

THE WAR-TRAIL!

CHAPTER LXXXVI. ON THE WAR-TRAIL.

SCARCELY staying to quench my thirst, I led my horse across the stream, and commenced scrutinizing the trail upon the opposite bank. The faithful trackers were by my side—no fear of them lagging behind.

I had won the hearts of both these men; and that they would have risked life to serve me, I could no longer doubt, since over and over again they had risked it. For Garey, strong, courageous, handsome in the true sense, and noble-hearted, I felt real friendship, which the young trapper reciprocated. For his older comrade, the feeling I had was like himself—undefinable, indescribable. It was strongly tinged with admiration, but admiration of the intellectual rather than the moral or personal qualities of the man.

Instead of intellectual, I should rather say instinctive, for his keen intuitive thoughts appeared more like instincts than the results of a process of ratiocination.

That the old trapper admired me—in his own phraseology, "liked me mightily"—I was aware. He was equally as zealous as the younger in my service; but too free an exhibition of zeal was in his eyes a weakness, and he endeavored to conceal it. His admiration of myself was perhaps owing to the fact that I neither attempted to thwart him in his humors nor rival him in his peculiar knowledge—the craft of the prairie. In this I was but his pupil, and behaved as such, generally deferring to his judgment.

Another impulse acted upon the trackers—sheer love of the part they were now playing. Just as the hound loves the trail, so did they; and hunger, thirst, weariness, one or all must be felt to an extreme degree before they would voluntarily forsake it.

Scarcely staying, therefore, to quench their thirst, they followed me out of the water; and all three of us together bent our attention to the sign.

It was a war-trail—a true war-trail. There was not the track of a dog—not the drag of a lodge-pole upon it. Had it been a moving encampment of peaceable Indians, these signs would have been visible; moreover, there would have been seen numerous footsteps of Indian women—of squaws; for the slave-wife of the lordly Comanche is compelled to traverse the prairies a pica, loaded like the pack-horse that follows at her heels!

But though no foot-prints of Indian women appeared, there were tracks of women, scores of them, plainly imprinted in the soil of the river-bank. Those slender impressions, scarcely a span in length, smoothly moulded in the mud, were not to be mistaken for the footsteps of an Indian squaw. There was not the wide divergence at the heels—the toes turned inward; neither was there the moccasin-print. No; those tiny tracks must have been made by women of that nation who possess the smallest and prettiest feet in the world—by women of Mexico.

"Captives!" we exclaimed, as soon as soon as our eyes rested upon the tracks.

"Ay, poor critters!" said Rube, sympathizingly; "the cursed niggers hev made 'em fut it, while thur's been spare hosses a plenty. Wagh! a good when 'o women thur's been—a score on 'em at the least. Wagh! I pity 'em poor girls! in sech kumpany as they've got into. It ur a life they've got to lead. Wagh!"

Rube did not reflect how heavily were his words falling upon my heart.

There were the tracks of more than a hundred horses, and as many mules. Some of both were iron-shod; but for all that we knew they had been either ridden or driven by Indians; they, too, were captives.

The sign helped my companions to much knowledge that would have been unintelligible to me. It was certainly the path of a war-party of Indians on the back track. They were laden with plunder, and driving before them, or forcing to follow, a crowd of captives—horses, mules, and women—children, too, for we saw the tiny foot marks of tender age. The trail was significant of all this—even to me.

But my comrades saw more; they no longer doubted that the Indians were Comanches—a moccasin had been picked up, a castaway, and the leathern tassel attached to the heel, declared the tribe to which its wearer belonged to be the Comanche.

The trail was quite fresh; that is, but a few hours had intervened since the Indians passed along it. Notwithstanding the dryness of the atmosphere, the mud on the river-edge had not yet become "skinned," as the trappers expressed it. The Indians had forded the stream about the time the prairie was set on fire.

The horses we had been following across the burnt plain were those of a party who had gone out in pursuit of the steed. Just at the ford they had overtaken the main body, who carried along the spoil and captives. From that point all had advanced together.

TO BE CONTINUED.

The highly protected United States are now manufacturing more steel rails, than free trade England. This industry has not yet been "crushed" by protection.

