MILTON, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1899.

CANADIAN CHAMPION

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bald spots appear

the roots, stops

hair grows thick and Keep bottle of it on your dressing table. It always restores

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THE AUSTRALIAN NEVER-NEVER

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For a minute or two the old original

But there came the sound of a quick;

you know."

tightened on mine.

blacks was heard a "bang, bang, bang," thy. I was conscious of a pair of giant wild "hurrah" -a right lusty, heart hands holding both of mine and knew, stirring British cheer, and a semicircle though the owner did not atter a word, cried of horsemen swept up swiftly and piti- that it was Savile. He tried to speak, lessly, surrounding the savages. In an great honest soul that he was, but the other second certain bullets that had words stuck in his throat, and he simbeen intended for very different billets by wrung my hands again. A pair of found more satisfactory ones. Savile soft woman's hands caught up mine, ments with the chivalrous old potentate Elsie Gordon. might have envied, but that was all he left. His many widows did not even tent pole for some time, wondering if

fight over his bones. The blacks were caught in their own how the news of my blindness would trap. The pigeon that Norah Mackenzie affect the latter. That she would be had threatened the old chief with had heartily sorry for me I had no doubt. kept its word, in so far as, if it did not but then, "out of sight out of mind." return in person, it sent a number of she would soon cease to remember me. hawks and other birds of prey which I would become simply a shadowy swooped down on them as they might memory, recalled only perhaps with a

vague sense of regret. It was as well, have done upon so much carrion. The savages had no time to make a I thought bitterly, though with a heavy stand, though their numbers were a heart, that she had loved some one else, hundred to one. Their superstitions had for how could she ever cling to a blind been worked upon, and demoralization and helpless man? was the consequence. They backed off the terrace as quickly as they had Adam waged war within me. charged on to it, but it was "out of the light footstep just outside the tent and frying pan into the fire."

Then an indescribable scene took the rustle of a woman's dress. I drew place, for the horsemen were in among myself together. I would show myse them from all directions dealing out a man before her at least. well merited punishment. The blacks only thought of saving themselves, and born of my affliction and sense of shipsome of them had no time to think wrecked hopes I care not to remember about that. They were saved the trouble of thinking. They ran first one way, arms were round my neck and she had then another, and scuttled over rocks kissed me once, had kissed me twice, and up trees like iguanas. Some of them upon the lips. even tried to scale the cliff by leaping Despite my surprise, it needed no one

of sheep going over a precipice. The arrival of the relief party had been commonest clay is spiritualized. had been taken from one or two of after regret. So I disengaged her arm them. These were put on the surveyors' tenderly. the shelter of the cave that had so far me like this," I said as steadily as I ready." befriended them and cut across the could, "but you must not forget there bush to the river.

CHAPTER XX.

"FOR NOW THAT I AM BLIND"-The tea that Clements had made for me and the rest did me a world of good. At length Clements said:

there's a horse and saddle here for you. you let me do it now?" Do you think you could sit one, old Her face was so near mine that chap?" he asked. "I warrant he won't could feel her warm breath upon my buck. It's old Sir Henry, called after cheek. The hands that held mine trem- prise. the jolly old premier of New South bled, and I could tell, although I beheld feeling of exhibaration which always as I did. passessed me when mounted on a good "Don't explain what you may horse. Who could tell but what I might sorry for afterward," I ventured. enjoy many a good gallop yet? Then I'll tell you that I love you, ances? we rode on steadily for about an hour, Dick, and think no shame," she cried.

and as Sir Henry was as easy to sit upon as a rocking chair I never had the slightest difficulty in keeping my seat. Once only I had to hold on to the cantle of the saddle and throw myself backward, but that was at Clements' caution, when we were descending a gully into the great valley again. Clements directed the black boys to drive the pack horses some little distance down the river. He then left me again for some little time while he helped to round them up and remove; Prices from 50c. to \$2. the packs. He then sent one of the black boys off to acquaint the party re-

garding our whereabouts. I had dismounted, tied my horse to a tree, and sat down to wait till Clements came back, when I heard the clatter of a horse's hoofs as it came galloping up In another minute the horseman disounted, and something told me it was Jack. There could be no mistaking him. He never uttered a word, but took both my hands in his and wrung them till bought he would break every bone. wondered why he did not speak. Then something told me I was the cooler of

"All right in the cave, Jack?" "Yes, my dear old fellow, thanks to you. Dick, I can't tell you what I feel." His voice was somewhat shaky, but I With her arms around my neck she

dollars, is still opervears of age, and
to order him about incessantly—it
to order him about incessantly—it
to her was a sufficient explanation. She
would be impossible to ask him to do
would be impossible to ask him to do
to much. Then, as if to prove his words,
too much. Then, as if to prove his words,
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too much. Then, as if to prove his words,
to much a the word of the first prove his words.

