

From Playing Cards to Dollar Bills

When Money was Scarce in Olden Days Playing Cards Took Its Place. Some Strange Coins and Tokens were once Used in Canada.

Imagine paying for a new suit of clothes with the ace of spades or the king of clubs! Picture yourself nonchalantly handing your wife the ten of diamonds, the ace of hearts and a few other assorted playing cards as her share of your wages, salary or income for the week! Yet something like that was done in the long ago when Canada was New France and the Intendant was a mighty personage. When currency ran short decks of cards, the worse for wear, took its place on occasion. The cards were stamped with their respective values, and bore the Intendant's signature. It was not a very satisfactory plan, but it had its place with beaver and other furs, tobacco and wheat, all of which were mediums of purchase and sale. Beaver was for a long time a standard of exchange, particularly in the territories which the hunters frequented, extending to Hudson's Bay. A medium sized beaver skin was the medium recognized by white man and Indian alike, and this and other objects continued to be the basis of barter in the land territories, now our Prairie Provinces, long after more modern systems of currency were in vogue in older Canada. No doubt the wives of the days of playing cards and beaver skin currency often asked that time-honored question of their husbands, "Is this all?" In these days when the Canadian dollar is quoted on a parity with that of the United States in the latter's own markets, it is not easy to vision a day of makeshift currency. Nor is it easy to reconcile that remote period with these times of bank descriptions and mergers, with their capital and general business being measured by billions of dollars, and their indispensable place in the life of the nation. Canada has no minor position in the world of finance on the basis of its population. The standing of its dollar in the New York market is now Canada, long after that time, and by authority too. Prince Edward Island in 1828 or thereabouts had the "holy dollar," as it was known, and which became very popular. There was a shortage of silver at the time and an Order in Council was passed allowing one-sixth of its weight to be cut out of the centre of the Spanish or Pillar dollar: the piece so cut to be passed for one shilling and the rest for five shillings. The Pillar dollar was then worth only six shillings on the island, though it passed in Boston, U.S., for six shillings and three-pence.

While Upper and Lower Canada had divided in 1791, and each conducted its own internal affairs, there were matters on which it was wise to act in unison. Thus in 1794 they mutually agreed to give legal standing to the gold eagle and the silver dollar of the United States. There was much confusion and amazing variation in the currency in all of Canada then inhabited, as there had been since the conquest and as there continued to be for many years. The authority conferred upon Analects and merchants to make coins or tokens having certain values, and to issue paper notes, which passed as currency, also, added to the confusion. Some odd situations developed as a consequence. Montreal was the home of a most unique one in 1837, when a period of depression in the United States was reflected on this side of the border. In response to suggestions following conferences of the business men, the banks suspended specie payments, and paper currency had a great vogue. Copper, says one recorder of the day, became a great nuisance and the coppers as issued by the government or other governments, were called in and great quantities were thrown into the St. Lawrence River. A dearth of small change was the natural sequence. To meet it a number of firms issued fractional notes varying in value from three-pence to two shillings and six-pence. These were regarded as a great convenience and were eagerly accepted. Alas this led to forgeries and deceptions that could not be tolerated and a law was passed making illegal the general circulation of "promises to pay," except such as were issued by chartered banks.

Bank and other tokens, which served as coins in their day, were common enough in this country to within quite recent times, and are still met with occasionally. Those issued by private concerns, as a rule, have more value for collectors. The token issued by the Northwest Company, is said to be the rarest of Canadian coins. Its sponsor was the Company which succeeded the French Fur Company, and was for many years a rival of the Hudson's Bay Company in the fur trade, the latter company finally scoring a signal triumph. The Owen Ropery, token struck in Montreal, is another rare coin, while many issues of paper currency of various kinds have apparently passed clean out of existence. A number of them were of rather flimsy material, unable to stand for long the ravages of use and time. The last of the bank tokens was made about 1857, and the first true coins for Canada, as it was then, were struck by the Royal Mint, London, in the next year. They were twenty, ten, five and one-cent pieces.

