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THAYENDANECA

A GREAT INDIAN

Next Greatest of Indian Race, From Whom Brantford Takes Its Name Was Once Chief of Mohawks

Chas. E. Compton writes: Though the Red Man is passing and his descendants are gradually being assimilated with the Canadian people, yet he has filled such a distinct place in Canadian history that his name can never be forgotten. Upon our cities, towns and villages, our forest and stream, our customs, our habits and our legends, his stamp has been set and while time is removing some, there are others that will be ineffaceable so long as Canada is Canada. At the present time, in our bright and splendid Canadian schools, white children are learning to pronounce many of the same words that the squaw taught her papoose in her smoky wigwam, for we would hate to think that she never taught it at all. The inarticulate jargon of the Indian, having much to do with the names of many Canadian places, might be considered in the light of one of the chief characteristics of this country.

Greatest of Indian Race

Joseph Brant was one of the greatest of the Indian race and in the city of Brantford there is a monument erected to his memory. It was erected in 1886 by the Brant Memorial Association. Jos. Brant was the American chief of the Mohawk tribe and was known by the name Thayendanegea. In 1742 he was born on the banks of the Ohio river. As a boy he attracted the attention of Sir William Johnston, who sent him to be educated by Dr. Eleazar Wheelock at Lebanon, Conn., in Moore's Indian Charity School, from which Dartmouth College has its origin. In the French and Indian wars, about 1763, he took the side of the English and also fought with the Iroquois against Frontenac. Afterwards he settled in Cabajoharie or the Upper Mohawk Valley, which is now Montgomery County, New York. Said to be a devout churchman, he devoted himself to missionary work, also translating the Anglican Prayer Book and St. Mark's Gospel to the Indian tongue. When Guy Johnston succeeded his uncle Sir William Johnston, as superintendent of Indian Affairs, Brant became his secretary.

Built First Anglican Church

He remained loyal at the outbreak of the War of Independence, organized and led the Mohawks and other Indians allied to the British, against the settlements on the New York frontier. Consequently, the Mohawks had to leave the country and with Brant they came to Canada and founded a village on the banks of the Grand river. But previous to coming to Canada he aided the United States Commissioners in securing treaties of peace with the Miami and other western tribes. After settling in Canada he again took up missionary work and in 1780 he visited England where he raised funds to assist the building of the first Anglican Church in Upper Canada.

FAMILY OF SIXTY-SIX

Chinese Consider Small Households Bad Farm

A London paper writes: A large family which is able to live together without dividing up the property always receives much credit in China and is highly respected. It is one of the highest distinctions in China to have Wu Fu Tung Tang, or five generations, under one roof, although such a distinction is attained by very few. According to a census the family of Meng Yu Shih, a widow, of the village of Mantao, in the territory of Weishaiwei, had the distinction of being the largest in the land. Her family consisted of sixty-six members, and, with one servant, there are sixty-seven mouths to be fed daily.

Men Yu Shih is sixty-six years old, has nine sons and numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren, all living under her roof. She has not attained the ambition of being the head of Wu Fu Tung Tang, but the size of her family has already given her the honor and pleasure of being the largest in China, even if she has but five generations under one roof. There are many households with more than forty members, and almost all old and distinguished families of China have at least twenty members. Families of small size, three or four, are considered rather bad form even if they are rich and occupying high position. Size of family is as valuable in China as size of strong box.

TOTAL ABSTAINERS

Curious Menagerie on Henderson Island

Recent investigations on the little known and rarely visited Henderson or Elizabeth Island have led to the discovery of a complete and curious little ecology of zoological total abstainers. The island, which is uninhabited, is situated about 130 miles northeast of Pitcairn Island—itsself sufficiently out of the way, but famous as the home of the descendants of the mutineers of the Bounty. There is no water on it, not even a swamp, and it is only six miles long, yet it harbors quite a menagerie—a kind of rat, a lizard, described as very abundant, and no fewer than four kinds of birds, all peculiar to the island. These are a fruit pigeon, a lorikeet or honey-eating parakeet, a little rail or crane and a reed warbler. The strange thing about the inmates of this curious little natural aviary of coral rock, surrounded by waves instead of water, is that two of its inmates are birds, one especially associated with water—the rail and the warbler.

SEEN 75 MILES AWAY

Interesting Facts About Lights and Lighthouses

The tallest lighthouse on the coasts of the United States is at Cape Hatteras, 200 feet high. The brightest light is on the Navesink Highlands, at the southern entrance to New York harbor. Its candle-power is about 25,000,000; it is visible twenty-two miles at sea under unusual conditions of the atmosphere. The highest light is at Cape Mendocino, Cal., 422 feet above sea level. The first lighthouse on the American continent was built in 1715-16 at the entrance to Boston Harbor.

Forest Fire Menace

The number of fires suppressed on national forest lands during the calendar year 1915 was 6,324, as against 7,014 in 1914, and an average annual number of 4,759 during the last five years. While more than the average number of fires occurred, the timber area burned over was only 155,416 acres, or 30 per cent. less than the average year a year for the period 1914-1915 inclusive. The average loss a fire was \$80.41. Forty-four per cent. of the fires were confined to areas of less than one-quarter of an acre.

Bibles To Cost More

It will cost the British and Foreign Bible Society an extra \$40,000 to replace 68,000 Bibles lost in vessels sunk by submarines in 1917 owing to the increased cost of paper and labor.

