

NELSON IN CANADA.

The Great Hero Loved a Quebec Girl.

A ROMANTIC EPISODE.

In the references which have recently been made in the press touching Lord Nelson's visit to Canada when a young man, I observe nothing is said of the romantic incident connected with his stay at Quebec at that time, of which mention is made by Clarke and McArthur, Clark Russell, G. Latham Brown and other of his biographers, and also by the Canadian chronicler, Lemoine.

It was in 1782 that duty brought the future hero of Trafalgar to the old rock city. His Lordship was then in his 24th year, and had but recently returned from the frigid region of the Baltic, where he had commanded the Albemarle frigate, 24 guns. On being ordered to proceed in that vessel with a convoy to Newfoundland and the river St. Lawrence, he expressed his dislike for the employment, his recent experiences making him dread the severity of our northern climate. Nevertheless, on this as on other occasions in Nelson's glorious career, his personal inclinations were made to give way to his sense of public duty. He arrived at Bic in July, and in due course at Quebec. There he remained for some weeks, when he departed on a cruise along the American coast, and returned to Quebec on the 17th September. "Knocked up with the scurvy," to use his own expressive words. The sickness of his crew compelled him to remain inactive at Quebec for some time, and it was not until October 14 that he was able to take his final departure from the St. Lawrence. Writing to his friend William Locker at this time, he speaks of his recent cruise as having been an unsuccessful one. "We have taken, seen and destroyed more enemies than is seldom done in the same space of time," he says, "but not one has arrived in port. He adds, "but I do not repine at our loss, we have in other things been very fortunate, for on the 14th of August we fell in, in Boston bay, with four sail of the line and the Iris, French man-of-war, part of M. Vaudrenil's squadron, who gave us a pretty dance for between nine and ten hours. But we beat all except the frigate, though we brought to for her, after we were out of sight of the line of battle ships, but she tacked and stood from us." The M. Vaudrenil here mentioned was probably Charlevoix's pupil to whom Bibaud refers in his Pantheon Canadian, who afterwards commanded the Sceptre in an engagement with Viscount Hood.

NELSON'S FANCY IS CAUGHT.

Although Nelson was more than most men susceptible to the influence and charms of "lovely women," it has been surmised that his enforced idleness at Quebec, at the time mentioned, afforded an opportunity for his becoming more severely smitten in that way than he had ever before been, or, perhaps, would ever be again. There have been doubts expressed touching the identity of the lady in the case. While some claim her to have been a Miss Simpson, others have fixed on a Miss Prentice, and others, again, on a Miss Woolsey, whose brother was afterwards president of the Quebec Bank. Facts disclosed in some correspondence exhorted by the late Dr. Miles, previous to his death, and which were embodied in part in an interesting article on the subject contributed by him to the old Canadian Monthly, point almost irresistibly to Miss Mary Simpson, the first named, as the object of the hero's tender attachment in Canada. This lady was the daughter of Mr. James Simpson, a Quebec merchant, in which city she was born in 1766 or 1767. She was 16 at the time of Nelson's visit, and is reputed to have possessed not only "marvellous beauty," but likewise high mental gifts. One old lady (Mrs. Harrower) speaking of her, said: "If Mary Simpson was not the most beautiful girl in Quebec, she was, at any rate, the most handsome she (Mrs. H.) had ever beheld." We can well believe this in view of the complete ascendancy she seems to have acquired over the head and heart not only of the young post captain, but of others, including the estimable gentleman who subsequently became her husband, the well-known Col. Robert Mathews, long the Military Secretary in Canada to Lord Dorchester and other Governors, and for some years previous to his death holding the post of Governor of Chelsea hospital.

THE SAILOR'S RESOLUTION.