All through these years British money had been legal tender in Canada, and there were some attempts to make it the only recognized currency. The growing familiarity of Canadians with the dollar not only by influx from the South, but through the seaports of what are now the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia, nullified such efforts.

The British sovereign, of course, remains legal tender in Canada at \$4.86 2-3 par, but the one-time hope that it would be the basis of our currency system, is dead enough now. It is a somewhat strange feature of Canadian coinage history that no gold coins were struck for this country up to the time of the establishment at Ottawa of the Canadian branch of the Royal Mint, in 1908. The first then made were sovereigns similar to the British sovereign, but with the letter "C," identifying them as having been struck in Canada. In 1912, the first ten and five dollar Canadian gold pieces were made at the Mint, but not in great quantity; Canadians preferring notes to gold, chiefly because they are more easily handled. In this connection it is interesting to recall that in 1863, British Columbia embarked upon a gold coinage of its own. The issue was confined to one twenty dollar piece and one ten dollar piece. Both subsequently found a resting place in the British Museum, and presumably are there yet. They were the outcome of the excitement over the gold discoveries in what was then a colony. Captain, afterwards General Gossit, of the Royal Engineers, was treasurer of British Columbia at the time, and by his efforts a small mint was put up in New Westminster. After the two coins mentioned had been struck, it was found that there was no authority for minting coin outside of the Royal Mint, and that ended the idea of a separate coinage system for British Columbia.

Canada's chartered banks had their birth in a Montreal institution at the end of 1817. There have been many amalgamations, mergers and absorptions, as well as disappearances due to other causes, in the intervening years, and the chartered banks of to-day number just twelve. They have done more than any other agency to accustom the people to note currency in the place of coinage. Nor should the system of government notes be overlooked, with its issues from "shin-plasters" with their value of twenty-five cents, to notes as high in value as \$1,000. These are exclusive of certain notes for use between banks only and running in value as high as \$50,000. A different proposition these to the military notes issued under authority of the British Government during the War of 1812 and which were in common use, especially in Ontario in that period. Some are in existence as curiosities.

that. It is emphasized by the soundness of the money market at home, and the rapidity with which the country is absorbing its own national, provincial and municipal loans.

The uniform and stable decimal currency of the Canada of the present, with the dollar as the unit, is a comparatively new thing. On January 1, 1853, by an act passed in 1857, all government accounts for the "province of Canada," were ordered to be kept in dollars and cents. Thus the intention of a measure carried in 1853 and providing for decimal currency, with a dollar equivalent to the American dollar, was carried out. The British sovereign, which has always held its own pretty well, was at the same time made legal tender at \$4.86 2-3 as it is to-day when at par. It is singular that the dollar introduced by Spain to this continent, should have held its place of honor, while the glory of Spain as a colonizing and conquering power lives only in the pages of history.

Perhaps the first formal and official attempt to systematize the currency of Canada was made after the conquest by the British, when the Captain General and Governor in Chief was James Murray. In an order dated at Quebec, Sept. 14, 1764, he cites the various kinds of coin in use and fixes their value. The list of the coins is illuminative. It includes the Johannes of Portugal, Moysore, Cardin of Germany, the British guinea and shilling, Louis D'Or, Spanish or French pistole, Seville, Mexican and Pillar dollar, French crown, pistaren, French nine-penny piece, and British coppers.

The "Holy Dollar"

In General Murray's order the practise of cutting dollars and passing the fragments as small change, is forbidden as liable to cause fraud and deceit. But it existed in what is now Canada, long after that time, and by authority too. Prince Ed-



ward Island in 1828 or thereabouts had the "holy dollar," as it was known, and which became very popular. There was a shortage of silver at the time and an Order in Council was passed allowing one-sixth of its weight to be cut out of the centre of the Spanish or Pillar dollar: the piece so cut to be passed for one shilling and the rest for five shillings. The Pillar dollar was then worth only six shillings on the island, though it passed in Boston, U.S., for six shillings and three-pence.

