

and placing the servants in such a position that they could not fail to grapple with him as he landed. The creature advanced boldly enough, until he found himself seized and dragged up the rocks, when he made violent efforts to free himself. After some difficulty we succeeded in throwing him on his side, and then securing his feet in cords that had been provided for the purpose, raised and placed him in a wheelbarrow that was in readiness to receive him, although not without a struggle, in which the deer received one or two important wounds from the sharp pointed rocks. He was then held tightly down, and wheeled into the stable, where, with a strap placed round his neck, he was duly fastened in a stall spread over with a bed of straw, and the thongs being loosened, he was left to make acquaintance with the ponies, who regarded him with a good deal of curiosity and surprise, but manifested no disposition to injure him.

In the course of a short time he was tethered, during the day, on the lawn in front of the house, and there suffered to nibble the clover which was provided for him. His acquaintance with the human family, as well as with the canine, then commenced; but he never evinced half the alarm on seeing a stranger that he did whenever the wheelbarrow, in which he had been first imprisoned, appeared before him. At the sight and sound of this, he was always exceedingly restive, making the most violent efforts to free himself from his confinement, and trembling in every limb until the obnoxious vehicle had passed away. He never overcame this aversion.

During the three years that he remained with us, this deer, ever treated with kindness, became very tame indeed. He would take bread from my hand, insert his nose into my shooting jacket for food which I had purposely placed there, and which he was ever impatient to reach, and unceremoniously entered the stable and took from the table whatever pleased him most. His great partiality was for bread, for although he ate oats, potatoes, green vegetables, &c., the former he evidently considered a luxury, devouring it with eagerness. Nor was he by any means of an unsocial disposition. He tolerated the larger dogs, and formed such an intimacy with a very small but intelligent cur I had, that they used to lie down together and lick each other for hours. It was often amusing enough to see the dog, in imitation of the servant, who frequently led the deer from spot to spot where the verbiage most abounded, take the rope between his teeth, and pull with all his force to urge his companion to follow him. But although he was thus quiet and even familiar with my own dogs, he could not endure the presence of others. Any strange dog coming into the place always excited the fury of the animal, who curved his neck in defiance, stamped furiously with his feet, and throwing back his ears altogether evinced the strongest desire to get him within his reach. On more than one occasion he has, without hurting them, terrified strangers who approached too near to him by chasing them against the wall of the stable or some other out house, and there "pinning" them by the thigh, until the cries of the frightened prisoner has drawn the attention of the servant accustomed to feed him, and whom he ever obeyed, to the ridiculous position of the party, and procured his release.

His attachment to his feeder was very marked. He would follow her through the streets without the slightest difficulty, and without her being compelled to strain upon the rope by which she led him. I have known him on one occasion to follow thus for a mile, and over a bridge one-fourth of that distance, and this regardless of the curs which ran yelping at his heels, and could not be prevented from barking at him. When later, I removed to Kingston, he made his first trip in a steamer, but was so frightened at the strange noise of the machinery, that he manifested extreme impatience, and struggled so violently that his horns prematurely fell off. Those he had the ensuing year now form the handles of a carving knife and fork, which serve as a memento of my Canadian "deer taking." He was later sent to Montreal secured in one of the open crates used for crockery, and on the deck of one of the small steamers descended the whole of the boiling rapids—the distance being nearly two hundred miles, without accident of any kind whatever.

It may seem surprising that I should, aware as I was of my strong claims upon the existing Government, have so long neglected to have laid them, backed as they were by the written acknowledgments of the Earl of Durham, before his successor, Mr. Poulett Thompson. But I had several reasons for this. In the first instance, I could not endure the thought of running to seek favor from a new Governor, so immediately after the departure of him who had favored me with his confidence, and promised me his future support. Some there were not quite so fastidious on this point, but I confess I felt all the grossness of the very unenviable position in which they had placed themselves. I had seen them dancing attendance, with endless rolls of paper in their hands, on Lord Durham, and I had seen the same gentlemen, not one week after Mr. Poulett Thompson's arrival in the country, wending their way with the same, or similar, rolls of paper, to Government House. I confess I am not made of such pliable matter. Moreover, it seemed to me impossible that Lord Durham, for whom I had made the serious sacrifice of an engagement of much pecuniary importance,

should have failed to communicate to the statesman, who was following out the views of policy entertained and recommended by himself, my very strong claims upon a Government which, as admitted by the London leading journals themselves, I had so materially aided with my pen.

