

ODE TO THE DOMINION OF CANADA.

WORDS AND MUSIC BY G. H. DREWIE.

Hail! happy day, which doth unite
Canadian hearts and homes as one,
Which ushers in the new-born light,
Reflected back from England's sun!

Chorus: Then let us raise, as subjects loyal,
Our voices upward to the sky,
Forgetting trouble, labour, toil,
On this the first of July.

We greet with joy the present hour,
When floats aloft, so just and free,
A nation's flag begirt with power
To men our foes by land or sea.

Chorus: Then let us raise, &c.

With Britain's help and force of arm
Canadian turrets safe shall be;
No lawless hand shall bring alarm
From base invasion's foul decree.

Chorus: Then let us raise, &c.

The ocean's crested waves shall bear
The merchant fleet beset with lore,
And proudly, free from anxious care,
The gallant crew shall seek our shore.

Chorus: Then let us raise, &c.

Then, welcome! strangers to our land,
Whatever their colour, race or birth;
To them we offer friendship's hand,
And join with them in honest mirth.

Chorus: Then let us raise, &c.

Our snow-clad soil, our sunny clime,
Shall be to all a peaceful rest;
One heart, one soul, to endless time,
Shall beat within each other's breast.

Chorus: Then let us raise, &c.

Our new "Dominion" Heaven protect,
And succor lend in hour's of need
So may we prosperous show'ers expect,
And blessings sweet on which to feed.

Chorus: Then let us raise, &c.

To-day, henceforth, Canadians all,
Arise and keep this festival day!
Raise loud your voices, great and small,
And chant the new "Dominion" lay."

Chorus: Aye, let us raise, as subjects loyal,
Our voices upward to the sky,
Forgetting trouble, labour, toil,
On this the first of July.

July 1st, 1871.

REPORT

BY LIEUT. BUTLER, (69TH REGT.) OF HIS JOURNEY
FROM FORT GARRY TO ROCKY MOUNTAIN
HOUSE AND BACK, DURING THE WINTER OF
1870-71.

GENERAL REPORT.

[CONCLUDED.]

The Hon. Adams G. Archibald, Lieut. Governor, Manitoba.

With reference to the first suggestion, namely the appointment of a Resident Magistrate, or Civil Commissioner. I would merely observe that the general report which I have already made on the subject of the state of the Saskatchewan, as well as the particular statement to be found in the Appendix marked D. will be sufficient to prove the necessity of that appointment. With regard however, to this appointment as connected with the other suggestion of military force and Government stations or Districts, I have much to advance. The first pressing necessity is the establishment, as speedily as possible, of some Civil authority which will give a distinct and tangible idea of Government to the native and half-breed population, now so totally devoid of the knowledge of what law and Civil Government may pertain to. The establishment of such an authority, distinct from and independent of the Hudson Bay Company, as well as from any Missionary body situated in the country, would inaugurate a new series of events, a commencement as it were of civilization in these vast regions, free from all associations connected with the former history of the country, and separate from the

rival systems of Missionary and commercial enterprise, while at the same time lending countenance and support to all. Without some material force to render obligatory the ordinances of such an authority matters would, I believe, become even worse than they are at present, where the wrong does not appear to violate any law, because there is no law to violate. On the other hand I am strongly of opinion that any military force which would merely be sent to the Forts of the Hudson's Bay Company would prove only a source of useless expense to the Dominion Government, leaving matters in very much the same state as they exist at present, affording little protection outside the immediate circle of the Forts in question, holding out no inducements to the establishment of new Settlements, and liable to be mistaken, by the ignorant people of the country, for the hired defenders of the Hudson's Bay Company. Thus it seems to me that Force without distinct Civil Government would be useless, and that Civil Government would be powerless, without a material Force. Again as the purchase of Indian Rights upon certain localities, and the formation of settlements, it must be borne in mind that no settlement is possible in the Saskatchewan until some such plan is adopted.

