

but at the date of my visit canned goods appeared to remain the chief article of sustenance, as furs were certainly the main topic of conversation. Edmonton may in time develop the oasis upon which it is built, between the arid plains immediately to the south and the great lone land to the north, into something notably agricultural; but for many years the town will be, as it is to-day, the gateway of the well-nigh boundless fur-producing country to the north, and the outlet for the numberless "packs" gathered by the great Hudson Bay Company.

And what a company is this!—with the power of a king and the consideration of a partner. A monopoly that does not monopolize, it stands alone, a unique figure in the commercial history of the world. Given its charter by the impetuous Charles II. in 1670, the pioneers of this "Governor and Company of Adventurers of England Trading into Hudson's Bay" sailed for the southern shores of St. James Bay, where they set up their first post and took possession of the new country in the name of Prince Rupert. Here they found a rival French company, with a previous charter granted by Louis XIII., and an equally keen sense of Indian barter, so that for many years there was more fighting than trading. When Wolfe, on the Heights of Abraham, crushed the power of France in Canada, the French company entered upon a decline that finally ended in dissolution. But in their stead came numbers of Englishmen, pushing their way westward, eager to trade for the furs of which they had heard so much and seen so little. Thus many trading-posts came into being, and eventually (about 1780) combined to form the Northwest Fur Company, the longest-lived and most determined rival that ever disputed trade with the Hudson Bay Company. It is not my purpose to fill space with historical research, but a brief sketch of this company, and how it came into the land, is necessary to a proper understanding of the country into which I hope to carry the reader.

The Hudson Bay Company had not reached out to a very great extent, being content with the fur gathered by their half-dozen "factories," of which York Factory and Churchill were the earliest and most important. But the Northwest Company brought a new spirit into the country; they pressed for trade with such avidity and determination as to carry them into parts hitherto entirely unknown, and cause bloodshed whenever they met the agents of the rival company. It was the greed for trade, indeed, that quickened the steps of the first adventurers into the silent, frozen land of the North. Samuel Hearne, the first white man to pass beyond Great Slave Lake, made his trip in 1769 by order of the Hudson Bay Company, and in search of copper-mines. It was in pursuance of trade for the Northwest Company that Alexander Mackenzie (1789) penetrated to the Arctic Ocean down the river which bears his name. I have never been able to see the justice in the command that gave Mackenzie a knighthood and ignored Hearne. The latter's trip was really a most remarkable one—overland a great

part, and always the more difficult. Mackenzie's trip, as compared with it, reads like a summer day's pleasuring.

For forty years these two companies traded with the Indians, and fought one another at every opportunity, meanwhile pushing their posts farther and farther into the interior; but in 1821 a compromise was effected, an amalgamation resulted, and the Hudson Bay Company reigned supreme. And so it has continued to reign ever since; for though it retired from the government of Ruperts Land in 1870, and handed it over to the Dominion of Canada for £300,000 sterling, yet, so far as the country is concerned, of which Edmonton is the distributing point, the Hudson Bay Company is as much the ruler in fact as ever it was in law. But this particular section, extensive as it is, is only one of the many in which, from end to end of British North America, this company counts altogether something like two hundred trading-posts. Nor are furs its sole commodity; from Montreal to Victoria along the Canadian Pacific Railroad, and at the centres of the Indian countries in which they trade, may be seen the "stores" of the Hudson Bay Company. Its £2,000,000 sterling capital stock is owned in London, but the business of the vast corporation is operated from Winnipeg.

THESE PIGEONS KNEW.

A number of homing-pigeons were stolen. A policeman was detailed to trace them. He found in a cote a number of pigeons that the neighbors said had just come there. The man who owned the cote said the pigeons were his. "Very well," said the policeman, "that's easily proved." He opened the door of the cote, and the pigeons flew out at once. They circled in the air for a moment and then flew away. The policeman went back to the man who had lost his pigeons, and found him very happy, for they had all come home.

