

CANADA IN THE KLONDIKE

Dramatic Incident Illustrating the Vigor of the Dominion Government.

THE OUTLAWS OF DOUGLAS LAKE

Ripe Material for Lynching, but the Law Took its Course and Hoped Them In—Dangerous Mixing of Races.

A great deal has been written as to how the Canadian government would govern the Klondike. Of course, the sane, patriotic, liberty-loving citizen of every country will concede their right to run the show if the tents are pitched in dominion territory. We run Dakota.

I have observed that the Canadian has a great deal of respect for the law of the land and for the rights of the individual. That is distinctly English. The following story, which was told to the writer by one who was an eye-witness to some of it, will show how the Canadians have behaved when there was good execution for hanging some of the lawless.

Twenty-five men and five women were living at Douglas lake, B. C. Some had ferried it round the Horn and out the selvage of the Pacific. Others had walked themselves across the country behind a bull team. They were cattle men, sheep men and farmers. They were all working hard to build up a home in a promising country. It was a democratic community. The village blacksmith was mayor of the town.

A Frenchman, who appears to have had money, had gone in ahead of the Canadian colony, roped a square and reared a family. After a few years, French blood is the worst thing that can be mixed up with Indians. So the Canadian said, and I believe history will bear him out. Between the Frenchman and the squaw four boys were born, and they appear to have been bad boys from the beginning. When the youngest was only 14 they stole a saddle from one of the cowboys, and they might as well have taken a herd of cattle, for that would not make a cowboy more angry.

A warrant was issued for the arrest of the four boys two other half breeds and a squaw, and the gang began to hide out. They eventually concluded that the best way to avoid anything desperate, for, with no apparent provocation, they killed an inoffensive shepherd and put themselves on the defensive. The constable at Douglas lake had just brought a young wife to the wild country, went after the murderers of the shepherd,



TOSSED THEIR REVOLVERS IN A HEAP ON THE GROUND AND HELD UP THEIR HANDS.

and when he had found them showed more than that sense by attempting, single-handed and alone, to stand the seven up. Of course, they killed the constable, a brave, indiscreet, but useful citizen.

HUNTING THE OUTLAWS.

Now the whole community was up in arms and after the outlaws. It is related of the real Indians that they took their guns and went out to hunt the people who murdered the pale-faced people, for they had given the Indians work, but they had not paid for the labor rendered. The desperadoes started to leave the country. They called upon one of the farmers, bound him fast in his chair and then helped themselves to whatever they wanted, including horses in front of the door they flourished their firearms and said, "These things (their pistols) will put all the pale-faces at the left hand of Christ." The leader, one of the sons of the Frenchman, said that and then they galloped away.

But the people of Douglas Lake, and their Indian allies, hoped to catch them. The law came camped that night in an old cabin and in the morning woke to find the place surrounded by desperate men—white and red. Occasionally a head was stuck in the door, and a shot and instantly a bullet would peck at the chinking. If one of the desperadoes showed himself carelessly the outlaws would take a shot at him to show that the Indians should guard the cabin day and night. Unconsciously the red men of the community stood watch with the whites. On the third day an Indian left the cabin and walked deliberately, unarmed, up to the cabin. He did not enter, but called upon the gang to surrender. The half-breeds seemed much surprised that the Indian should be so bold. They thought he was a fool, but they reasoned that if a half-breed could hold so much courage, that a whole Indian ought to be beyond reclamation.

STARRVED OUT.

"O!" said the leader. "Here's my old friend, Jim, come with the rest to help hang me. But Jim was not so good a friend as the half-breeds. He was a white man, and in consideration of \$100 to him in hand, this same Jim had revealed to the people of Douglas Lake the plans of the half-breeds, which included the killing of the white population. This conclusion had been reached immediately after the killing of the shepherd.

It was not until the afternoon of the sixth day that the gang came out, emptied their revolvers, tossed them in a heap upon the ground, and held up their hands. Hunger and thirst had made them even more susceptible to such torture, and so the gang surrendered. Here was material and opportunity for an interesting lynching. The provocation had been great, but, according to our informant, such a thing was not even suggested. Having fed and watered the gang, a deputation of citizens—the constable having been killed—started across the country, fifty miles, to New Westminster, where a whole week was wasted in the trial of the murderers. Two of the four brothers and another half-breed were hanged. The other three being younger, were imprisoned, and the squaw set free. Having spent a considerable part of his fortune in a house was erected to save the necks of his more or less unlawful children, the old Frenchman went back to France to try to forget it.

And that's the way the Canadians will do in the Klondike. The lawless desperado will not have the honor of being shot. Even the famous reformer, Riel, was hanged like a horse thief at the end of a rope. VOLA.

GOSSIP ABOUT NOTED PEOPLE.

Mozart had a memory for music and for nothing else. On attending the papal mass at the Sistine chapel he was greatly impressed with the music. He was asked for a copy, but was told none could be given out. He went to the next service, listened attentively, went away and wrote down the whole from memory.

