

church upon it, and the river itself, studded with numerous islands, is a picture of entrancing interest.

Montreal is distant from Liverpool two thousand eight hundred nautical miles by the shortest sea route, and the *Vancouver* had made the run—exclusive of the stoppages at Moville and Quebec—in eight days and eleven hours.

The fares respectively of the Union and Castle and of the Dominion and Allan lines are: Between Capetown and London, either way, first £37 16s. to £40 19s., second £24 3s. to £26 5s., third £10 10s. to £16 16s., according to steamer. Between Liverpool and Montreal or Halifax, either way, first £10 to £14 in winter and £10 10s. to £18 18s. in summer, according to size and position of stateroom; intermediate—very little better than the third in the Union and Castle steamers—£5 going westward, £6 5s. going eastward; steerage £2 going westward, £3 2s. 6d. going eastward.

CHAPTER II.

ABORIGINES, EUROPEAN COLONISTS, PHYSICAL FEATURES, AREA, AND CLIMATE OF CANADA AND SOUTH AFRICA.

Before giving an account of my journey onward from Montreal, I think it will be well briefly to compare the aborigines of Canada and South Africa, and also to say something of the physical features and extent of each country, the climate, and adaptability of the land for agricultural and pastoral purposes, as well as to sketch briefly their history before they became portions of the British dominions.

I do not pretend to be as intimately acquainted with the aborigines of Canada as I am with those of South Africa, among whom the best years of my life have been spent. I never personally came in contact with any other Indians than some Micmacs and Milicetes of the Algonquin family, who roamed about Nova Scotia and New Brunswick when I was a youth, and a few words of whose language I then picked up. I have seen their wigwams many times at the forest's edge along the Straits of Northumberland, and I have watched their canoes in the summer evenings gliding over the water of the harbours there, as they sought for lobsters by torchlight, but of course that does not give me sufficient knowledge to write about them. It is from books that I have gathered my information, and I have read many, with this advantage that as I know the South African natives well, when I found any

of their peculiarities ascribed to the Indians I could at once recognise them, and when it was otherwise I was led to pursue the inquiry and try to ascertain the cause.

How, when, and where the different varieties of human beings had their origin will probably never be known: it is sufficient to say that both in Canada and South Africa, when those countries were discovered, men differing greatly from Europeans were found. And what is much more strange, in each of these countries races differing greatly from each other existed. In South Africa the puny Bushmen, the better formed Hottentots, and the stalwart Bantu were living; and in Canada the best authorities are of opinion that the relationship is very remote between the Eskimo of the polar regions, the nomad Algonquins, and the stationary agricultural tribes, of which the Hurons may be taken as representatives.

The Hurons and Algonquins were of a reddish copper colour, they had long coarse black hair, were nearly beardless, had prominent features, and were in general well formed and large in body. The Eskimo were lighter in complexion, and though not so tall were usually stouter. The South African Bushmen were dwarfs of a dirty yellow colour, with only little peppercorns of wool on their heads, with flat noses, fox-like faces, and crooked ill-formed bodies. The Hottentots were of a similar colour, but had somewhat better features, and were larger and straighter-backed. The Bantu were equal to the best specimens of Indians in form and stature, they varied in colour from deep brown to black, their heads were thickly covered with woolly hair, and many of them had fairly prominent noses and bearded faces.

Notwithstanding these differences, it would have required a practised eye to distinguish at a short distance a group of any of these people from a group of any other. Covered with clay, soot, or dirt until the natural colour of their skins was concealed; the men, unless in cold weather, almost in a state of nudity, marching in front with nothing but weapons of war; the women following, carrying infants on their backs and bearing all the burdens of the household; the children, sedate beyond their years, trudging in a file behind: this was a scene that could be witnessed alike in Canada and in South Africa.

In debate also on serious matters there was a strong resemblance between the Indians, the Bantu, and the Hottentots. Many of the men were orators of a high order, their arguments were clear, their language was full of imagery, and they often displayed con-

derable
ecorum
as only
something
reason
can ch
For a
and wit
work
both
align
disaster
y a w
with the
Commo
vil spir
the wat
localitie
be made
all had f
spirit w
religion,
for their
extreme

The
section
The bis
western
spread
never
domest
abound
their u
were th
his im
the So
other d
did not