The climax of Nelson's infatuation is related by Clarke and McArthur in their "Life and Services of Nelson": "When the Albemarle, on the 14th of October, was ready for sea, Captain Nelson had taken his leave and had gone down the river to the place where the men-of-war usually anchored; but the next morning, as Mr. Alexander Davison was walking on the beach, he saw Nelson coming back in his boat. On his reaching the landing place, the former anxiously demanded the cause that occasioned his friend's return. "Walk up to your house," Nelson replied, "and you shall be made acquainted with the cause." He then said, "I find it utterly impossible to leave this place without again writing on her whose society has so much added to its charms, and laying myself and my fortune at her feet." Mr. Davison earnestly remonstrated with him on the consequences of so rash a step; "your utter ruin," said he, "situated as you are at present, will inevitably follow." "Then let it follow," exclaimed Nelson, "for I am resolved to do it!" The account goes on to say that a severe altercation ensued, but that Mr. Davison's firmness at length prevailed with Nelson, who with no very good grace, relinquished his purpose and suffered himself to be led back to his boat. It is perhaps useless now to speculate on what would have been the consequences to the country had not Mr. Davison's friendly council prevailed with Nelson in his reckless infatuation on the occasion referred to. We have only to erase from the annals of our country the four brilliant naval actions, "St. Vincent," "The Nile," "Copenhagen" and "Trafalgar," to form some idea of our probable loss. That Nelson did not forget what he owed personally to his determined friend was frequently proved in after years. Removing to London Davison became a navy agent, banker and commissariat contractor, in all of which positions Nelson's great influence was exerted in his favor.

WHAT BECAME OF THE ADVISER.

His subsequent history was peculiar and eventful. Davison acquired a large fortune, was the political friend of successive Cabi-

nets, many differences in which were more than once adjusted at his mansion in St. James' square. Tempted to try and acquire a seat in Parliament, however, he was, we are told, convicted of outrageous bribery and imprisoned for a long period; but on his release—as such was the lenient view then entertained of election bribery—he was appointed to important posts by the Government, and continued his previously successful career. As Commissary-General of the Forces and Treasurer of the Ordnance, though without salary, he had full employment as a banker of the millions of money that passed through his hands. Sad to relate, from 1803 his life was clouded with trouble. In that year an investigation being held into certain commissariat frauds, Davison was tried and convicted of complicity therein, and sentenced to 21 years' imprisonment. Nothing is known of him further. After the battle of the Nile he had medals struck for all ranks, one of which he presented to the King in person, who long maintained intimate personal relations with the ex-Quebec merchant. Writing to Nelson after his interview on this occasion, Davison relates that His Majesty spoke of him (Nelson) with the tenderness of a father. These medals, one of which was worn by Nelson himself, were inscribed on the rim: "A tribute of regard from Alexander Davison, Esq., St. James." It was also the same good friend, who after Nelson's fall at Trafalgar, formed the 84 spade guineas found in the hero's purse into an imposing memorial trophy, which may still be seen in the new Town hall, Portsmouth, within sight of the old Victory, Nelson's flagship, and at the very centre of the naval service of the empire.

FAIR MARY'S AFTER CAREER.

As for our fair countrywoman, the beautiful and accomplished lady who inspired so passionate a regard in the heart of one of England's most illustrious sons, the record shows that, yielding at length to Colonel Mathews' ardent proposals, she joined him in England, where they were married. There, in London, she continued to reside for the remainder of her days, acting well her part of wife and mother, and enjoying in ample measure the respect and esteem of all. She survived many years her early admirer, her death occurring in London, not before she had reached her 70th year. Officers of distinction who had served in Canada, including H. R. H. the Duke of Kent, and Canadians on a visit to the mother country, were in the habit of calling to pay their respects to her up to the last; and on such occasions, we are informed, the former belle of Stadacona was accustomed to make particular enquiries touching old friends and old scenes in the land of her nativity—[Henry Morgan in the Empire.]

The Rich Man's Uses.

It seems that in the estimation of Mr. Frederic Harrison, a radical English social reformer, rich men have some uses even in a republic, for he writes an essay on the subject in the last number of the Forum. "The uses of a rich man in a republic," according to Mr. Harrison, are to give their money away for the public benefit. "There is no limit to the forms in which rich men could be of use if they tried," he says, "and to the public benefactions they could confer if they put their minds to it." For instance, "the artistic benefaction" affords an almost unbounded field for their philanthropic cultivation, yet they neglect it entirely. "No millionaire ever seems to think of giving his fellow citizens a series of free musical entertainments, a historic pageant, much less a free dramatic performance." "The millionaires have the means, and they alone have it, but as yet they miserably fail to recognize their part." Moreover, he warns them that it is to their selfish interest to provide those pageants, for the "day may come when the world will have agreed to abolish rich men altogether as an obsolete institution;" and unless they give away their money or spend their money as people who are not rich suggest, they will be "working desperately to hurry on that day." Mr. Harrison says accordingly that he proffers this advice to rich men in a spirit of kindness. He gives it to them because, pending the arrival of the next century, when the advisability of getting rid of them as a social necessity will come up for settlement, they may be able to demonstrate that after all they are of some little use in the world, and thus put off the day of their extinction. He earnestly invites them to "convince the public of this before it is too late."