The word of to find a tent. too much. Then, as it to prove his words, tion which I had but imperfectly asked tion which I had but imperfectly asked the went off to find a tent.

Then there arose the sound as of a thing to be staid by the first to be

talk of love? We who must say fareaffliction and helplessness? Ten thou- stars go out one by one in the blue pose to do this."

HALTON INTELLIGENCER

S COPYRIGHT, 1899, BY FREDERICK A. STOKES COMPANY. for now that I am blind"-

had the pleasure of exchanging compli- and kissed them. I knew that it was to think it was Jack you meant when Jack took me down to the creek for ter as you are. Do you think a woman ed a strange draft for me! How much the morning. The latter left behind had been pitched for me some little dis-

I stood with one hand resting on the . both in trouble on the Macarthur I was aware of a woman approaching. I had loved me better than your own life?" and speculating in my own mind as to

to know after what she had said. for her father not from necessity but for face she came toward me and caught up be with your father in England. By again! My feelings at this period were love of her; how, when I had spoken to my two hands. her in the cave, it was not only because "Is this all you have for me?" she sight or be a hopelessly blind man. about. There are some things which, my worldly position justified me, but cried and kissed me on the cheek with- You'll have lots of time to think over like delicate flowers, cannot be transbecause I could not conceal my real feel out more ado. ings any longer.

How I greeted her in the bitterness a penny in the world?" she asked. now, but this I know—that a woman's was my answer, "but it would to me, ness, after all? because then I could not have had the

courage to speak as I did."

"You are very, very good to come to

is some one else. He mightn't like it, to withdraw my hands from here, but gone wrong. She had caught and held both my hands, and as she spoke her fingers "Oh, Dick, I knew you had mistaken my meaning that morning in the cave. I was speaking of my father. You went "If you think you could travel now, out before I could explain myself. Will Though my eyes saw him not, still by through in that fateful cave.

the jolly old premier of New South bled, and I could tell, although I benefit was afraid that he might was gazing into my sightless eyeballs.

The jolly old premier of New South bled, and I could tell, although I benefit had to say. I was afraid that he might preparation we should start for Burke- town in Queensland again. Chilcot was a true and noble minded woman.

The properties of New South bled, and I could tell, although I benefit had to say. I was afraid that he might preparation we should start for Burke- think I had acted dishonorably in the town in Queensland again. Chilcot was a true and noble minded woman. genueman minisch. In aviach a loss of accidents, though."

Was gazing into my significant to be left in charge of the station, with the charge came so gradually that at Suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge of accidents, though."

The charge came so gradually that at Suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge of the station, with the charge of the station, with the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge of the station, with the charge of the station, with the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge of the station, with the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge of the station, with the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge of the station, with the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge of the station, with the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful, the charge came so gradually that at suffice it that its tone was cheerful. Sitting in the saddle again, I held temporized, although it was like crushmyself erect and experienced the old ing my very heart within me to speak told Miss Machaneia. Would be allowed to fancy myself the victim of some haltience. Could I not, she wrote, take up

"Norah has told me everything," he

not well see how I can blame you." "When I married Norah's mother,"

to that imperfectly made avowal.

If there was any definite' --But I interrupted here, telling him, There was no need to say anything. taken my departure long ago. I merely population of Burketown, hurriedly rewanted to assure them that if under the crossed the gangway and stood upon stood upon stood upon a true woman's love—the pathes and the poetry of life. Ah, that were a song

been spared. I ought to be thankful for the spared and stopped what she that, also that you are with me. You'll that, also that you are with me. You'll would have said with my lips. Had I what Mr. Parker has said. He was the would have said with my lips. Had I what Mr. Parker has said. He was the would have said with my lips. Had I what Mr. Parker has said. He was the would have said with my lips. Had I what Mr. Parker has said. He was the would have said with my lips. Had I what Mr. Parker has said. that, also that you are with me. You if the thought I was losing my reaso, that, also that you are with me. You if the thought I was losing my reaso, would have said with my lips. Had I what Mr. Parker has said. He was the waves breaking and coursing along the would have said with my lips. Had I what Mr. Parker has said. He was the waves breaking and coursing along the sides of the old Dugong. But at length I would have clung to her just as fond-know, and is entitled to be heard. Had

presence crushed down again upon my Then the awful truth came crushing do remember they are none the less i soul. Were we both mad that we should down upon me-I was blind! Oh, to because you don't see them. I think to

my hands. How I had the courage to and, spying to that go-go-burra, throw a it?" she commented. say to her what I did is a mystery to billet of wood at it by way of playful "It would be ten times hard r upon

eyes—if any justification were needed hand. I could not see her in the flesh, stancy.

