



### IN THE CROWDED QUARTER.

MR. JOHNSING—"What a nice well-behaved baby you have here, Mrs. Plumley."

MRS. PLUMLEY—"Yes; he's good now, but I had a world of trouble with him last summer. After he came home from the Fresh Air Excursion he squalled for fresh air so much that we had to get a bellows and feed him every night before he would take a wink of sleep!"

### A NEW "DON'T" LIST.

FOR THE USE OF PERSONS WHO MAY MEET GENERAL MIDDLETON IN SOCIETY.

**D**'ON'T" handbooks, telling the uninitiated in social life what mistakes and infringements on the law of etiquette to avoid, have become numerous of late. We have extensive lists of words and phrases which are tabooed as vulgar, and of actions which in the first circles are regarded as marks of low breeding, such as cooling your tea in the saucer, eating with a knife or slapping your host on the back. The peculiar exigencies of Ottawa society in which the commander of the forces is a leading light, render an extension of the category of expressions which are considered "bad form" highly necessary in view of the result of a recent Parliamentary investigation. It will readily be understood that the mention of "fur" in any form, in the presence of the hero who won immortal fame by the courage and tenacity with which he opposed the desire of his officers to charge the half-breeds at Batoche would tend to make him feel uncomfortable, and throw an air of constraint over the gathering. To avoid such a melancholy *contretemps*, GRIP presents the following "Don't" list, which is probably full enough to prevent any unpleasant reminders of the offence of which the General stands convicted:

1. "Don't" use the words "fur," "hide," "skin," "pelt," or any other expression of similar significance. Such remarks as "That's a nice fur overcoat you have on," and any direct reference to the class of articles so—confiscated by the General, are, of course, in atrociously bad taste.

2. "Don't" say anything about boodlers, robbers, plunder, swag, loot or anything of that sort. Put yourself in Middleton's place and fancy how remarks of that kind would grate upon your sensibilities.

3. "Don't" pronounce "far" "fur." It would have the appearance of a studied insult. On a recent occasion the hilarity of a dinner party, at which the General was an honored guest, was completely destroyed by a thoughtless individual who, when General Middleton was telling of the length of some of the day's marches made by our boys in the North-West, rudely enquired "How *far*?"

The ill-timed observation threw a gloom over the whole evening.

4. "Don't" say that anybody has a "furtive expression."

5. "Don't" make any reference to the music of the lute. If you find it necessary to mention the instrument call it a guitar, and thus avoid such a very awkward scene as recently occurred in the house of an Ottawa magnate, where a young lady observed, "Oh I do so love the lute. Don't you, General?" The shock to his feelings was so intense that it required more than a bottle of champagne to restore his usual equanimity.

The above rules will be submitted to Mr. G. Mercer Adam for revision, and if approved by him it is to be hoped that all right-minded and loyal people who consider the *amour propre* and social standing of a British General as of vastly more importance than such trivial considerations as public morality and national honor will endeavor to get them adopted as part of the social code of our *elite*.

### HE KNEW.

**P**OLICE MAGISTRATE (to juvenile witness)—"My boy, before you are sworn in this case tell me, do you know the nature of an oath?"

WITNESS—"Well, I guess I do. I was page in the Local Legislature last session."

POLICE MAGISTRATE—"I hardly see the relevancy of the last observation. Come, now, what is the nature of an oath?"

WITNESS—"An oath, sir? Why, it's them words that Hardy and Fraser never uses when old man Mowat is round; but when he ain't—oh, my!"

POLICE MAGISTRATE—"You may swear him."

### OF COURSE IT WAS.

**P**LUGWINCH—"I tell you that rebels were never treated with more forbearance than the half-breeds of the North-West."

MCGORLICK—"Nonsense, they were very badly used. Didn't Middleton carry off all their furs?"

PLUGWINCH—"Well, doesn't that prove what I say? You can't deny that his conduct was fur-bearing."



### IKEY ON HORSEBACK.

"SMALL BOY—"Ook yer nose under 'is saddle, Ikey."—Pick-me-up."