Mr. Harrison's theory, then, is, practically that if an individual accumulates more money than his needs require the surplus belongs to society as a sort of moral right; he must give the rest away for the general benefit. Of course, under the enforced application of such a theory there would be no rich men. Nobody would accumulate money if it was not to be his own when he had piled it up. There would be no property. Everybody would live from hand to mouth, after the socialistic plan. Private wealth would be abolished. Human nature would be transformed. If a man cannot accumulate a million dollars and spend it in the way he likes because it is his own, nobody can hold any property at all to dispense as he chooses. He must spend in treating his neighbors as much as they decide that he ought to give them, or they will "abolish" him as an "obsolete institution." If he has more than they think he needs, they will abolish him as useless to them if he does not give them a free circus or whatever else they want. If that is to be the state of things which the next century will try to bring about, rich men are more likely than ever to hold on to what they have got. They will not submit to being blackmailed, as Mr. Harrison suggests, to prevent the threatened looting of their property, but will husband their resources to resist the pillage when it comes. People will not give away money under such compulsion. Benevolence will lose its essential quality if it is bestowed for such a purpose. A man who hands out his purse to a highwayman holding a pistol pointed at his head is not influenced by charitable impulse. Mr. Harrison's threats indicate that he is a type of social reformer whose abolition is required by the well-being of all men.

In some parts of Berlin there are special publichouses for women.

Large quantities of oranges are sent from Jerusalem to Liverpool, and the trade is rapidly increasing.

He that will not reflect is a ruined man. Earnestness is enthusiasm tempered by reason.

HOUSEHOLD.

Baby White.

BY HELEN ASHLAND KEENE.

My baby white will sleep to-night,
I heard the watchers say,
No more his tired little moan
Is heard both night and day:
And the patient mother folds her hands
To softly weep and pray.

The little cradle empty stands,
The little carriage too,
The tiny hat is laid aside,
The tiny half-worn shoe.
And the mother's arms, O aching arms!
Are empty, empty, too.

O little half-opened bud how sweet
The fragrance that you shed,
You do not heed the tears that fall
Upon your low green bed,
Like balm pressed out from wounded hearts,
From whence all joy has fled.

You are not there: your angel wings
Brush soft your mother's face,
Your arms about her neck are wound,
She lies in your embrace;
O not afar! Close, close to her,
That is your dwelling place.

A Child's Party.

The birthday cake should be a plain one, but there may be a candle on it for each year of the child giving the party, and if you stick the candle's pin through a tiny red, white, pink or yellow rose, made of paper, the cake will present a very festive appearance. The candles are the kind used for Christmas trees, and are sold by confectioners and bakers. The cutest and most healthful little bon-bons can be made by icing the tiny crackers, shaped like an elongated egg, or the little sticks about an inch long and as thick as a lead pencil now kept by all grocers. Make plain white icing and chocolate icing; color some of the white pink with cochineal and coat the crackers with the different icings.

Older children will require rather more substantial entertainment, but one must avoid stuffing children of any age with food not convenient for them. Most children will like creamed potatoes and chicken in white sauce. This is a convenient way of serving chicken for children, involving no trouble of cutting by guests or hostess. With this, tea or cocoa with cake and a tiny cup of lemon or orange jelly made from gelatine will make a supper nice enough for children between the ages of six and fifteen. Make a plain, light cup cake and when cold cut it in slices and these in fancy shapes; cubes, diamonds, stars, crescents and so on, and ice them with plain and colored icings.

No matter how simple the party, to make it a complete success there should be a souvenir for each child to carry home. Pop corn tied up in a bag made from a pretty Japanese napkin, or from coarse-meshed white lace, the seams buttonholed with gay zephyrs, or an orange wrapped in bright tissue paper with the ends twisted like motto candies will please the little ones. At a party given by a boy of five, toy whips, costing five cents each, were presented to the youthful guests and as they were all boys it sent them away happy; for his sister's doll party the souvenirs were very small Japanese dolls.