While Upper and Lower Canada had divided in 1791, and each conducted its own internal affairs, there were matters on which it was wise to act in unison. Thus in 1794 they mutually agreed to give legal standing to the gold eagle and the silver dollar of the United States. There was much confusion and amazing variation in the currency in all of Canada then inhabited, as there had been since the conquest and as there continued to be for many years. The authority conferred upon Analects and merchants to make coins or tokens having certain values, and to issue paper notes, which passed as currency, also, added to the confusion. Some odd situations developed as a consequence. Montreal was the home of a most unique one in 1837, when a period of depression in the United States was reflected on this side of the border. In response to suggestions following conferences of the business men, the banks suspended specie payments, and paper currency had a great vogue. Copper, says one recorder of the day, became a great nuisance and the coppers as issued by the government or other governments, were called in and great quantities were thrown into the St. Lawrence River. A dearth of small change was the natural sequence. To meet it a number of firms issued fractional notes varying in value from three-pence to two shillings and six-pence. These were regarded as a great convenience and were eagerly accepted. Alas this led to forgeries and deceptions that could not be tolerated and a law was passed making illegal the general circulation of "promises to pay," except such as were issued by chartered banks.

Bank and other tokens, which served as coins in their day, were common enough in this country to within quite recent times, and are still met with occasionally. Those issued by private concerns, as a rule, have more value for collectors. The token issued by the Northwest Company, is said to be the rarest of Canadian coins. Its sponsor was the Company which succeeded the French Fur Company, and was for many years a rival of the Hudson's Bay Company in the fur trade, the latter company finally scoring a signal triumph. The Owen Ropery, token struck in Montreal, is another rare coin, while many issues of paper currency of various kinds have apparently passed clean out of existence. A number of them were of rather flimsy material, unable to stand for long the ravages of use and time. The last of the bank tokens was made about 1857, and the first true coins for Canada, as it was then, were struck by the Royal Mint, London, in the next year. They were twenty, ten, five and one-cent pieces.

All through these years British money had been legal tender in Canada, and there were some attempts to make it the only recognized currency. The growing familiarity of Canadians with the dollar not only by influx from the South, but through the seaports of what are now the Maritime Provinces and British Columbia, nullified such efforts.

The British sovereign, of course, remains legal tender in Canada at \$4.86 2-3 par, but the one-time hope that it would be the basis of our currency system, is dead enough now. It is a somewhat strange feature of Canadian coinage history that no gold coins were struck for this country up to the time of the establishment at Ottawa of the Canadian branch of the Royal Mint, in 1908. The first then made were sovereigns similar to the British sovereign, but with the letter "C," identifying them as having been struck in Canada. In 1912, the first ten and five dollar Canadian gold pieces were made at the Mint, but not in great quantity; Canadians preferring notes to gold, chiefly because they are more easily handled. In this connection it is interesting to recall that in 1863, British Columbia embarked upon a gold coinage of its own. The issue was confined to one twenty dollar piece and one ten dollar piece. Both subsequently found a resting place in the British Museum, and presumably are there yet. They were the outcome of the excitement over the gold discoveries in what was then a colony. Captain, afterwards General Gossit, of the Royal Engineers, was treasurer of British Columbia at the time, and by his efforts a small mint was put up in New Westminster. After the two coins mentioned had been struck, it was found that there was no authority for minting coin outside of the Royal Mint, and that ended the idea of a separate coinage system for British Columbia.

Canada's chartered banks had their birth in a Montreal institution at the end of 1817. There have been many amalgamations, mergers and absorptions, as well as disappearances due to other causes, in the intervening years, and the chartered banks of to-day number just twelve. They have done more than any other agency to accustom the people to note currency in the place of coinage. Nor should the system of government notes be overlooked, with its issues from "shin-plasters" with their value of twenty-five cents, to notes as high in value as \$1,000. These are exclusive of certain notes for use between banks only and running in value as high as \$50,000. A different proposition these to the military notes issued under authority of the British Government during the War of 1812 and which were in common use, especially in Ontario in that period. Some are in existence as curiosities.

CANADIAN VIEWPOINT

By WILSON MACDONALD.