Mr. Blake's Tenure of the Leadership Precarious.

WHO WILL BE HIS SUCCESSOR?—CAN VASSAL CHANCES OF OPPOSITION SUBALTERNS.

(From the Toronto Mail.)

Almost the only thing to speculate about, is the precarious position the Opposition are in. It is well understood that Mr. Blake is far from strong, and that he does as little headwork as possible. In the event of his succumbing under the weight of the great questions he has grappled with during the session, such as the widow panes, 9 by 10 inches, and the other heavy subjects which are contained in the 9-751 foolecap pages of returns already brought down at the bidding of the Opposition, it is plain that the Opposition must, figuratively speaking, go to the dogs. Sir, Richard Cartwright's sneering style, supercilious manner, and general propensity to mix and muddle, have put him out of the race for leader in the not improbable event of Mr. Blake giving up and going to Europe again. Mr. Mackenzie's connection with contracts of a shady character have so weighed him down that it is not likely he will enter the field. Mr. Charlton, like Goldsmith's chest of drawers, has been put to so many different uses that he cannot in the judgment of his conferees take the place of Mr. Blake. Mr. Mills has irretrievably ruined himself by his lack of appreciation of the proprieties, as seen in his acting as retained counsel for Ontario in the boundary question while Minister of the Interior, Sir Albert Smith being a knight has no chance whatever. Messrs Patterson and Ross (Middlesex) are considered too light weights. Mr. Laurier has too small a following and besides belong to a race which Mr. Charlton branded with an epithet that will rankle in the minds of the French-Canadians for many a day. Altogether the outlook for the Opposition is very gloomy. Their hopes are centered in one poor weak tottering man without backbone or policy.

Minister of Agriculture's Report.

Hon. J. H. Pope recently laid on the table of the House the annual report of the Department of Agriculture. It shows that the number of cattle and sheep exported last year fell 5,370 cattle and 19,442 sheep less than the previous year, which is attributed to the formation of a ring amongst shippers to control freights.

The usual quarantine reports are made which show that the year was a healthy one, and that but four vessels had to be placed in quarantine.

The number of patents granted during the year was 1,732, and amount of fees collected \$52,856. The total number of registrations of copyrights, trade marks, etc, 451, and the fees collected \$4,773.

With reference to the Tracédie Lazaretto, Dr. Smith, the visiting physician, reports that there are now in the Lazaretto 22 inmates, representing all stages of leprosy. One death occurred during the year, and seven new cases were admitted. He reports this disease as steadily, though slowly, decreasing, and adds "there is reason to believe that before many years have elapsed this loathsome malady will have disappeared from our shores."

The Newfoundland coast is completely blocked with ice. The steamers plying between Halifax and St. John's have experienced very severe weather this season.

Heavy Goose Guns.

A FEW MUZZLE LOADING 9 BORE GOOSE GUNS—W. & C. Scott's make—at the London House.

March 18, 1m

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AT the JUNK STORE, Head Pownal Wharf, old Copper, Brass, Iron, Lead, Zinc, Rope and Canvas, Horse Hair, Bags, &c., for which the highest price will be paid. Ch'town, Jan 13, '82—3m

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LORNE HIGHLAND WHISKY

AN ANALYTICAL SANITARY INSTITUTION 54, Holborn-viaduct, E.C., London, Aug. 8, '79, REPORT ON THE LORNE HIGHLAND WHISKY: "We have visited the bottling stores of Greenlees Brothers, and have selected from the vats, samples of their Lorne Highland Whisky, and have subjected them to careful examination and analysis. The samples were very fragrant, mellow, and of pleasant flavor, and possessed all the characteristics of pure and well-matured Scotch Whisky of the first quality."

"ARTHUR HILL, HASSALL, M. D. "OTTO HEHNER, F. C. S., F. I. C." Agent: OWEN CONNOLLY Charlottetown, P. E. I. Feb. 24, 1882.

Administration Notice.

THE undersigned Administrator of the Estate of Mary Walsh, late of Charlottetown, in Queen's County, widow, deceased, hereby notifies all persons indebted to the said Estate to make immediate payment to him, and all persons having claims or demands against the said Estate are hereby required to exhibit such claims and demands duly attested to him for payment, within twelve months from this date.

