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#### STRATHCONA

BECKLES WILSON RECALLS EPI-SODES IN CANADIAN'S LIFE.

The Late High Commissioner for the other trapper, and insisted on ad-Canada Was Related to the Orig-Fox Skin Showed Lord Strath. The furs proved to be worth twice cona's Talent as a Trader.

NE of the best stories in Beckles Wilson's "Life of Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal" tells of the death by drowning of one of his boyhood chums at Forres, Scotland.

Nine-year-old Donald called on the bereaved family, and "with a gravity far beyond his years, condoled with them, and on leaving begged that they would accept a slight token in memory of his friend. He handed them over all of his pocket money, amounting to a shilling and some odd coppers. "Thus was the child father to the man.'

It is interesting to know that Lord Strathcona was related to the Cheerbyle brothers, those delightful old men in Dickens' "Nicholas Nickleby," who were always so considerate of each other, of their employes, and their mother. Lord Strathcona's paternal grandmother was the sister of Mrs. Grant, the mother of the brothers, whom Dickens happened to meet while on a visit to Manchester. One morning in the early days of the present century an elderly individual, of no very prepossessing appearance, called at the office of the High Commissioner for Canada in London, and asked to see Lord

with him. "Well," was the confident reply, "he'll see me if you tell him my father drove him to Aberdeen when he

Strathcona. He was, told that his Lordship was far too busy to see any but those who had appointments

sailed to Canada." The message was delivered, and the man admitted. Five minutes later he appeared with a five-pound note in his hand. He repeated his visit three weeks later with a similar result. A month or so later back he came again. The secretary protested to Lord Strathcona that the man had

had two five-pound notes already. "Oh, well," said Lord Strathcona, in his quiet way, "I cannot see him. Give him another five-pound note, and tell him he need not come again. You may add that his father did not drive me to Aberdeen when I went to Canada. As a matter of fact I walked."

Black fox skins were the most valuable pelts in the early days of the Hudson's Bay Company, as they are to-day, and Lord Strathcona's story of his first purchase of a black fox skin is decidedly amusing as well as showing the diplomatic talent he was afterwards to find exercise for in a far greater sphere. He was then quite young, and was stationed at Tadousac post, at the mouth of the Saguenay. News one day came to his bourgeois, as the officer in charge of a post was called, that a trapper named Dugas had several fine skins but that for some fancied grievance had announced his intention of not selling them to the company, but of taking them himself to Quebec. The man, a half-breed, was camping about twenty miles away. Mr. Smith was sent to investigate and buy the furs if he could. He was insultingly received, but he was resolved not to lose his temper. Not a word was said about the furs. He assisted the old squaw, whom he addressed as "Madame" Dugas, to boil the pot, and cut firewood. He helped to skin a rabbit, gave the trapper tobacco, retailed news and anecdotes of mutual friends, sympathizing with Dugas in his grievance against the bourgeois, for whose hasty conduct he apologized. But what was even of more potent effect, was a little book of pictures and a couple of sticks of barley sugar which he had thoughtfully slipped into his pocket for the children. These naturally won the heart of the squaw and her children. Still not a

There is more Catarrh in this section of the country than all other diseases put together, and for years it was supposed to be incurable. Doctors prescribed local remedies and by constantly failing to cure with local treatment, pronounced it incurable. Catarrh is a local disease, greatly influenced by constitutional conditions and therefore requires constitutional treatment. Hall's F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, Ohio, is a constitutional remedy, is taken internally and acts thru the System. One Hundred Dollars reward is offered for any case that Hall's Catarrh Cure fails to cure Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

word about furs. He rolled himself his blanket when night came, and went to rest. Up at dawn he first collected faggots, and then caught some fish for breakfast. The meal over he announced his intention of going farther on a visit to another trapper, and thanked them for the hospitality which he would long remember. "Perhaps," he added, "you will still be here on my way back. If so, we may meet again - who knows?" He then shouldered his pack and was shaking hands, when Dugas, who had been standing by in a fit of sulky astonishment, cried out,

'You no want my furs?" Whereupon Smith said: Monsieur Dugas, you have furs to sell? Ah, that will make Mr. H. sorry, very sorry to think that he should have lost his temper. What

"Tenez," said Dugas, and he brought forth from his lodge a bundle of several very fine skins. one of which he threw over his arm, stroking it lovingly. "That is the best fox I ever trapped. This other is nearly as good. I said I would not sell them to the bourgeois, and I won't. You are a young man, and perhaps you do not know the value. In Quebec I would get thirty pounds: but I do not wish to leave my family and go to Quebec. You may have them, and if your bourgeois says they are not worth thirty pounds you may send them back to me. I will not take the money now. Voila,"

and he pressed the bundle of skins upon the young trader. The upshot was that he paid the sum of £23, all the money he had on him, and he and Dugas parted the best friends in the world. Dugas even accompanied him to the camp of vancing the funds to pay for the latter's small catch out of what he had inals of Two Dickens Characters himself received, the money to be re-- First Purchase of a Black turned at Mr. Smith's convenience.

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Unnecessary Knowledge. Aunt Sarah (a spinster)-Now, dear, if you would only watch me closely you might learn how to crochet. Little Bessie-Oh, I'm goin' to get married when I grow up

Coca Leaves. Coca, from the leaves of which cocaine is produced, was known among the Incas as the "divine plant" long be-

A Matter of Figures. Lobbyist-May I submit some figures in support of my contention? Senator -Well, there'll have to be at least four figures -- Puck,

fore the discovery of America.

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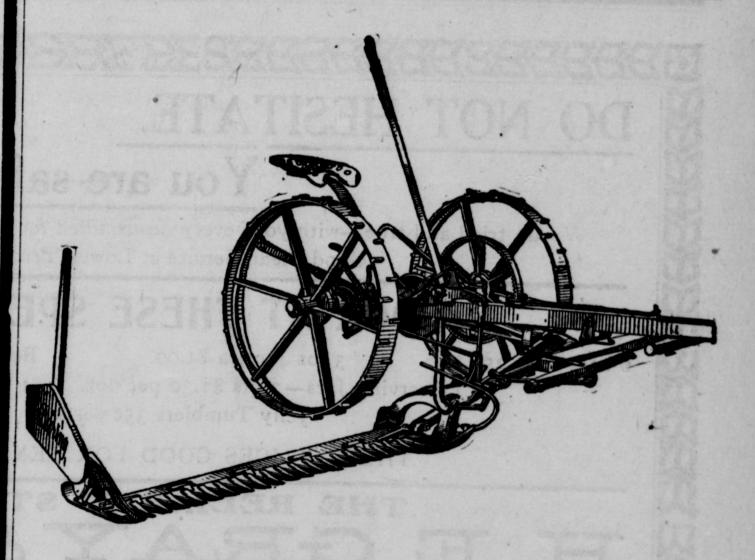
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