The well known stingsness of the late Alexander Dumas has given rise to a variety of anecdotes. He was told that he was once asked whether he ever gave anything to the poor and he answered: "Oh, yes! When I come across a lad piece of money I always give it away to a blind man."

The duke of Cambridge has an unfortunate

habit of thinking aloud without being aware of it and it is said that he got him into a serious situation on one occasion. At the marriage of the sister to the Duke of Teck, when the latter solemnly promised to endow the bride with all of his worldly goods, Cambridge exclaimed: "Well, by Jove! And Wales gave him his shirt!"

When Joseph Jefferson was walking down School street, Boston, one morning with a friend, they met Judge Charles Levi Woodbury, who said: "I am glad to meet you, Mr. Jefferson. You are not so tall a man as your father was." Whereupon Mr. Jefferson expressed his pleasure at meeting a friend and contemporary of his father.

"And you are not so large a man as your grandfather, whose acquaintance I also enjoyed," continued Judge Woodbury. "Well, well," said Mr. Jefferson, "I'm something of a kid, after all."

"One day several years ago," says the London News, "Lord Teoyson was walking in meditation about the grounds at Alderbury when a tourist, rushed toward him, leaving behind a party of friends to follow more at leisure. Arrived within speaking distance, the stranger said: 'Can you tell me where I can find the poet Teoyson?' Taken by surprise, the great laureate was not ready with any evasion and answered: 'I am he.' Whereupon the stranger turned to his friends and, pointing to the poet with no more reverence than if he was an immediate curiosity, bawled out: 'Say, this is the man, this is the man!' The friends hastened their pace and stared with all their eyes, while the only thing the poet could do was to beat a hasty retreat. The visitors were Americans."

Bjornstjerne Bjornson and his daughter, Mme. Berge, recently gave in Copenhagen an evening of music and readings. The Norwegian poet, declined, notwithstanding his 65 years, a remarkably powerful and resonant voice, and his reading of several poems of Victor Hugo that had translated into Norwegian prose was much applauded. Mme. Bjorn, the wife of Dr. Sigurd Bjorn, Henrik Ibsen's son, sang several French and Norwegian songs. She has a clear, but very agreeable voice, which she is said to use with very much skill.

"Lovers of Defoe," says the London Chronicle, "will regret to hear that James William Defoe—the last of the family and the great-grandson of the renowned Daniel Defoe—died on the 10th of the month of October, in receipt of the modest pittance of 3 shillings a week. The old man, who is now in his 73th year, feels lonely in his only son, Daniel, who died last year at San Francisco, at the early age of 22. The lad was originally placed at the Bluecoat school, but when his term expired he chose a maritime life. One would have thought that, since he was in childhood's happy hours have



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reveled in the pages of 'Robinson Crusoe' there might have been some who would have come forward to free the closing years of this old man's life from the shadow of the 'uncle.'

Dr. William H. Ford of Philadelphia, who has just died, was for more than a quarter of a century a member of the Philadelphia Society of Letters and Science. He was the author of a thesis on "Gunshot Wounds of the Chest," founded on his experience in military hospital wards and illustrated by cases treated. He was also the author of "Statistics of Births, Marriages and Deaths in the City of Philadelphia," published in 1874, and "Notes on the Diseases of the Urinary System," which appeared in The Medical and Surgical Reporter in 1864 and 1865. For several years he acted as one of the associate editors of The Philadelphia Times. His treatise on "Soil and Water," including the subjects of drainage, sewerage, etc., was incorporated in Buck's Hygiene and Health.

Gottlieb Kirchner, who recently died at North Woodside, in South Australia, 90 years of age, was a member of the Russian invasion he passed through Kirchner's native village. His coat of arms was damaged, so that it had to be repaired. The work was entrusted to Kirchner's father, the village blacksmith. The son, then a lad of 5 years, was elected and illustrated by cases treated. He was also the author of "Statistics of Births, Marriages and Deaths in the City of Philadelphia," published in 1874, and "Notes on the Diseases of the Urinary System," which appeared in The Medical and Surgical Reporter in 1864 and 1865. For several years he acted as one of the associate editors of The Philadelphia Times. His treatise on "Soil and Water," including the subjects of drainage, sewerage, etc., was incorporated in Buck's Hygiene and Health.

DIMENSIONS OF THE PLANETS.

New Determinations Made with the Parisian Meridian Circle. Prof. E. E. Barnard, then at the Lick Observatory, made a series of micrometrical measurements to determine the diameters of the planets and their satellites, the results of which are published together for the first time in the present number of Popular Astronomy. The more important of these new determinations are as follows:

Table with columns for Planet Name and Diameter in Miles. Includes Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, and the Moon.

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HOW TO PREVENT CROUP.