EXPELLLED

—every poison and impurity of your blood, by Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Then there's a clear skin and a clean system. Tetter, Salt-rheum, Eczema, Erysipelas, Boils, Carbuncles, Enlarged Glands, Tumors and Swellings, and all Blood, Skin and Scalp Diseases, from a common blotch or eruption to the worst scrofula—these are perfectly and permanently cured by it.

In building up needed flesh and strength of pale, puny, scrofulous children, nothing can equal it.

Delicate diseases of either sex, however induced, speedily and radically cured. Address, in confidence, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

It is more and more generally admitted that the fall is the better time for setting out fruit trees. Less pressure of business enables nurserymen to get them out in better shape and to handle them quicker, and the climate is less fickle. If to be healed in, do not leave them exposed to frosts and drying winds.

RADWAY'S PILLS,

Always Reliable Purely Vegetable.

Perfectly tasteless, elegantly coated, purge, regulate, purify, cleanse and strengthen. RADWAY'S PILLS for the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Nervous Diseases, Dizziness, Vertigo, Costiveness, Piles.

**SICK HEADACHE,
FEMALE COMPLAINTS,
BILIOUSNESS,
INDIGESTION,
DYSPEPSIA,
CONSTIPATION**

and All Disorders of the Liver.

Observe the following symptoms, resulting from diseases of the digestive organs: Constipation, inward piles, fullness of blood in the head, acidity of the stomach, nausea, heartburn, disgust of food, fullness of weight of the stomach, sour eructations, sinking or fluttering of the heart, choking or suffocating sensations when in a lying posture, dimness of vision, dots or webs before the sight, fever and dull pain in the head, deficiency of perspiration, yellowness of the skin and eyes, pain in the side, chest, limbs, and sudden flushes of heat, burning in the flesh.

A few doses of RADWAY'S PILLS will free the system of all the above named disorders.

Price 25c. a Box. Sold by Druggists, or sent by mail.

Send to—

DR. RADWAY & Co., MONTREAL
for Book of Advice.

DOCTORS

KENNEDY & KERGAN

Specialists in the Treatment of

**Nervous, Blood, Sexual and
Private Diseases.**

16 Years in DETROIT. 200,000 Cured.

YOUNG MAN You are nervous and despondent; weak and debilitated; tired mornings; no ambition; lifeless; in mory poor; easily fatigued; excitable; eyes sunken, red and blurry; pimples on face; dreams and night losses; drains a stool; cooing on excitement; haggard looking; weak back; bone pains; ulcers; hair loss; sore throat; varicocele; want of confidence; impotency; You Need Help

MARRIAGE This important step in life should never be taken until you are positively cured if you have been weakened or diseased. Remember "Like father, like son." Emissions, varicocele, spermatorrhea and syphilis endanger happiness in married life. Our New Method cures them permanently. If you are married consult us at once, as we can restore your strength, vitality energy and desires. If you wish to marry, our advice may be worth a fortune to you.

Don't Let Your Life be Drained Away!

The New Method Treatment. This System Method was discovered by us several years ago. It builds up and strengthens the nervous system; restores lost vitality to the sexual organs; stops all drains and losses; invigorates and restores lost manhood. It never fails in curing the results of Self Abuse, Late Excesses, Blood Diseases, or the effects of a Misspent Life.

**CURES GUARANTEED
—OR NO PAY.**

What we Treat and Cure!

Emissions, Varicocele, Syphilis, Nervous Debility, Stricture, Gleet, Impotency, Unnatural Discharges, Lost Manhood, Kidney and Bladder Diseases. Consultation Free. Books (Illustrated) Free. Write for Question Blank for Home Treatment. Everything Confidential. Plain envelopes. Nothing sent C. O. D. See testimonials next week.

DRS. KENNEDY & KERGAN.
148 Shelby Street, Detroit, Mich.