Girls of ten, or older, may have pretty little cups and saucers for souvenirs. The little Japanese blue and white affairs, costing five cents each, are charming, while very dainty ones may be bought for twenty-five cents. Better than any sum of money that you may give your children during your lifetime, or leave them after your death will be the remembrances of all such sweet and simple home festivities as shall have endeared home to their childish hearts.

A Boiled Dinner.

Every woman thinks she knows better how to cook and serve an old fashioned boiled dinner than any of her neighbors. There is one woman that we know who does not think anything about it. She knows no one in the whole country who can boil a dinner to equal hers.

To quote her own language:—"The reason my boiled dinners are so much better than those generally cooked here is because I do not just cling to all of the old methods. I do a little thinking for myself, and improve on the old ways by the introduction of flavorings and condiments which stubborn prejudice keeps others from using.

"I do not often have a boiled dinner. I do not think such food the most wholesome or easily digested.

"First of all you must go to the market yourself and select your meat; do not trust it to any one else. I always get two pieces of corned beef, the inside part of the round and a plate piece and also a nice piece of salt bacon. I do this because some people like the round while others like the plate piece better.

"Have the meat nice and fat and well corned. You must put it into a large kettle holding at least two gallons. Cover with cold water and stand on a slow fire. As soon as the scum begins to rise skim it off so there is not one fleck of it left. This must be done before it begins to boil. After this take a large lemon, cut it in halves, remove the seeds and put it in the kettle with the meat; add two good sized bay leaves and a half dozen small chili peppers. Then let your meat boil gently for two hours.

PREPARATION OF VEGETABLES.

In the meantime you must have prepared your vegetables—cabbage, parsnips, carrots potatoes and beets. The beets must be boiled in a separate kettle and put on in the morning and allowed to simmer gently all day, being well covered with water all the time. After two hours take the lid off the kettle off and put the cabbage in first, then the carrots and parsnips and let those boil two hours; just a half hour before serving the potatoes must be added.

"Now this allows four hours in which to cook the dinner. If the round piece of beef weighs over ten pounds you will need five hours.

BAKED INDIAN PUDDING.

This is the proper dessert to serve with a boiled dinner:

Take two quarts of milk, a large cup of meal, half a cup of white flour, two eggs, half a cup of molasses, a large teaspoonful of salt, half a teaspoonful of ginger and the same of cinnamon. To mix it boil three pints of the milk and set it off the fire; beat all the other ingredients with the pint of milk not boiled, then stir them into the hot milk. Butter a stone or earthenware dish, and when the mixture is a little cool pour it into this dish, put it into a moderate

oven, cover with a plate and bake four or five hours, basting every little while with cold milk. This pudding is eaten hot and requires no sauce; butter is generally eaten with it.

TO SERVE THE DINNER.

"Put your meat on a large platter and lay the vegetables all around it, except the cabbage and beets, which should be served in separate dishes. The beets should have the skins rubbed off them with a cloth and should be cut in halves and put in a deep dish with a sauce of melted butter, salt, pepper and a half cup of vinegar, to which add two large teaspoonfuls of sugar. This sauce should be hot.

"I always take half the cabbage and some of the potatoes and mash them up together and season with a little cream, some butter and salt and pepper, and make in a mound like mashed potatoes. This is delicious—indeed the entire dinner will be found most appetizing. Provide pepper-sauce, tomato catsup, hignon and any other pickles you like, and be sure to serve tea instead of coffee as a beverage.

The Story Simon Condemned.