"You think it would have made any about, was I altogether to be pitied? light you'll be at liberty to do just as current of my being set toward it. difference to me if you had not possessed Actually my speculations that day you please, and no one will be to blame." There were times when I looked upon shaped themselves into the question, "Agreed," she cried gladly, with the my blindness as a blessing in disguise.

We made an early start so as to reach the simplest and best of ways. What if it were her first and last resolutions had not wavered then, but with the former on one side and the and went southward. Jack and I been a crime to allow her to throw heropportune. Another two minutes, and it were my heart under would have come too late. The squatter kiss? She had still kissed me, and the work and the squatter and sometimes caught the homeward bound mail, the self away on an imperfect and useless would have come too late. The squatter also, one had some land honestly strove to do the his daughter on the other the time Dacca, and went westward.

this matter? The thought filled me with It seemed like getting home again after ever comes, have patience."

me to explain and then perhaps he vile, was going back again overland to convince oneself of good news as to writing—reluctantly abandoned be

would be more ready to make allow- Tarragong. Jack, of course, would ac- realize some terrible misfortune, strange cause editors were not sufficiently apcompany me to Burketown. At last the time came to say goodby been slow to realize the fact of my lost ence to draw upon. She had heard said in a kindly manner, "and I can- to some of my old friends. There were sight, I could now scarcely credit the there were typewriting machines for Gordon-who was now fast recovering fact that it was coming back. Then those whose sight was like my own, or "But, sir, consider my position" - from his wounds—his sister and Savile. there was a trying, terrible time of better still I could employ an amanuensis " It was indeed a hard thing to part with doubt, when I thought that the feeble for a few hours every day. There was the squatter interrupted, mistaking my them at the wharf. They had been so gleams of light vouchsafed me were but nothing so conducive to happiness as a meaning, "I was not better off than kind and attentive to me in my afflic- the flickerings of the dying power of little work or having a hobby, no matperhaps you are now. I had a £10 note tion, and so delicate with it all that at sight ere it went out forever to leave ter if it were only keeping rabbits. and she had £3,000. It was with that times I was almost inclined to forget me in a lifelong darkness. Truly, I Strange to say, what she suggested-I commenced life in this country. No; my blindness. If the essence of true po- wanted patience. No one could have the writing, not the keeping of rabbits I can't see how I can judge you from liteness is to conceal the fact that one been more in need of it. Looking back —had been growing upon me for some is conferring a favor and to make the on those days I can see how my punish- time, until at length it had become al-

that had now come between us, for, of folk. They were starting overland the dispensation of Providence?

the vain regret forced itself upon me that I could not now look upon old suggests?"

The squatter and a jealous love. I understeed now what

and re- upon that dear familiar face. the cave to camp. in the sudden joy which came to me I member being somewhat mystified, for Then I felt the gentle pressure of the

well! Could I forget her youth and my think that I would never again see the grander. I often shut my eyes on pur-

sand times no, and my very love for heavens at break of day or the lemon "That's not the only thing which her must save her, even although a joy- glow change to silver gray in the east- troubles me," I rejoined almost queruless life's eventide were the price I paid. ern sky as the glorious sun rose, kissing lously; "it's the future—the horrible I kissed her once, and yet once again, away the gauzelike mists from the palm uselessness and hopelessness of the fu-

response to its premature greeting and you," I answered, "if I allowed you to "You have helped me to bear my loss, out of sheer light heartedness and good throw away your life on a blind man"but of course we must forget all this, feeling. It had not been a passing "Listen to me, Dick," she interruptdream. It was a stern, horrible fact. and the words came from her calm-"I have eyes for both of us," she But then came the thought of the ly and proudly, as if from a consciouslove that I had won if I had lost my ness of her own strength, but not with-"It is your woman's pity that speaks sight. That at least was mine which in out the tenderness of her infinite love now," I rejoined. "You will live to this world seemed to me best worth and trust. "I understand perfectly why thank me yet for speaking like this. If having. My blindness mattered not to you speak like this, but you don't quite Hoved you less, I might let you sacrifice her, for she had told me that she had know me yet. Whether you get back "Hello, Kate! What brings you out here?" yourself, but I want you always to eyes for both of us. There was no dream your sight or not won't make any dif- tives I had. But what need to speak of think well of me. It was too bad of me about that. It was a glorious reality! ference—only perhaps I'd love you bet- such an occasion? Surely fate had mixyou referred to 'some one' in the cave. a wash, and then I went over with him only marries a man for his eyes? Is of it was bitter and how much sweet him a reputation for gallantry and enterprise that King Henry VIII himself in a few minutes, left. "Did you think that when I saw you fast. Before many minutes I became it. Didn't you tell me once that you in store?