Daylight Photography

Apparatus with which photographic plates can be loaded into holders or removed and developed in daylight has been invented by a South Dakota man.

LIFE OF A MAIL BAG

Post Office Bag Has Five Years of Life

The life of a mail bag in Canada is about five years, some lasting six or seven, according to the service to which they are given. Such bags pass into the hands of expert inspectors, who utilize such parts as still have some good material left, in making what is known as "pieced bags." Many are thus reclaimed and returned to the service, constituting, with the salvage of condemned material, the repairing end is scattered all over Canada and gives work to many small and large shops. The bags or parts of bags are sold (that is when they cannot be used) to the highest bidder.

Skull Hole Closed With Rubber

For closing a hole in the skull Dr. C. Scandota of Naples uses rubber sponge. He reports to La Riforma Medica that he tried it on a rabbit and a dog, which he killed after nine and six months and found that except for slight loose adhesion to the dura, the rubber sponge was unchanged. It had caused no trouble and the animals had behaved normally.

Fish That Shine at Night

The Bay of Naples abounds in medusa, or jellyfish, often growing as large as two feet in diameter and weighing fifty and sixty pounds. Some of them shine at night with a greenish light and are known as "noctiluca" (night lanterns) by the natives.

SACRED LAKE IN ASHANTI

Natives Believe it to be Haunted by Powerful God

In Central Ashanti, West Africa, there is a sacred lake, Bosumtvi, which lies about eighteen miles south-east of Coomassie, and is the only real lake in the country. It is roughly circular in shape, with a diameter of four miles, and lies in a deep depression with sides rising to six hundred and seven hundred feet above its surface. It has never been fathomed. An attempt was made to sound it by A. J. Philbrick, acting chief commissioner of Ashanti, but the line broke after five hundred feet had been lowered. The water is fresh, though the lake has no outlet, and only a few small annual streams flow into it. The Ashantis regard the lake as a great fetish, believing that it is the abode of a powerful and energetic spirit which manifests itself, among other ways, by flashing lights on the surface and making noises like the discharge of artillery. There are numerous villages round the lake, but no canoes, paddles, fishhooks or brass pans are allowed near or near to it. The natives do, however, permit themselves to catch the fish which abound in the lake, and they resort to an ingenious method of overcoming the disabilities imposed on them by its sacred character. Flatted reed mats with gaping mouths are taken out from the shore by men lying face downwards on clear shaped logs of wood. They propel themselves by padding with their hands, and, having set the mats as a trap, they retire long enough to allow the fish to enter. They then return very quickly in the same fashion, pull together the two parts of the trap, and retire with their haul.

DOOR WITH SEVEN LOCKS

Westminster Abbey Has Many Interesting Parts

A London paper writes: Few who explore Westminster Abbey are aware that there are many of its most ancient and interesting parts of which they have never had a glimpse. For instance, in the eastern cloisters there is a door so guarded against unauthorized intrusion that it can only be opened by seven keys, which are in the jealous custody of as many Government officials. Five of the keyholes of this wonderful door, which is covered with human skins, are concealed from view by a stout iron bar which traverses it. This door gives access to a vaulted chamber, known as the Chapel of the Pyx, the walls of which were standing as they stand to-day before even the Norman Conqueror landed in Sussex. The chamber was once the Treasury of the king, and to which were deposited the most cherished possessions of the State. The regalia of the Scottish Kings and the Holy Cross of Holyrood were deposited here, and for many years it served as a mint for coining silver and gold. It was, centuries ago, the scene of a daring robbery, and to-day it contains, in addition to a stone altar, some old chests one of which is said to have held the jewels of Norman kings.

TREE THAT OWNS ITSELF

Love of Tree Causes Extraordinary Bequest

At Athens, Georgia, there is a giant white oak tree which no one may buy or sell or cut down; nobody owns the land in which this tree stands. The tree owns itself. It stands on top of one of the hills of the city, and is said to be between 400 and 500 years old. Early in the nineteenth century the owner of the plantation on which the tree stood often used to sit in the shade of the huge oak. Finally, he became so attached to the tree that he made a will which bequeathed the tree to itself. He wrote: "For, and in consideration of the great love I bear this tree, and the great desire I have for its protection for all time, I convey to its entire possession of itself, and all land on 8 feet of the tree on all sides." And so the tree came to own itself and 8 feet of ground surrounding it.

Eastern Nations' Discovery

The Eastern nations, which are far more pestored with flies than we are, have discovered how much flies dislike blue. The Aztecs treat their houses with a kind of light blue wash, and the Japs hang curtains of blue glass beads and bamboo at the entrance of their baker and butcher shops. These curtains let the air in, and the flies, should there be any in the room, pass out between the blue beads towards the light, but they do not re-enter.

Grand Total of C.P.R.

The Canadian Pacific Railway has a grand total of 1,500 miles of double track. Ontario district has a double-tracked mileage of 105. Manitoba district is laid with no less than 643 miles of double tracks. British Columbia district is equipped with 142.90 miles. Alberta district has 12 miles and Saskatchewan district has 210 miles of double track.

The First Letter Box

The first letter box seems to have been installed in Paris, as a useful part of the first penny post established in any country. But, strangely enough, the people of Paris did not like the boxes for their letters, and the system was for some years given up.

Examine Your

Printing Suppl

Letter Heads

Note Heads

Bill Heads

Statements

Envelopes

Tags

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Invoices

Ladies' & Gents' Calling Cards

Wedding Invitations

and Announcements

Tickets of all Kinds

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