A. A. McLEAN, Administrator. Ch'town, 1st March, 1882.—3m law

MORE LIGHT!

THE Charlottetown Gas Light Company have imported some of "BRAY'S Burners," which they will supply and fit on Gas Brackets, etc., at a moderate cost to consumers.

These Burners are reported to be the best Flat Flame Burner yet produced, and will give a far greater amount of light than any other Burner with the same consumption of Gas.

Dr. Wallace, F. R. S. E., F. C. S., Gas Examiner to the City of Glasgow, in a lecture delivered by him, calculated that £120,000 (\$650,000) a year are thrown away in Gas lost by the use of imperfect fittings. On the subject of Gas Burners he says: "Another and as I think a better Burner is that called Bray's regulator, and as I consider these the best untried Burners attainable at moderate cost, I have selected them for a series of experiments."

The Report of the Committee of the British Association of Science to enquire as to the best means for the development of light from Coal Gas of different qualities—comprising Dr. William Wallace, Professor Dittmar, and Mr. Thomas Wills, F. C. S., F. I. C. E., showed that Bray's Burners yielded the greatest amount of light of all the two or three score of Burners reported upon, which included all the Burners of repute in the market.

In a pamphlet upon Light and Heat, published by R. B. Tater, A. M., he says: "The cost of Gas as compared with other illuminants is much more economical when rightly used, than many suppose. From experiments made for this purpose, the following results have been obtained. They were made by burning samples of Devco's Brilliant Oil and ordinary Oil, and testing their illuminating power. It was found that Coal Gas costing one cent at \$3 per thousand feet, gave a light equal to 18 candles, while Devco's Brilliant Oil consuming 27.4 grammes costing half a cent, gave a light equal to 9 candles."

"A good Argand or Johnson's Burner, the Burner used in the last experiment, will therefore give the light of 2 ordinary Oil Burners in direct comparison, at no greater expense in the case of the finer and safer grades of Oil. Lights, however, on the authority of Scientists, are not to be compared in direct proportion, but in proportion to the squares of their powers, and such a comparison with the case of the use of Gas, its cleanliness, freedom from odor and dangers, renders its use desirable wherever it can be introduced."

As the above experiments were made with Gas at \$3 per 1000 feet, and not consumed through Bray's Burners, it will readily be seen how much more economical it is to consume Gas instead of Oil, when its price is only \$2.63 per 1000 feet as now charged here when consumed, more especially through Bray's Burners.

Messrs. Goodwin & Co., of Philadelphia, the well-known manufacturers of Scientific instruments for testing the illuminating power of Coal Gas, etc., say in their Circular to Gas Companies: "In presenting the Bray's Standard Patent Silt Union Burners and Lanterns, for which we are the sole Agents in the United States, to the attention of the public, we are convinced that we are filling a want long felt." They further add: "The yield of light from these Burners is 12 to 20 per cent greater per cubic foot of Gas consumed than that from any flat flame Burner hitherto introduced."

Prince Edward Island RAILWAY. TIME TABLE NO 17. WINTER ARRANGEMENT. To take effect on the 1st Dec., 1881.

Table with 4 columns: STATIONS, MIXED, MIXED, MIXED. Rows include Ch'town, Royalty, N. Wiltsh's, Hunter R'r, Bradalba'e, Co'ty Line, Freetown, Kensington, Summ'side, Wellington, Port Hill, O'Leary, Bloomfield, Alberton, Tignish, Royalty, York, Bedford, Mt. Stew't, Cardigan, George'n., Mt. Stew't, Morell, St. Peter's, Bear River, Souris.

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L. B. ARCHIBALD, Superintendent, Railway Office Charlottetown, Nov. 23, 1881 (61, wky)

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HARPER'S PERIODICALS. PER YEAR. HARPER'S WEEKLY, "4 HARPER'S MAGAZINE, "4 HARPER'S BAZAR, "4 The THREE above publications, "10 Any TWO above named, "7 HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE, "7 HARPER'S MAGAZINE HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE, "6 HARPER'S FRANKLIN SQUARE LIBRARY

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