THE DOMINION CAPITAL.

BY ADMUND COLLINS.

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"Beautiful as Zion for situation, lying iewel-like within the bosom of a lovely valley where every phase of Nature's beauty, is rock and river, field and forest, mead and mountain, whirlpool and waterfall, she may be surveyed at one broad sweep of entranced vision; wearing the noblest pile of public buildings in the colony upon her fir clad prow; fringed all about with mingled mansion, villa, lawn and grove, and holding the rival falls of thunderous Chaudiere and weey Rideau in either hand." Thus does Mr. James Macdonald Oxley pourtray Ot-"An arctic lumber vill ge turned into a political cock pit." Such is Mr. Goldwin Smith's description of the same city. As these two gentlemen do not exactly agree in their estimates, I have given both their versions; though I must not get myself into hot water by saying which I deem to be the most accurate. But Mr. Oxley cannot make this city more proud, any more man Mr. Smith can make it more humble to that regardless of the disparagement or the praise it falls to my lot to give a very mief and unambitious sketch of the past and resent of the Capital, according to my own anderstanding. A little while after the beginning of the present century one Philemon Wright, of Woburn, Massachusetts, his native place and proceeded to Monreal. From this point, with a caravan of eve families, including thirty men, fourteen screes, eight oxen and seven sleighs, loaded deep with mill irons, axes, scythes, hoesand sil other kinds of tools, together with a samber of BARFELS OF CLEAR PORK

of his own raising, he proceeded to the Chaudiere Falls, where he erected for himself an shitation. He built the village of Wrightville, now Hull, one of the darkest looking cities in the world, in spite of all the latent illemination stored up in its factories. Hullis directly opposite Ottawa, and for a trifling the land upon which the city stands fell into the hands of one Nicholas Sparks, a perfor in the service of Mr. Wright. There was considerable nervousness for many years after the war of 1812 15, and this feeling ed to the construction of the Rideau Canal, a water route which would serve our people or our troops, in time of war, to come and 20 apon, without interruption. The junction of this canal with the Ottawa river was made precisely at the point where Mr. Sparks had purchased the land. In a little while the nucleus of a settlement made its appearance, and then with the growth of the canal traffic, there uprose a thriving place called Bytown, so named after Colonel By, the engineer of the canal. As for Mr. Sparks, he soon found himself busy selling lots to the Imperial Government and to enterprising settlers, till he became the master of a cool half a million sterling. In 1851 Bytown brasted of no fewer than 8000 inhabitants; and the great bulk of these were concerned, eitrer directly or indirectly, with the lumber traffic. To this part of Canada seemed to come from all quarters men of the sturdiest enterprise, as witness the names of the Steads, the Eddys, the Moors, the Gilmours, the Perlys, the Patteys, the Hamiltons, the Wrights, and the many others hardly less

ADVENTURESOME AND SUCCESSFUL is achievements. The new city now began to grow dissatisfied with her name, and longed for one with more poetry and more music in its sound. So Bytown was changed to Ottawa, which appellation had taken the place of the Utwa of the Indian. It would seem as if some guiding hand were preparing this little northern town for the laurels soon to be riaced upon her brow. In 1841 the old previnces of Upper and Lower Canada entered into union, and the seat of the new Govemment was established at Kingston. But three years later it was decided that parliament should go " boarding round the deestrict," so to speak ; in other words, it was resolved that the seat of government should go four years to the French province, and for alike period to the English one, alternately. Montreal was given the honors for Quebec, and foronto held them for Ontario. But in 1849 a Tory mob in Montreal did itself the credit of burning down the parliament buildings, stoning the Governor-General and poking sticks through a portrait of the Queen. he representatives never returned to the noteus city, but chose Quebec in its stead. In 1858 the legislature had grownsick of the continuous packing, moving, and unpacking; and decided to and Her Majesty to become arbitrator in the metter, and na ne a city for the permanent resi ence of parliament. The ween took a map of the wild colonies, and called one or two of her trusty councillors to her side. The Duke of Wellington put his pointer upon a little black dot marked Bytown," and said, "That is a suitable lace, Your Majesty. It stands on the torder of both provinces, and it is a place of little importance in the English province." alesty accepted the advice, and signier choice to the Canadian government. Not a little excitement was manifested when it recame known that the place chosen for the Capital was "a certain modest village-town, perchad meekly on high bluffs and intervenalleys between the spray and roar of headlong waterfalls." This decision at once brought the "arctic lumber village" into prominence; and a gentleman with a very bitter and therefore somewhat unreliable longue, in later years, when referring to its election said, "It was to become the cemetery of political morality for this country." Of course the city has never considered that it received any honor in being chosen; but quite the contrary. Its very insignificance was its passport to distinction. As Mr. Ox-

by has happily said, it was the "dark

home" in the contest for the capitalship.