Love Poems. I

Two bachelors, Arthur O'Shaughnessy and Robert Burns, wrote some of the most remarkable love poems in our language. This fact, coupled with the knowledge that Shelley composed his best love lyrics while free from matrimonial conventionalities, leads us to assume that bachelordom is more stimulating to the muse as far as this one branch of poetry is concerned than is the marriage state. The enthusiasts of conjugal felicity combat the idea with the theory of Robert and Mrs. Browning and a royal debate is on. Disappointment in love seems to have stimulated more poetry of passion than the successful invasion of a heart has ever done. Perhaps

Beauty

A Gleamy Mass of Hair
85c "Danderine" does Wonders for Any Girl's Hair



Girls Try this! When combing and dressing your hair, just moisten your hair-brush with a little "Danderine" and brush it through your hair. The effect is startling! You can do your hair up immediately and it will appear twice as thick and heavy—a life and possessing that incomparable softness, freshness and luxuriance. While beautifying the hair "Danderine" is also toning and stimulating each single hair to grow thick, long and strong. Hair stops falling out and dandruff disappears. Get a bottle of "Danderine" at any drug or toilet counter and just see how healthy and youthful your hair appears after this delightful, refreshing dressing.

the key to this seeming anomaly lies in that poem of Landor wherein he suggests that the loss of the loved one means the perpetuation forever of the ideal which, after marriage, is too often lost.

Blake, pursued by an army of disappointments, wrote one of the most charming love lyrics that ever embraced the beauty of a thought. No other love poem has laid down so rigid a law in so artless a manner. The lovers of all generations to come would do well to accept as a creed:

"Never seek to tell thy love;
Love that never told can be;
For the gentle wind doth move
Silently, invisibly.

I told my love, I told my love;
I told her all my heart,
Trembling, cold, in ghastly fears
Ah! she did depart.

Soon after she was gone from me:
A traveller came by;
Silently, invisibly
He took her with a sigh.

The greatest of Coleridge's love poems is "All For Love" and no one would designate these verses as the offspring of a contented, domestic life. We are inclined to think of Genevieve as one more skin to the phantom Lenore, of Edgar Allan Poe than to the flesh-and-blood Mary Morrison. There is something of the magic of "La Belle Dame Sans Merci" in this poem, but the maiden here apostrophized is the very antithesis of the one in the poem of Keats. She is to Coleridge "La Belle Dame avec Merci" and woman is again restored. The witchery of one poet's warning has been translated into the witchery of another poet's blessing. The first bard sings:

"And there she lulled me asleep,
And there I dreamed—Ah! woe betide!

The latest dream I ever dreamed
On the cold hill side,"
and the second bard relates:
"And that she nursed him in a cave,
And how his madness went away,
When on the yellow forest leaves
A dying man he lay."

The recent controversy over the merits of Lord Byron might have been avoided had his defenders placed the emphasis of their approval on his very beautiful love lyrics rather than upon his larger and more rhetorical poems. There are four cameos of Byron that will still be an enduring delight to humanity long after "Don Juan" and other large canvasses of the poet are forgotten. My favorite of these is the one beginning:

"O talk not to me of a name great in story;
The days of our youth are the days of our glory;

And the myrtle and ivy of sweet
two and twenty
Are worth all your laurels, though
ever so plenty."

In the debate, which should read:
"Resolved that the bachelor-poets
wrote finer love poems than the
benefit-poets" we must give Shelley a place among the first named
for scarcely any of his finest tributes to women were inspired by
the lady whom he married. The
world is richer for the breaking of
a marriage vow that would have
stifled forever the immortal:
"I arise from dreams of Thee
In the first sweet sleep of night,
When the winds are breathing low
And the stars are shining bright:
I arise from dreams of thee,
In a dream, a day, or a year,
And a spirit in my feet
Hath led me—who knows how?
To thy chamber window, sweet!"

Wordsworth must also be considered on the side of the pros in the argument for he married late in life and long after his beautiful tributes to the unknown "Lucy" appeared. The most voluminous of poets could be the most crylike on occasion and it is doubtful whether so great a passion was ever caught in a sheaf so slender as in the wistful:
"She lived unknown, and few
could know
When Lucy ceased to be;
But she is in her grave, and, oh,
The difference to me!"