hope she had given me. I wished her that which my sense of justice demand- ards-on-Sea, where my people had taken And then to justify myself in her "Good morning" and held out my ed and failed to shake the girl's con- a house for the winter. I could now

"I don't think it would to you," Did I not owe something to my blind- confidence of one who has no fear of the for it was not hard to realize that but results, and we sealed the compact in for it I might never have fully known the station that night. The spare pack And now I will hurry over the in- which had risen superior to the tragedy "Then I'm afraid you are hardly the horses belonging to the surveyors and evitable parting scene. At Thursday is and wreck of my physical life. Still the short and resembled the mythical flock supreme moments in our lives, when earth seems akin to heaven and the a forced assumption of her old manner. every one was mounted. Jack attached come every day dearer to me transship-everything, for I told myself that had I had been more than human if my a checkrein to Sir Henry. So what ped into one of the A. U. S. N. boats my blindness continued it would have

was soon learning from the lips of his memory or that would higher with hie daughter all that had occurred since he "sweet as remembered kisses after I would find the constitute and sale his daugnter all that had occurred since ne death"—aye, and long after she had left. Gordon, who had begun to death"—aye, and long after she had need to camp and left. Gordon, who had begun to death"—aye, and long after she had need to camp and left. nad left. Gordon, who had begun to death —age, and long after she had so nobly offered.

recover, was put on horseback. Luckily passed out of my life. But I had still would look at the matter in the same. The same is the same in the same in the same in the same. recover, was put on norseback. Luckily passed out of my fire. But I had some would look at the matter in the same the saddles and other gear belonging to the structure of reason less and would the party were discovered and found to be true to myself and to her. I would be glad that she had been saved the party were discovered and found to be true to mysen and to her. I would be glad that she had been saved be comparatively uninjured, with the not let this impulsive girl in a fit of from the blind man. I told heres much De comparatively uninjured, with the exception of a few small straps that ed us in the cave made back toward the square man in the past, and, what- out any definite hope of recovery. "In "I have told him everything al- station. When they were seen, Moo- ever comes of it, I'm not going to in- you get better, good and well," he said. ney had taken alarm, and, leaving the terfere in the future. Norah is like "but you've had a hard time of it in There was the sound of footsteps station and everything in it to look aft- what her mother was, and I'm proud of the gulf, and the shock was a terrible which I thought might be her father's. er itself, started out at once with plenty her. Keep your heart up, my boy."

Instinctively and quickly, I fear, I tried of ammunition to find out what had As to my parting with her, I think it frankly that, once let there be a relapse. is one of those things that it is as well and it means that any vitality your she would not release them. What By continuous traveling we reached to say nothing about. What can one eyes now possess is leaving them forwould the squatter or any other right the station late in the evening, where say? Suffice it that her last words to ever. You know the old saying about minded man think of my conduct in we found everything as it had been left. me as she held my hands were, "What- the flickering of the candle."

shame, and now he entered the tent the terrible experiences we had gone And the remembrance of these blessed in all truth the great man meant them words kept me patient in many of my kindly enough. However, I only resome intuitive sense I knew it was Mr. In a couple of days the surveyors, dark hours of trial. In spite of what membered the proverbial caution of Mackenzie. He greeted me in a kindly who were a capital set of fellows, left misogynists, pessimists, cynics, and all physicians with reputations to lose and fashion, and his voice betrayed no sur- for the Macarthur amid many expres- those belonging to that sickly and short took his verdict for what I thought it sions of good will. It was arranged sighted crew may say, I do not think it was worth. I lost no time in telling him what I that after a few more days of rest and possible for any man to gauge to its full. One morning I received my first let-

ltered circumstances they did some- the wharf. Soon we were steaming was not altogether destroyed within me, worth listening to-one that never what alter their attitude toward me it down the tortuous river. In a couple of and that I might yet regain it roused grows old. would be understood. It was only what hours I was sitting upon a deck chair, such a wild, tumultuous hope in my As soon as I resolved to take up my one might expect. It is not unlikely with Norah beside me. The cool salt heart that often it was as much as I old pursuit again it seemed as if the had that as I made this speech the misery ses air was blowing on my cheek, and I could do to control my feelings. Had it worksday world was not so very far resaved him saying more.

saved him saying more.