Clever writers may sharpen their wits as they

may to say disparaging things of our little

capital; they car not alter the facts. In the

the bense, God made Ottawa, and neither

the hostile critic nor the occasional political

mainy enacted here, can blot out the gran-

the rushing rivers, and of its thunder-

institution among some of our French-Conscian people, and wit has come to sequire certain vested rights among them. Vaccination is an infringement, and it is treated now and again to a little correction at the hands of the mob. The are three things which a good many of our French brethren must have, and these are: their religion, their lauguage and their small pox. They will defend either one of these to the death. Of course, I do not wish my readers te suppose that the educated French-Canadian or the bulk of the people has as many "institutions" as his unlettered confreres.

The English folk are found upon the more elevated ground, and their location is an extremely healthful one There is considerable business activity and contractors are stead ily putting up new buildings. I suppose that my readers will infer an Upper Town as well as a Lower Town here from my observations. The chief business of the city is confined to one street leading from the Chaudiere Falls to the Rideau River; and this thoroughfare has various names. The portion of it in which young people given to street flirting are most interested, is very appropria ely named Spark i street. In the matter of female beauty, I had imagined before visiting Ottawa, that Toronto carried the palm away from all her Canadian sisters; but I must confess that I now regard the issue as doubtful betwixt her and our little Ottawa. We have the two types of beauty here, the Gallie and the Anglo Saxon, while Toronto enters the lists with only one. Our French girls have more colour than their English sisters; that is to say, they wear the carnation in their cheek, and the other wears the rose. I should judge the French girl s face to be the prettier, and her figure to be not so good. Her eyes are pretty sure to be dark, with the lustrous gleam of Normandy in them; the English girl's eye suggests a fire kindled at a star. I suppose I have made myself quite clear on these points. The stores here, with the exception of cne, are not pretentious in appearance; but prices are a little lower than at Toronto. I don't know whether the licensed grocers SMUGGLE THEIR SPIRITS

or not; but they sell a large "square" bottle of John D. Kuyper for 60 cents; whilst the Toronto grocer sells the same for 75 cents. In most of the stores the clerks speak both French and English.

The publi: buildings of Ottawa I need hardly refer to. Crowning an airy hill, overlooking the Ottawa River, stands the Parliament and Departmental Buildings, magnificent structures, costing over five million dollars, and constructed of Ohio sandstone and Trenton limestone. The colors are warm yellow and Quaker's gray, but how Ruskin would rage at seeing those rockeries built in the wall above door and window-arch. About the grounds are flower plots; and during the late autumn a large narcissus bed sweetened the whole air about with odor. Government have recently taken over the Nepean Park from the city. It was very beautiful in the autumn; but next year, Sir Hector Langevin has arranged, it will surpass in gorgeousness. Trenton limerock forms the city's foundations, and the contractor needs but to sink his drill under the building lot to obtain an exquisitely tinted blue-gray stone. A number of private residences and the civic buildings are constructed of this stone. The City Hall is a handsome structure of somewhat too coldly blue about the top; and is a rebuke to the squat, tumble-down pile if ugly brick in which the City Father's of the Queen City congregate. Little type seems to be very fashionable in Ottawa; and the names of the streets are shown in upper case letters, a little larger than the type in a novel : but not much larger. If you want to find out the name of a Street painted upon a cornerboard, a good way is to take a ladder or an opera glass. Of course I am only talking from hearsay; as I have never seen any of

the letters. In summer, of course, it is quiet in a social way in Ottawa, but in winter there is a continuous round of parties, snow-shoe tramps; and tobogganing at the Rideau slides and Tache's Hill. The chief social event is the State Ball at Rideau, to which seven or eight hundred persons are invited. Tobogganing at the Hall at night under the flare of torches, bonfire and Chinese lanterns presents a very picturesque and beautiful spectacle. Their present excellencies have become very pepular, and the good sense, industry and zeal which his Lordship has shown since coming amongst us will very probably pave part of the way to India. There is not unrestrained social intercourse between the French and English circles here; but the dividing line is every year becoming less rigid. Fur coats largely prevail during the reign of parliament; and the ladies have begun, for the season, to carry their steel pointed canes. For my part I am unable to see why a lady should not carry a cane as well as a gentleman, (I hope my words will not be misconstrued here !) if it be granted that there is any utility in the appendage But let me enter my solemn protest against the hideous dolman or Mother Hubbard in which so many of the Ottawa maidens

HIDE THEIR PRETTY FIGURES. One girl in four hundred can wear a dolman and look graceful, but that is all. Dolly Varden is about the only girl that I ever knew who could do so; and it is very questionable if the robs would not have taken much of the poetry out of her. I believe this garment is " affected ' in Ottawa because a certain not very exquisite taste in the matter of dress adopts a similar robe. Anything that tends to hide the natural curves and graces of the human figure is barbarous; and the pinched-up back of a dolman upon a lady has always reminded me of a cancer.

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HOUSEHOLD.

Hints.

Moths do not eat through paper. Het wood ashes applied to a stove when it

is cold will remove grease. Tea should never be made in a tin pot The tannin works on the tin and makes a poison.

Glass kept wet with camphor dissolved in spirits of turpentine may be cut with metallic

Cooking utensils, after being washed, should be rinsed in clean water and wiped out with a clean, dry cloth.