But delay was now a folly, and a few weeks before the discontinuance of my publication, I enclosed to Lord Sydenham several of Lord Durham's letters to myself, showing the nature of the sacrifices I had made in furtherance of the system of government which was now being established in the country; intimating at the same time that, in the course of a few days, I should do myself the honor of waiting on his Lordship to receive his reply. The following week I repaired to Kingston, and on presenting myself at Alvington House was introduced into his study. This was my first interview with Lord Sydenham, although he had been upwards of nine months in the country, yet he received me with a good deal of seeming cordiality. After some cursory remarks on the politics of the day, he took from the table, and handed to me, the small packet of letters I had enclosed to him, observing emphatically as he did so, "I have read these letters, ———, with a great deal of interest. Nothing can reflect more honorably on you than the position of confidence you enjoyed with Lord Durham, and you may rest assured that when the new appointments which are contemplated are filled up, you shall not be forgotten." This was said with a sincerity of manner that left me no doubt of the good faith of His Lordship, and I took my leave in the fullest expectation that my name would appear, as nominated to some public appointment, in the Gazette which was expected shortly to be published. But alas!

"'Twas ever thus, from childhood's hour,
I have seen my dearest hopes decay:
I never loved a tree or flower,
But 'twas the first to fade away:
I never nurs'd a dear gazelle,
To soothe me with its soft, black eye,
But when it came to know me well,
And love me, it was sure to die."

Not one week from the date of this interview with Lord Sydenham, the accident occurred which cost him his life, and for the second time I was deprived, by death, of the only Governor General of Canada whom I could reasonably expect to entertain the slightest desire to advance my interests in the country. Still I could not but believe that Lord Sydenham had expressed his views in my favor to some one of his Executive, either verbally or in writing, and I fully expected that, whatever the result of the new infliction under which Lord Sydenham was now laboring, the Ministry had been duly instructed on the subject, and would take action accordingly.

The news of the serious accident which had occurred to the Governor General, was everywhere received with painful interest. It came like a sudden blow upon the people, and the minds of men were imbued with the gloom of apprehension. Learning that His Lordship suffered much from fever, and well knowing, from experience, how grateful to the parched palate is the flavor of cool and refreshing fruit, I sent his Excellency what I conceived to be the most acceptable gift I could offer. This was no other than a beautiful water melon, weighing upwards of seventeen pounds, and grown from the seed I had planted early in the season among my rocks. I ordered a case, perforated with holes to admit the air, to be instantly made for the reception of this leviathan of my own culture, and transmitted it, packed in sweet hay, with a note for His Lordship's Private Secretary, Mr. Gray. A few weeks after Lord Sydenham's death, I met this gentleman, with one of the Aides-de-Camp, Mr. Baring, on board the steamer which was conveying them down the St. Lawrence, on their way home, and the former, in alluding to His Lordship's sufferings and death, assured me that the palate of the invalid had been most gratified by the luscious coolness of the melon—almost the only food he had tasted. The fruit, though large, was it seems perfectly ripe, and from Mr. Gray's statement of the temporary relief afforded to the sufferer, I was not sorry that I had had the *prevoyance* to think of forwarding it. I had, however, recollected the intense longing I once had for a water melon, while prostrated under the effects of yellow fever in the West Indies; and the almost eagerness with which I had devoured one that my Colonel had, with the greatest difficulty, after sending over half the island of Barbadoes, obtained for me; and having ascertained that Lord Sydenham was in a state of feverish excitement, produced from the united pain from his wound, and his old enemy the gout, which had returned upon him with redoubled violence, it had occurred to me that my offering would prove, as it did, an acceptable one.

It is a singular evidence of the fertility of the soil, that a seed, planted in the very slight covering of earth with which the rock was clothed, should have produced so fine a melon, but a rocky country seems to be so peculiarly adapted to the growth of this particular fruit, that it has been known in the same neighborhood to attain the weight of five-and-thirty—nay, even forty—pounds! The squash, however, grows to a far more prodigious size. I have seen a monster of this species, at a confectioner's in Kingston (exhibited as a curiosity), and labelled as being of the enormous weight of one hundred and fifty-seven pounds.