The poets of the sixteenth century and particularly Carew. Sir John Suckling and Waller were not always eulogistic of their loves. These bards did not pine away and die when women were cold to their advances, but were fortified by a philosophy that the bards of succeeding generations would have done well to emulate. There is no note of regret in Suckling's tribute to an obdurate maid:
"Quit, quit, for shame! this will
not move,
This cannot take her;
If of herself she will not love,

the Carmen sash which is worn very low over the hips and tied directly in front is a novelty worthy of the attention of thin and medium-sized women.

Swollen Joints, Quickly Limbered Up Rub On Nerviline

You would be surprised at the wonderful action of "Nerviline" in just such cases. Being thin and not an oil preparation, it is able to penetrate quickly, and down it sinks into the tissues, carrying its healing, soothing action wherever it goes. For stopping muscular or nerve pain, for easing a stiff joint, Nerviline is a complete success. Pain, soreness, stiffness all vanish before the magic power of this wonderful liniment. Nearly fifty years of success proves the merit of Nerviline, which is sold everywhere in large 35 cent bottles.

Nothing can make her;
The Devil take her!"

One of the most remarkable virtues of the literature of this century was its worship of the inner world of men and women. Never before or since has character inspired more poems than did comeliness. It might be a valuable pilgrimage did a generation, whose idols are vain and vapid beauties of the screen, take a literary journey occasionally to honor the immortality of character. Perhaps Carew composed the most delightful of these lyrics:
"He that loves a rosy cheek
Or a coral lip admires,
Or from star-like eyes doth seek
Fuel to maintain his fires;
As old time makes these decay,
So his flames must waste away."

—WILSON MACDONALD.
(To be Continued)

A lovely evening gown from Paris is of heavy white satin with a very wide girde of gold tissue cloth that is tied with long, loose ends. Brown ottoman or ribbed silks in the heavier weaves makes very lovely afternoon and even street gowns when combined with brown fur.



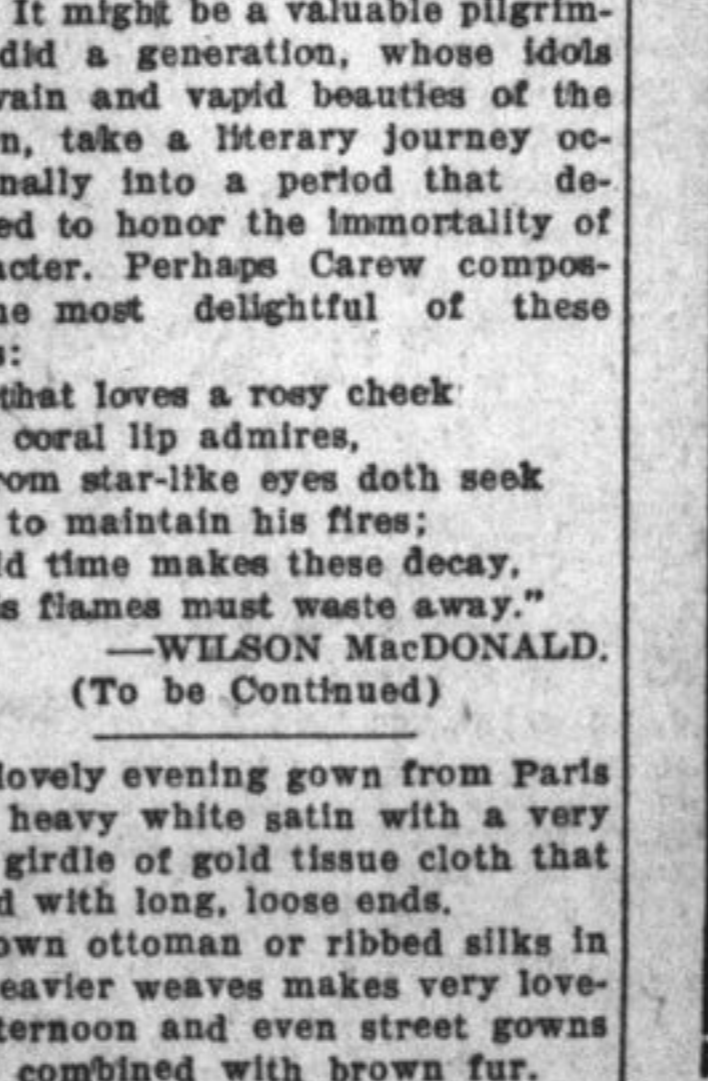
Correct Your Disordered Stomach
Instantly! End Indigestion, Gas, Heartburn, Acidity

