"LO" IS NOT DYING OUT

AS A MATTER OF FACT INDIAN IS HOLDING HIS OWN.

The Noble Redman, Who Once Owned Canada, Now Numbers 104,956 Souls and the Eskimo 4,600-Ontario Has the Most Aborigines Within Its Borders - Education Works Wonders.

Our native population-the descendants of the ancient lords of forest and stream-is divided into two classes or races, one of which is well known, but the other is seldom thought of as forming part of the population of the Dominion. These two races of aborigines are the Indians and the Eskimos. If asked to give an estimate of this native population, and to name the province in which the largest number of aborigines is to be found, it is not likely that one person in ten could give anything like correct answers. The Indians are often thought of as members of a dying race, fast passing away to the land beyond the setting sun; and as for the Eskimos, they are usually associated with the Arctic lands where the King's writ does not run and the officers of the Department of the Interior and Indian Affairs are never

Both conceptions are wrong. So far as numbers are concerned, the Indians are holding their own fairly well, numbering according to the re- payment on his land, put in the bank port of the Department of Indian Affairs recently issued, 104,956, while of Eskimos there are 4,600 within the limits of Canada—a total native population of 109,556. There are seven thousand more Indians in Canada than there are white people in all Prince Edward Island, while the Eski- pay for two good horses. mos are equal in number to one half the population of Soulanges county. This total native population is equal to the number of all the people living in the counties of Beauharnois, Chateauguay. Huntingdon, Napierville, Laprairie, St. Johns, Iberville and Missisquois, and one township in Brome. In every territorial division of Canada there is an Indian population, and, strange as it may seem, it is not one of the new western provinces but the old Province of Ontario that contains the largest red popula- Post. tion. Ontario has 26,393 Indians; British Columbia, 24,781; Quebec, 12,817; Manitoba. 10,373; Saskatchewan, 9,545; Alberta, 8,113; the Territories, 5,262; the Yukon, 3,500; Nova Scotia, 1.969; New Brunswick, 1,903; and Prince Edward Island, 300. The report of the Department con-

sists largely of the reports of the agents having direct charge of the various tribes and bands which here and there are scattered over the whole Dominion. These agents' reports repeat the old stories told over and over again, but there is this varying note running through them-improvement in industrial and moral conditions noticeable on many reserves, particularly on several in the West, where the redmen are turning to the soil as a source of livelihood, and in British Columbia, where whole bands are engaged in regular industrial pursuits, and are rising steadily in civilization. One of these agency reports is so glowing that it cannot be passed by without a few brief gleamings. It is the report from the agency that includes the Queen Charlotte Islands off the coast of British Columbia. The Indians on this island reserve are known as the Haida nation. In one part of his report the agent writes:

"When we read of 'The Passing of a Race,' and consider the inroads. war and disease made on this once powerful nation, it may astonish the writer of history to know that the care was taken by the workmen to cut Haidas are increasing in numbers. and are becoming more and more It should be a further cause of wonder, if generally understood, that they have the largest number of good houses, cattle, boats, stores, public buildings and the best streets of any settlements on the islands. Their two large towns are not t be compared with the tumbledown shacks commonly found in Indian villages. Two-story frame dwellings are common, and it is the ambition of heads of families to construct houses in accordance with plans and specifications of the latest design. As boat builders, their hardiwork must be seen to be appreciated. To-day at Naden harbor every able-bodied man of the band is at work building a cannery, residences and a wharf, for a fishing company and all are giving satisfaction.

"In the churches they have orchestras and choirs, and lay readers. The Skidegate brass band carried off the prize at the annual competition in Prince Rupert. They engaged the best 'eachers available, and are preparing to contest at the next competition. During the summer months they engage in fishing, and at cannery and pitchy, sappy places with orange work, and are considered the best of employes by the cannery companies. During the winter months they are at their homes, the children at the schools, and the men and women improving their houses and building.

"At the present writing one band and the largest has a pay-roll of over \$5,000 per month, and, when the fishing season begins, will be able to make large sums for the fish they will turn over to the canneries. In the early summer they go to the fishing grounds, where the large spring salmon run, and will receive from 80 cents to one dollar for each fish. catching from ten to fifteen each day a sepulcher of rum and a fountain of -for nearly two months. The women, falsehood!" mean "hile, are working in the canmery, receiving on an average, two dollars each day. They then take up the fishing for the smaller salmon, and continue until September of each

Last year our Indian population had 61,612 acres under cultivation-an increase of 3.062 acres over the returns for the preceding year. This land yielded 1,517,000 bushels of grain and roots, and 122,000 tons of hav, the whole having a value of \$1,484,346. The other sources of the income of our Indians were: Beef, \$255,109; wages, \$1,616,049; fishing, \$623,972; hunting and trapping, \$804,517; various industries, \$748,473.