A discussion is in progress in some of the leading English papers, on long sermons. It has reached the editorial columns and the editors are calling for immediate reform on the part of preachers. One preacher was bold enough to take up the challenge thus flung down, and enter the lists on behalf of lengthy pulpit utterances. This was none other than Dr. Pentecost, well known on this side of the Atlantic as an evangelist of exceptional influence in cultured circles, and now rapidly winning renown in London as minister of Marylebone Presbyterian Church, the church made famous by the ministry of the late Dr. Donald Fraser. Dr. Pentecost's apology for long sermons emphasizes the fact that, as a rule, the men who are making the deepest impression upon the religious life of the age are not the men who deal in fifteen or twenty-minute sermons. He pointed out that Canon Liddon, who commanded audiences that crowded St. Paul's Cathedral, and who, more than any other preacher of his day, moved the most intellectual hearers, rarely preached less than an hour. Mr. Spurgeon fretted under any limit less than three-quarters of an hour. Henry Ward Beecher generally took an hour. The living princes of the American pulpit, Storrs, Behrends, John Hall, William M. Taylor and Meredith, are all believers in long sermons, and they are able to lead their hearers to a similar belief. Dr. Pentecost maintains that no one but an extraordinary genius can adequately discuss any one of the great themes of the Bible in the space of fifteen minutes; and he expresses his deliberate conviction, based on an exceptionally varied knowledge of preachers and congregations, that more "congregations have been dissipated by sermons of fifteen and twenty minutes in length than by sermons of an hour long, even though the preacher has not been of the first rank."

Great names are not strong arguments in such a controversy as this. We have to deal with sermons in general, and not with the sermons of famous preachers in particular. Two hours of preaching by such a man as Beecher would seem shorter to many hearers than a quarter of an hour of preaching by one of less power. Dr. Pentecost goes to the root of the question when he asserts that the actual length of the sermon matters little in comparison with the impression of prolixity left on the minds of the audience. The preacher who always stops short of the point when his people cease to wish more never preaches sermons too long. The first and main thing is to grip the people and maintain that hold until the end is reached. Dulness is the unpardonable sin in the pulpit. John McNeill, who has earned the right to speak authoritatively on this subject, says that the urgent need of our day is sermons that lift. The pulpit ought to be powerful enough to lift the pew out of its passivity into a higher plane of thought and activity. In too many of our churches there are hearers like unto Tennyson's peasant, who heard the parson "bummin'" away like a buzzard clock over his head, who thought he said what was right, but did not know what he said, and came away feeling that both he and the parson had done their duty. The sermon that comes to the hearer with the force and awe-compelling constraint of a message from the unseen cannot be too long—always provided that it ceases when the message is delivered. Yet we believe it would be for the comfort of the preacher and the edification of the people if some general time-limit were fixed for the ordinary sermon. The day of the long sermon is past. The conditions and advantages of the age make it unnecessary. The wide diffusion of religious literature takes away from the teaching functions of the pulpit to a certain extent, although it can never detract from the power of the preacher as an ambassador of God, delivering the message of eternity to the children of time. A sermon that enforces a single truth, pressing it home with explanation and appeal, is the sermon that will profit and interest the average congregation. Dr. Maclaren and Dr. Parker, preachers as popular and influential along their own lines as any of the pulpit giants named by Dr. Pentecost, rigidly narrow their sermons to the half hour. If that is as long as they can be profitably listened to, it is a fair question whether some others can hold their hearers so long. Long sermons, on ordinary occasions, frustrate their purpose, leaving only a blurred memory and fatigued feeling where they ought to leave a distinct recollection of a divine truth. It is the sermon short, sharp and full of life that abides as an inspiration and comfort through the week.

A Marvellous Timepiece.

One of the most wonderful machines in these days of miraculous mechanism is the chronoscope. It took form under the skilful hands of Wheatstone, the mathematician, who needed an instrument to measure smaller intervals of time than his clock or watch could indicate. Many improvements have been made in the chronoscope since Wheatstone patented it in 1840, and now the machine is employed to measure the flight of projectiles from a gun. So accurate is it that it will detect and record a difference of time amounting to a millionth part of a second, and electricity being used in recording the passage of a projectile, it is possible to determine to a very small fraction the rate of speed with which a shot flies from a gun.

Snow is not substance; realities govern with men.

THE WEEK'S NEWS

CANADIAN.

Owing to the present cold weather the ice bridge opposite Montreal is forming rapidly.

The Royal Victoria hospital, of Montreal, will be opened for the reception of patients on January 2.

The scheme to run a continuous line of railway from the Gaspé basin to Sault Ste. Marie has been revived in Montreal.

The Prince of Wales, with the Duke of York, opened the Middletown school at Clerkenwell. The school stands upon the site of what was once Clerkenwell gaol.