"There is nothing in the market that equals Chamberlain's Cough Remedy as a preventive of croup," says Mrs. S. Parrot, Newcastle, Natal. "Once my baby was suddenly attacked with croup and it took only a few drops to completely relieve her. I have since used it in very severe cases of bad colds and inflammation of the lungs, and the effect was really wonderful. I keep it constantly in my house as I am assured that it is the best for the good it has done my family in many instances."

NEW YORK'S SEACOAST PORTS

An Assortment of Disappearing Rifles Where They Will Do the Most Good.

SHORTAGE OF MEN TO MAN THEM

Increase of Armament Has Brought No Increase in Personnel to Make Modern Defenses Effective—Trying the New Signals.

Uncle Sam's military officers are constantly studying the very important problem of how to most successfully defend the thousands of miles of our ocean coasts open to the attacks of any enemy who may send ships of war to bombard our shores.

One of the most important details of this problem is the question of directing the fire of the great modern seacoast defense batteries which are now being established. Under the conditions of latter day military science this must be done by signaling, either visual or electrical, and to determine the best system of doing this, related to New York Herald, tests are soon to be made at Fort Wadsworth.

How shall the guns be fought so the target may be hit? Here is the question in a nutshell: here is the problem vexing the minds of many trained men afloat and ashore. On shipboard, in the old days of cutlasses and boarding pikes, the guns were fought yardarm to yardarm, muzzle to muzzle, and tradition tells how at times the grimy tars combed the innocuous queue powder out of their pig-tails and hurled them against the enemy's hulls. Ashore guns were fired over parapets or through yawning embrasures, and the smoke enshrouded battlements gave but scant opportunity for anything more than lucky hits and misses at the advancing ships. Mortars threw their shells high in the air, and widely distributed zones of misses testified to the impotence of the "shoot your way" theory of the unguided parachute. It was war making in merry, simple fashion, and whether ships were driven off or sunk a deal of villainous saltpetre and smoke was wasted.

Not that all this was without its danger, for the life of the gunner was largely devoted to the dodging of things coming his way, and from his unprotected parapet by the storm of grape and canister, by the bursting of his own shells, and by the quick action of a machine gun, which a decade since seemed beyond control.

DIRECTING THE FIRE. Quietly, and with a prudent demand by the interests involved, the War department has been at work utilizing such means as are at hand and getting guns ready for men to man them. It has considered many plans for defense and tried many experiments looking to the betterment of our chances in event of collision with a hostile fleet.

In creating any of these is an important test which is to be made at Fort Wadsworth, an early date, the outcome of which is to determine the best method of directing the fire of a sea coast battery in time of war.

So far as may be learned, the various units of the chain of artillery fire command are necessarily so situated that direct communication by messenger between them is out of the question, except as a last resort, and the distances are, as a rule, so great that speaking tubes or other mechanical means of transmission of sound cannot be used. They will therefore depend upon some system of signaling, either visual or electrical in character, and it is for the purpose of determining the best system that these experiments are to be made.

Three methods are to be tried, and the adoption of any one of these will bring about a revolution in sea coast defense that will sharply accentuate the change from the old-time blood and thunder way of fighting big guns to a newer, cleaner cut and more scientific fashion. One gave us visions of smoke-begrimed gunners sighting along the length of their curious pieces and groping for the target through the fog of battle, shells bursting around and cascades of masonry tumbling all about. The other reveals to the enemy nothing but the quick action of a piece of monstrous ordnance, a moment of expectant doubt and then the rattle and roar which speed a missile, sighted in a pit and laid by hand, and the quick action of a piece of monstrous ordnance, a moment of expectant doubt and then the rattle and roar which speed a missile, sighted in a pit and laid by hand, and the quick action of a piece of monstrous ordnance, a moment of expectant doubt and then the rattle and roar which speed a missile, sighted in a pit and laid by hand.

Such a congeries of battlewrecks may bristle today from the hills about Fort Wadsworth, batteries unknown save to the sentries. Here, in jealously guarded locations, will be built the stations where the commanding officers of these groups of guns will keep weary watch and where the quick action of a piece of monstrous ordnance, a moment of expectant doubt and then the rattle and roar which speed a missile, sighted in a pit and laid by hand, and the quick action of a piece of monstrous ordnance, a moment of expectant doubt and then the rattle and roar which speed a missile, sighted in a pit and laid by hand.

But to hit a target some one must see it, and in the case of a mobile target, such as a ship of war, our signaling system will be the exact range, but must also determine the position of the ship and calculate to a nicety the exact spot where she will be at the moment when the shells are to be fired. So the range finder found his way into use, and this was evolved the idea that it would be well to put the man who handles that instrument apart from the guns and where his vision could not be obscured by smoke.

The idea which led to their establishment at all was the development of the disappearing gun. A gun mounted on a disappearing carriage is loaded and trained before being elevated to the firing position, otherwise the advantage of that system, which lies in the briefest possible exposure to the fire of an enemy, would be lost.

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