EZRA'S HARD LUCK.

It Began With His Name and Ended on His Tombstone,

Tom McNeal of Topeka was talking to Abe Peters about luck, so Tom reports. Tom thought there was no such thing as luck, but Abe protested.

"Take the case of Ezra Boll," said Abe. "To begin with, think of his game. A pame like that is hard enough luck to prove my contention, but Ezra lived up to it. When he was a baby he fell into the horse trough and was almost drowned. Then he got hold of a can of concentrated lye and it took them four weeks to bring him round He fell out of an apple tree when he was six and broke both arms and a leg, and just as be was hobbling round again be went on a watermelon stealing expedition with six other boys. The others got away, but the dog caught Ezra and chewed him up until the farmer came along and he put on finishing touches with a harness trace. He fell in love when he was seventeen, spent all he had for buggy rides and candy for the red cheeked object of his adoration-and she shook him and married another. A mule kicked him and broke six ribs, He had a lot of hogs and they died of cholera on the identical day when hogs reached 9 cents a pound, live weight. He had a big crop of wheat and a hailstorm came along and ruined it one hour after his ball insurance policy had lapsed. He got \$500 to make a and the bank busted.

"A cyclone wrecked his house and barn and crippled all his family except his mother-in-law, who escaped unhurt. He bought four gold bricks and took some counterfelt money in

"Then he died. When they were taking him to the cemetery the team pulling the hearse ran away going down hill and scattred the remains of Ezra along the side of the road.

"In the course of time his family marked his grave by an appropriate stone on which the stonecutter got the date of his birth wrang and misspelled his name in two days

"And still you wat there is no such thing as luck! -Saturday Evening

A LIVING TOWER.

Captain Meeker's Unique Idea In the Building Line.

What is known as the "living tower," says a writer in the Wide World Magazine, stands on the very summit of a hill more than 200 feet high at Camp Meeker, a summer resort in Sonoma county, Cat It was Captain Meeker, an old pioneer, who first coneived the idea of building a tower on he very summit of a high hill near his notel, and while tooking around one day for a suitable site he found four young redwood trees standing about twelve feet apart, representing a perfect square. The trees were each about 150 feet high. Fifty feet of each top was lopped off, and the work of building six stories was then com menced. From top to bottom the liv-

ing tower was a hundred feet high. Each floor is about 12 by 12 feet and rests on strong timbers, the ends of which are securely attached to the four trees by means of steel cables and bolts. So strongly was every part braced that the whole structure does not move as much as one would naturally suppose, even when rocked by heavy winds. In the building great only the branches growing on the inside of the square, and the trees were not chopped, mutilated or weakened

any more than could be avoided. Leading up from each story are broad stairways, so that one may ascend and descend with ease and perfect safety, while around the edge of each floor are strong railings to prevent accidents. Since this tower was completed the trees have grown and flourished just as well as before. This living tower is claimed to be the only one of its kind in the world.

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A white lead and oil paint, the finish of our forefathers, is easily and economically mixed from the raw materials as it is needed for use. With each 100 pounds of white lead mix five gailons linseed oll, one pint turpentine and one pint drier. An allowance of 50 cents for the labor of mixing gives eight gallons of white paint for about \$13.15, or \$1.64 a gallon. Two coats of this, or better three, after coating knots shellac, provide a good finish either outdoors or in .- Country Life in Amer-

Conkling's Invective. Roscoe Conkling, like John J. Ingalls, was a master of invective. Conkling. it is said, once upon a time in summing up to a jury thus attempted to belittle the testimony of a rummy faced, knobby nosed witness for the opposition: "Methinks, gentlemen, I can see that witness now, his mouth stretching across the wide desolation of his face,

Contradictory.

Randall-I've written an article on "Why Men Do Not Marry" and illustrated it with photographs of dreadful looking, strong minded women. Rogers-Where did you get the pictures? Randall-They're wives of the men i know .- Life.

She Knew Best.

Visitor-Tell me now, professor, are you suffering much from your headache? Professor (to his wife)-Say. Amelia, do I suffer much from my beadache?-Fliegende Blatter.

Counting the Cost.

O malden, you are fair to see!