The Liberals won the elections throughout Prince Edward Island. It is expected that the complete returns will show that government has been sustained by twenty to ten.

Mr. Duncan MacArthur, the ex-president of the defunct Commercial Bank, of Winnipeg, at a dinner given in his honour in that city on Tuesday night, stated that another bank might be established before long by himself and others.

A by-law for the amalgamation of Sarnia and Point Edward as one municipality was carried unanimously at Point Edward.

Mr. Henry Morgan, senior partner of the well known Montreal dry goods house of Henry Morgan & Co., is dead, in his seventy fifth year.

Chamberlain, the alleged personator from Toronto, did not appear in the Winnipeg Police Court the other day when called upon. Affidavits were filed from himself and his physician at Craig, N.D., that he had pneumonia, and was too ill to appear.

Mr. Van Horne, President of the Canadian Pacific railway, has been appointed a director of the Equitable Insurance Company, of New York. This, it is understood, is the first instance of a Canadian being appointed to such a position in that company.

There is considerable interest evinced in Montreal political circles as to whom the Government will appoint to the Lieutenant-Governorship of New Brunswick, rendered vacant by the death of Lieutenant-Governor Boyd, and a strong feeling in favour of appointing the Hon. Peter Mitchell.

A memorial tablet in honour of Capt. H. B. Mackay, Capt. W. H. Robinson, and Capt. W. G. Stairs, graduates of the Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont., will be placed in St. George's cathedral, Kingston.

The lungs of two Canadian cattle said by the experts of the British Government to have been infected with pleuro-pneumonia, which were sent out here, have been examined by Dr. McEachran and Prof. Adami, of Montreal. They declare that the animals were not suffering from a contagious disease.

BRITISH.

Lord Charles Baresford is suffering influenza.

An unconfirmed rumor has reached Cape Town that the forces under Major Forbes have captured King Lobengula.

During Mr. Gladstone's visit to Sir Arthur Hayer, at South Park, he planted an evergreen oak on the lawn near the residence.

A wire netting will soon be erected in front of the strangers' gallery in the English House of Commons to prevent bombs being thrown into the chamber.

The Duke of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha (the Duke of Edinburgh) has expressed his desire to surrender his Parliamentary allowance of twenty-five thousand pounds a year.

At the Trades Union Congress held in London, it was decided to issue a manifesto condemning the House of Lords for not passing the Employers' Liability bill as it left the House of Commons.

The South Australian House of Assembly has passed a bill doubling the income tax for one year. This action is due to the rejection by the Council of a bill providing for the taxation of absentee landlords.

GENERAL.

A question has been raised between France and Germany as to the holding of an international conference to consider measures for the suppression of Anarchists.

Signor Crispi is experiencing great difficulty in his task of forming an Italian Cabinet.

A midwinter series of military manoeuvres will be carried on this winter in different parts of Russia, where the snow lies deep.

It is reported in Buenos Ayres that Admiral Mello, commander of the Brazilian insurgent fleet, has seized the French merchant steamer Porrabuya.

It is stated that the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir to the Austrian throne, will be shortly betrothed to the Grand Duchess Xenia, eldest daughter of the Czar.

News has been received in Madrid from Melilla stating that the Sultan will not be able to treat personally with Gen. Compos before February. A Cabinet Council held in Madrid decided that such dilatory pretexts could not be tolerated.

AMBN TORN TO PIECES.

Caught in a Belt and Whirled to Death.

A Montreal special says:—A dreadful fatality took place to-day in one of the machine shops of the Montreal rolling mills, the establishment being located in St. Cune-gonde. William Wilson, who was over 50 years of age, had been in the employ of the firm for some time past, and was supposed to be too careful a man to become the victim of such a terrible accident as that which occurred this forenoon. Wilson was alone in one of the rooms, when it became evident to those outside that something had gone wrong, and sure enough upon running into the apartment where the poor man was last seen alive an awful sight met their eyes. It appears that Mr. Wilson had been caught in a belt propelled at lightning speed and his body hurled upward to a frightful death. When found the trunk alone remained, as both legs and arms had been torn from the body. The fragments were got together and the mangled remains of the unfortunate man were removed to the General hospital where an inquest was held by Coroner McMahon later on. It is not probable that any blame can be attached to the establishment for poor Wilson's untimely end.