 officers—nine of whom were Generals—have left the Carlist ranks and entered France.

The monument erected at Trieste in memory of the late Emperor Maximilian was unveiled to-day, amid great enthusiasm.

A papal nuncio has been dispatched from Rome to Madrid, with instructions exhorting Spanish ecclesiastics to aid in the restoration of peace under King Alfonso.

A New York special states that a cable despatch from London gives currency to a rumor prevalent in that city that the Government are about to adopt the conscription system in view of the threatening aspect of affairs in Europe and the increasing difficulty of procuring recruits.