O maiden, will you be my bride? Say that you'll run away with me And be forever by my side. For I will shield you from all harm, Be your defense when tempest tossed.

Your shield shall be my strong right arm-Er-say-what did that outfit cost? That hat is a bewitching thing. It matches your sweet eyes so blue.

That ribbon bow's a daisy too. You look just like a poster girl Beneath that stunning kind of hat! That's a swell buckle. Is it pearl? What did your father pay for that?

I like that droopy sort of wing.

That hobble skirt is quite all right. It surely does appeal to me! Perhaps it is a trifle tight. Oh, what a comfort you will be

To me through all life's winding ways!

Your love makes glad this moldy earth.

Your laugh will brighten gloomy days-Say, what is such a hobble worth? So you'll elope, my pearl of pearls! You're sure the step you'll ne'er regret? Of course you are the best of girls. Of course, sweetheart, I love you yet.

But still-ahem!-I'd better state I'm not eloping, thanks, today. I am convinced we ought to wait Until the boss shall raise my pay!

Capacious Commandments, "A little girl at our church," said a Cleveland minister, "knelt beside her mother while the commandments were being read. When the rector read, 'On these two commandments hang all of

-Chicago News.

the law and the prophets,' the little girl whispered: "'Mamma, how many'-

"'Sh!' bissed her mamma, "'But, mamma, how many prophets are there?

"'Why, Isalah, Jeremiah, Habbakuk, Jonah, Haggai, Malachi, Zephaniah, dearie. I can't think of all of them without looking them up, but I fancy there must have been about twenty.' "'Twenty? And they hanged 'em all

Plain Dealer. The Disappearing Balance.

on two commandments? "-Cleveland

I can never figure my bank account out. I'm always in trouble and always in doubt, And just when I think I have lots to go on The bank sends a notice-"Accounts over-I don't understand it. I fuss and I fret,

But I can't make the bank people "get me," you bet. They point to their figures, and I must

Although I can't see any reason for it. I'm sure I am right in the balance I claim, But they make me come through when they ask, just the same, And they smile in a way condescending

When I say their system I can't under-For this is the puzzle my brain cells to

Why doesn't my money keep pace with

-Wisconsin State Journal.

These Things Will Happen. "Say, do you see that chromo over there in the blue dress?" asked the man standing next to him at a dance. "Yes." replied the one addressed, with interest.

"Let me give you a tip. She's a temon. She walked all over my feet. Don't try to dance with her." "I'm not likely to. You see, she's my

They're Off.

The card club's started up again; Once more they pay their dues To battle now with might and main For stuff they'll never use. Once more these sixteen ladies get Into a verbal scrap,

wife!"-Yonkers Statesman.

And some of them go home to bet That she who copped the prize-Annette-

Kept three trumps in her lap. The card club meets at two o'clock. Once more the chatter starts. Once more their neighbors now they knock While dealing spades and hearts. Once more the cut glass war begins, And when they homeward go

Once more we'll see their wagging chins As they discuss the dame who wins Three prizes in a row.

-Detroit Free Press.

The Prudent Wayfarer. "Take this greatcoat, my friend. It belonged to my dear husband, who has

just gone on his long journey." "Well, madam, it is not entirely in my style, but a poor man cannot make choice, and if you will have it carefully disinfected I will return tomorrow for it."-Le Rire.

The Eternal Question.

The boy stood on the burning deck, Whence all but him had fled He hailed us as we neared the wreck. "Have you a match?" he said. -Cincinnati Enquirer.

Maud Muller said when came the judge, "At last here is my catch." But all the jurist said was: "Fudge! My pipe's out! Girl, a match!" -Denver Republican.

In Wrong.

"Is this your tiancee, Ed?" asked Jones, picking up a small portrait off the mantlepiece.

"Yes. How do you like her?" asked Jones thought a minute. "She must

be rich, isn't she, Ed?"-Fun Magazine.

Political Partings. Tue campaign soon will slip away,

The contest will be o'er. And friendships will revive, they say, To last for four years more. -Washington Star.

He Was Safe. The Minister's Wife (inquiring after

olack sheep)-And how is your son doing since he went to New York? Hodge-He's gone on to China, it seems, for I got a letter from him from Sing Sing .- New York Sun.

Muan Cuss. "Your face will always light my way," Said Algernon to Maude. She never knew he meant to say That she was lantern jawed.

In One Spot. Rollo-Has Wallie a steady position? Edgar-Yes. He stands in one spot holding an advertising banner for a

clothing store.-New York Globe.

6

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