



### NO DANGER.

HENPECK—"Are we not in danger, standing under this tree during a storm?"

BOLDWIG—"No; the wind isn't strong enough to blow it over on us."

### OUR COUNTRYMEN ABROAD.

SCENE—A seaport town in any foreign country. ENTER a Canadian in distress. To him a native of the place:

CANADIAN—"Can you direct me to the office of the British Consul?"

NATIVE—"I can, and will be happy to do so. You are evidently in distress."

CANADIAN—"I am, unfortunately. I am a sailor, as you may perhaps have guessed. I belong to a Canadian vessel which was wrecked in the recent gale, and I find myself upon a foreign shore without money or friends."

NATIVE—"I feel sympathy for you, and if you will permit me to be of assistance I will gladly advance you enough money to take you to your own country."

CANADIAN—"You are very kind, and I am grateful to you, but my self-respect still remains, notwithstanding my ragged and forlorn appearance. I cannot accept of private charity. Besides, it is not necessary. As a Canadian I belong to the glorious British Empire, and Her Majesty's representative will, of course, provide for me as is usual in such cases."

NATIVE—"As you please. I have no doubt you will find all you need in the way of succor under the folds of your country's flag. The Consul's office is just across the way. Adieu."

[Exit Native. Distressed Canadian crosses the street and enters office of British Consul.]

CONSUL—"Well, my man, what can I do for you?"

CANADIAN—"I am one of Her Majesty's subjects, in distress, and among strangers without money. I come to you for such assistance as will enable me to return to my home."

CONSUL—"You shall have it, of course. The hand of Her Gracious Majesty is always outstretched to help her loyal subjects under such circumstances."

CANADIAN (*proudly*)—"That I know full well. And our gracious Queen hasn't in her world-wide Empire a more loyal subject than I. When at home I am a steady supporter of a good Conservative Government in whose platform the Old Flag is the principal plank."

CONSUL—"Your trust in that standard of liberty shall not be betrayed. (*Getting out blank form and proceeding to fill up same*). What is your name?"

CANADIAN—"John Thompson Abbott."

CONSUL—"From what colony?"

CANADIAN (*swelling with pride*)—"The Dominion of Canada."

*The Consul gives a disappointed whistle.*

CONSUL—"Er—Canada, you say?"

CANADIAN (*puzzled*)—"Yes, sir, Canada. What's the matter with Canada?"

CONSUL—"I don't know, but *something* is the matter with Canada. It would be advisable for you to try and find out when you return, if you ever do. I can only say that, as British Consul, I cannot recognize a Canadian nor extend any assistance to him."

CANADIAN—"I don't understand you, sir. Isn't Canada a colony of Great Britain—in fact the finest colony Great Britain possesses?"

CONSUL—"Perhaps so; she is at all events the meanest. My instructions from the Imperial Government are very simple and emphatic. You may convince yourself of that, if you will just look over this circular."

[Hands circular to distressed Canadian, who reads as follows:]

[CIRCULAR].

FOREIGN OFFICE, May 31, 1890.

SIR,—With reference to previous circulars relative to the relief of distressed British subjects, I am directed by the Marquis of Salisbury to state that, in view of the refusal of the Government of Barbadoes and the Dominion of Canada to refund expenses incurred for the relief of distressed Barbadians and Canadians, you should hereafter refrain, under all circumstances, from affording them any relief on behalf of her Majesty's Government, as the Treasury have intimated that claims for the repayment of sums advanced for the relief or repatriation of British Barbadian or Canadian subjects cannot in future be entertained. I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

T. V. LISTER.

To Her Majesty's Consuls.

CANADIAN—"Good heavens, sir! Do you mean to say that the Canadian Government has been guilty of this baseness and treachery to the country?"

CONSUL—"You see it for yourself. For more than a year Canada has been pilloried before the world along with Barbadoes as—well, I needn't rub it in. I can see you feel the shame and rage any decent man would in a similar case."

CANADIAN—"And this is the loyalty of the 'Old Flag' Government! It's a disgrace to the name of humanity! Never will I set foot in Canada again until this vile blot is wiped out."

CONSUL—"Though I cannot assist you in my official capacity, I will do so privately, if you will permit me."

CANADIAN—"I never supposed my Government would force me to become a recipient of private charity, but there is no help for it, sir. I will thankfully accept assistance to the United States, and you may depend upon my repaying any loan you may be disposed to make me at the earliest possible moment."

CONSUL—"Though the Canadian Government is evidently not to be trusted, I have every confidence in you. Come along, then, and we'll see what can be done for you."