People will not build houses, rear stock, or cultivate land in places where their cattle are liable to be killed, and their crops stolen. It must also be remembered that the Saskatchewan offers at present not only a magnificent soil and a fine climate, but also a market for all farming produce at rates exorbitantly high. For instance—flour sells from £1 10s. to £5 per the 100 lbs.; potatoes 3s. to 7s. a bushel; and other commodities in proportion. No apprehension need be entertained that such settlements would remain isolated establishments. There are at the present time many persons scattered through the Saskatchewan who wish to become farmers and settlers, but hesitate to do so in the absence of protection and security. These persons are old servants of the Hudson's Bay Company who have made money, or hunters, whose lives have been passed in the Great West, and who now desire to settle down. Nor would another class of settler be absent. Several of the Missionaries of the Saskatchewan have been in correspondence with persons in Canada who desire to seek a home in this Western land, but who have been advised to remain in their present country until matters have become more settled along the Saskatchewan. The advantages of the localities which I have specified—the junction of the branches of the Saskatchewan River, and the neighborhood of Edmonton may be stated as follows:—Junction of the North and South branch—a place of great future military and commercial importance commanding the navigation of both rivers—enjoys a climate suitable to the production of all cereals and roots, and a soil of unsurpassed fertility—is situated about mid way between Red River and the Rocky Mountains, and possesses abundant and excellent supplies of timber for building and for fuel—is before the presumed interruption to steam navigation on Saskatchewan River, known as "Coal Falls," and is situated on the direct cart road from Manitoba to Carlton.

Edmonton, the centre of the Upper Saskatchewan, also the centre of a large population (half breed,)—country lying between it and Victoria very fertile—is within easy reach of Blackfeet, Cree and Assinaboine country—summer frosts often injurious to wheat, but all other crops thrive well, and even wheat is frequently a large and pro-

ductive crop—timber for fuel plenty and for building can be obtained in large quantities 10 miles distant—coal in large quantities on both banks of the river, and gold at from 4 to 10 dollars a day in sand bars.

Only one other subject remains for consideration (I presume that the establishment of regular mail communication and steam navigation would follow the adoption of the course I have recommended), and, therefore have not thought fit to introduce them; and to that subject, I will now allude before closing this Report, which has already reached proportions very much larger than I had anticipated. I refer to the Indian question and the best mode of dealing with it. As the military protection of the line of the Saskatchewan against Indian attack would be a practical impossibility without a very great expenditure of money it becomes necessary that all precautions should be taken to prevent the outbreak of an Indian war, which if once commenced could not fail to be productive of evil consequences, I would urge the advisability of sending a Commission to meet the tribes of the Saskatchewan during the summer assemblies.

It must be borne in mind that the real Indian question exists many hundred miles West of Manitoba in a region where the red man wields a power and influence of his own. Upon one point I would recommend particular caution, and that is in the selection of the individual for this purpose. I have heard a good deal of persons who were said to possess great knowledge of the Indian character, and I have seen enough of the red man to estimate at its real worth the possession of this knowledge—knowledge of Indian character has too long been synonymous with knowledge of how to cheat the Indian—a species of cleverness which, even in the science of chicanery does not require the exercise of the highest abilities. I fear that the Indian has already had too many dealings with persons of this class, and has now got a very shrewd idea of those who possess this knowledge of his character have also managed to possess themselves of his property.

With regard to the objects to be attended to by a Commission of the kind I have referred to, the principal would be the establishment of peace between the warring tribes of Cree and Blackfeet. I believe that a peace duly entered into, and signed by the chiefs of both nations, in the presence and under the authority of a Government Commissioner, with that show of ceremony and display so dear to the mind of the Indian, would be lasting in its effects. Such a peace should be made on the basis of restitution to Government in case of robbery. For instance—during time of peace a Cree steals five horses from a Blackfoot. In that case the particular branch of the Cree nation to which the thief belonged would have to give up ten horses to Government, which would be handed over to the Blackfeet as restitution and atonement. The idea of peace on some such understanding occurred to me in the Saskatchewan, and I questioned one of the most influential of the Cree chiefs upon the subject. His answer to me was that his band would agree to such a proposal and abide by it, but that he could not answer for the other bands. I would also recommend that medals, such as those given to the Indian chiefs of Canada and Lake Superior many years ago, be distributed among the leading men of the Plain Tribes. It is astonishing with what religious veneration these large silver medals have been preserved by their owners through all the vicissitudes of war and time and with what pride the well polished effigy