"I could have told you this before, but shown upon my face, for I could hear had always exercised a powerful fasci- of those dear words of hers, "Whatever things were different then"—

the girl catching her breath quickly and pain it occasioned me must have felt strangely well and happy. The sea not been for Jack and the remembrance moved from me after all. "I know what you feel far better then"—

than if you told me, Jack. My life has than if you told me, Jack. My life has been spared. I ought to be thankful for been sp

ng of winds and the soothing ships' doctors, and told me, "Dick, the that there, of all places, I should meet the book that I was no more to look ne." Next morning we were within a

though it took the form of that hideous some light in the sky, while as yet it "You should not think of such my sister Kate, the only living rela-

come back to that spot to gather up and the squatter and his daughter had come going to withhold the little help it was always maintained, strange to say, that The girl had caught up one of my walking." so easy for me to give? And now per- even a blind person could tell Norah hands and now held it between her haps you forget that it was in order to Mackenzie's step, and now that sight own. She had come so close to me that Home again! How strange everything save us you risked your life, and—and was denied me the truth of what had I could feel the silky touch of her hair was at first! At times some of the ways been lightly said struck home. It was a upon my temples. She was very strong of civilization appeared to me absurd "Think of what blindness means," I light, buoyant, but firm step, indicative in that which makes a woman woman and superfluous. Perhaps I was a little hazarded, "its helplessness and useless of her character. Instinctively I rose to ly. My resolutions wavered. I should inclined to chafe over my enforced inmy feet to show her that I was cheerful not have been made of flesh and blood action. "If you were deaf and dumb as well and not brooding over my misfortune— had I not experienced a secret sense of February was comparatively mild as blind, it would make no difference," indeed that I rather rejoiced in the thankfulness in so far as I had done for that season of the year at St. Leon-

> _I told her only what she had a right but could see her with wonderful dis- "I'll tell you what," I said, "in the unable to recognize human features, tinctness in my mind's eye at that mo- meantime we'll leave things just as they could trace outlines with tolerable clear-I confessed how of late I had worked ment as with a shy gladness on her are. In six months or so from now you'll ness. Oh, how sweet life was becoming that time I'll either be recovering my of a nature that I do not care to write matters before then, so that should you planted. My life was colored by the Considering how things had come have come to see things in a different memory of one dear face, and all the

as it may seem. So, as at first I had preciative? I had now a unique experi-

But I explained that he mistook my recipient lose sight of any indebtedness, ment was merited—for who was I to most irresistible. In the old days I did meaning and that it was my blindness then they were nature's own gentle- set myself up as suffering from a special not realize that I was only writing course, I could not think of holding her next day for Tarragong. Mackenzie and At first it was as if the darkness were neved things that hundreds of others his daughter were going round to Bowen only a little less accentuated and com- were reproducing from their colorless "You're quite right as to that," said by one of Burns Philp's boats. I gave plete. Then it was as if I looked from lives—colorless like my own—and the squatter, "for of course you're now | Gordon an envelope containing a £25 | some marine depths through a great body | which only a few, either by reason of handicapped from a business point of bank note to be given to Savile and of opaque but turgid waters and could the subtle spark of genius or the quickview. You could hardly expect other- Elsie when a certain happy event might distinguish the sickly, greenish light ening touch of sorrow, were doing well. wise, you know. Still one doesn't know be expected to take place. Savile, good | —the light of day—dimly through it. Now I felt that in all truth my apprenthat your sight is altogether destroyed. soul, was unable to speak when he shook But that sickly greenish light, when I ticeship had been served to the greatest hands with me, but I understood him. stood in the sunlight, became day by day of all masters—experience. I had seem clearer until, at last, turning my eyes what it falls to the lot of but few to as I had told his daughter, that it was Then the steamer Dugong blew its to where the great orb of life was, I see-I had heard the keynote of existnot a question of means. Had I not whistle. In a minute the score or so of possessed the wherewithal I should have bushmen and stockmen, with the entire light. But the doctor of the ship put a and the infinite tenderness and purity of



walk slowly about alone, and, though the depths and purity of her great love,

one. It's as well, however, to tell you Oh, these were cruel words, although

about the same commonplace and hack-

Traly, I had been dealt mercifully with, for my sight had not only bee.

To a week up on one of the paragraph of the paragraph of the surveyors' party had come just in the surveyors the survey time to save them. If I affection with health and strength, who did not want for his share of the good things of want for his share of the good things of want for his share of the good things of and kissed me. One night Jack came into the smok- come; for when sheer necessity drove mysterious whispers. And now my wish ing room where I was sitting with the was granted. But, alas, I might listen to doctor, a very nice fellow, like most that there of all places. I should meet

There is a gentle breeze rippling the