Water that has stood in a lead pipe over night is unfit for cooking or drinking purposes. Let it run for two or three minutes before being used.

In cleaning paint obstinate spots that will not wash off with soap and water will often yield to a gentle rubbing with a damp cloth dipped in soda.

Vinegar and yeast are kept best in glass vessels. If placed in stone crocks or jugs their acid attacks the glazing, which is considered poisonous.

India rubber bands slipped over the body of bottles that are to be packed in cars for transportation will prevent breakage and save considerable in packing material.

Choice Recipes.

CREAM DOUGHNUTS. - One egg, a cup and a half of sugar, one cup of thick sour cream, half a cup of sweet milk, a pinch of salt, two-thirds teaspoonful of soda; mix with Haxall flour, flavor with lemon, and fry in very hot lard.

CAULIFLOWER. - Trim off the outside leaves and put into salted boiling water. When tender take out carefully and lay on a dish. Pour over it sauce made thus : Stir into two tablespoonfuls melted butter in a saucepan a heaping tablespoonful of flour, stir till the flour is well cooked, then add milk or cream till the gravy is thin as batter, season with pepper and salt, and pour over the cauliflower.

QUINCE PRESERVE —Select the best quinces for preserving, the others reserve for marmalade. Pare, core, and quarter the quinces, or after coring cut in rings. Allew threequarters of a pound of sugar to a pound of fruit. Boil the quinces in just water enough to cover them till they are tender. Drain them from this water and put them into boiling syrup made by putting one pint of water to two pounds of sugar. Boil five minutes and put into jars.

CHICKEN SALAD, -Take some tender pul lets, fry them in the saucepan or roast them. When cold cut them up, skimming and trimming them neatly. Put the pieces in a tureen with some salt, pepper, oil, vinegar, some sprigs of parsley, and an onion cut into slices. Mix all well together, cover, and let stand for some hours. Then, just before serving, drain the salad, taking care to remove all bits of onion, etc., and place it tastefully on lettuce leaves, with the hearts of the lettuce on top, and cover with a Mayonnaise dressing.

PEAR JELLY. - The pears must be a juicy sort. Cut them into quarters without paring or coring. Put eight pounds in a pot with one quart of water and boil on a slow fire to a pulp, then throw them into a jelly bag, made of coarse glass cloth, and let them remain all night to drain. Next morning squeeze any remaining juice out of the bag, and to each pound of juice add half a pound of lump sugar and a very little lemon juice to flavor. Boil it on a quick fire till it comes to a jelly. Great care must be taken not to let this burn. It takes about two hours to boil to a jelly, but is more easily done in small quantities. Coarse, juicy pears are the best.

Some New Pickles

Tomato Pickle.—Take a gallon of green tomatoes and six large onions; cut them in thin slices and stand them in salt and water all night. In the morning pour off the brine and put them into a preserving pan, with four tablespoonfuls of sugar, four of mustard two teaspoonfuls of ground cloves, two of cinnamon, one of cayenne pepper and one of the best curry powder. Simmer for one hour and when cool, pour into pickle jars.

Cноw-Сноw. — Take two heads of cabbage. two heads of cauliflower, one quart of dwarf onions, two quarts of small tomatoes, one dozen cucumbers and six roots of celery : cut into small pieces and boil each kind of vegetable separately until tender, then strain and take two gallons of vinegar, quarter of a pound of mustard, quarter of a pound of mustard seed, one pot of French mustard, one ounce of cloves and two ounces of tumeric; put the vinegar and spices into a pan and let them come to the boil, then mix the vegetables and pour the liquor over.

TO PICKLE SMALL YELLOW- TOMATOES-Let them lie in salt and water for three or four days, changing the brine if a scum rises : then rinse them with clear water and let them lie for a night in weak vinegar, or say half vinegar and half water. The next day prepare thus : To one peck of tomatoes allow half an ounce of whole cloves, a quarter of a pound of ground mustard, half an ounce of whole black pepper and six goodsized onions, cut in slices. Put the tomatoes . in a jar, putting a layer of onions and spice between the layers of tomatoes till the jars are full. Cover the whole with cold vinegar of good strength. In a week or ten days the pickles will be ready for the table.

APPLE PICKLE. -Core six good-sized cooking apples and six russet apples; slice them. but do not pare them. The cooking apples will form the soft part of the chutnee, and the slices of russet apples should look like sliced mangoes. Put them into a pint of red vinegar, add a pound of moist sugar and four ounces of sultana raisins ; boil together until the apples are soft. Have two ounces of onions ready, chopped finely, four ounces of salt, two ounces each of mustard and ground ginger, mixed smoothly with a little vinegar; stir these ingredients into the

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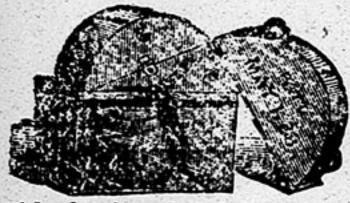
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