The moment your stomach rebels, such comfort as this pleasant, harmless and safe Diapiesin tablets. Millions of the best of families always keep a large 60 cent package at hand—they know its magic and druggists guarantee it.

MAY YOHE BROUGHT LOW. Her Husband in a Boston Hospital With Bullet Wound.

Montreal, Nov. 28.—Does the vaunted curse of the Hope diamond still pursue May Yohe, once its proud owner. Her husband, Captain John Smuts, is in a Boston hospital with a bullet wound about which the police have raised a question. He says that the wound was self-inflicted.

The lodging house in Boston where May Yohe and her husband were living when he was shot, is a very common place. May Yohe once lived in palatial residences. Now the former actress is about down and out. Her husband is a nephew of Gen. Jan Smuts, former Boer leader.



NOTHING TO EQUAL BABY'S OWN TABLETS

Mrs. Georges Lefebvre, St. Zenon, Que., writes: "I do not think there is any other medicine to equal Baby's Own Tablets for little ones. I have used them for my baby and would use nothing else." What Mrs. Lefebvre says thousands of other mothers say. They have found by trial that the Tablets always do just what is claimed for them. The Tablets are a mild but thorough laxative which regulate the bowels and sweeten the stomach and thus banish indigestion, constipation, colds, colic, etc. They are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Not all the new hats have high square brims. Lanvin is making a charming soft felt with a rolled brim that fits the head in much the same close manner the cloche used to.

Brilliant blue satin bands embroidered in gold in Chinese design make attractive trimmings for a black satin gown.

THE GROOM SAID NO AT HIS MARRIAGE

Judge Satisfied She Was Married Under Threat and Annulled the Contract.

Montreal, Nov. 28.—When she was but fifteen years of age, in 1905, Lillian Mathilda Viau married Adrien Charlebois, because according to the story she told Justice Bruneau yesterday he threatened to disfigure her face with vitriol if she refused. Declaring herself satisfied that the charges were true, the court granted her request and annulled the marriage.

The woman told His Lordship that at the age of fifteen she left home, and, while workless and friendless met Charlebois, who took her to his sister "for protection." Shortly after this, he told her that if she would not marry him he would disfigure her for life, and, under this threat she went through a marriage ceremony with him.

However, when the clergyman asked him "if he took this woman for lawful wife," Charlebois, while pretending to answer in the affirmative, murmured "no" under his breath in so low a tone that only she heard him. Two years later he left her, declaring that she was not really his wife because of the "no." If she dared divulge the circumstances of their marriage he would return and "burn the house down," he told her.

After hearing her story Mr. Justice Bruneau expressed himself as assured that she had married under threats, and accordingly declared the marriage null and void.



Facts About Optometry

By R. Arthey, Optometrist
148 PRINCESS STREET
NO. TWENTY-FOUR

Should persons with astigmatism wear their glasses constantly? Yes, if the error demands correction, it should be kept corrected. An error of vision cannot be cured? No, it is merely corrected and it is corrected ONLY when the glasses are worn. Then glasses which correct astigmatism should be put on the first thing in the morning? Yes, and removed the last thing at night. (To be continued)

Kingston's Leading Florist

Wedding Bouquets, Funeral Designs, Cut Flowers, Potted Plants
Cor. Brock and Wellington Streets
Member F.T.D.
Phones: Office 178, Residence 2693v.
H. STONE, Manager