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DAVID O. CALDER.

EVENING NEWS.

Wednesday, April 4, 1877.

THE INDIANS IN CANADA.

A GENEROUS INDIAN POLICY—HOW

THE RED MAN IS TREATED IN THE

NORTH-WEST—PEACE, PROSPERITY

AND RESPECT FOR TREATIES.

OTTAWA, Canada,

March 23, 1877.

The fact was published last week
that the Sioux who have been
gradually retreating before the ad-
vance of our several columns, have
at last crossed the boundary and
taken refuge in Canadian soil.

Further information from the local-
ity of the Cypress Hills, where they
are supposed to be tenting; a point
in the North-west Territory distant
from the border about sixty miles,
and say three hundred miles from
the scene of the late conflicts—

is anxiously awaited by the Domini-
on authorities, owing to the fear
that the hostilities will endeavor to
renew themselves in the Canadian
soil.

The fact that the late conflicts
have been so peaceful at work, and
cause international complications
around their position, is a change
in the wise policy which has for
many years been pursued by this
government in reference to its In-
dian wards. The subject is so full
of interest that I have procured
from the Hon. Dr. C. Smith, a
member of Parliament from Mani-
toba, and a gentleman thoroughly
familiar with the Indian question,
the information which follows:

On the 15th of July, 1876, the
Department of the Interior, and the
Hudson Bay Company were closed,
whereby 3,000,000 square miles
were added to the Dominion.

In the territory there was a
population of 68,000 Indians, who
were practically the lords of the
soil, with undisputed rights, and
from whom it subsequently be-
came necessary to buy certain privi-
leges connected with their land.

The Hudson Bay Company received
\$1,500,000 in money and were al-
lowed to retain one-twentieth of all
the land, together with large re-
serves around their posts for
trading, hunting, and other kin-
dred purposes. The bargain being
thus concluded, and the responsi-
bility incurred, Canada grappled
with the question of filling these
newly acquired valleys with the
population of the Old World. Rail-
ways and canals were projected and
began to develop mines and
mineral resources. North of the
international boundary the condi-
tion was one of profound peace. In
every part of the vast region the
life of a white man was, and still
is, safe. No lodge refused shelter,
and its food will be shared without
the expectation of reward. Of their
hunting grounds the Indians re-
main in almost absolute control, the
hunted being game, and not man.

Peace in common with themselves
but parties of Englishmen and
other hunting for pleasure being
compelled to pay a royalty for the
privilege to those masters of the
soil. This condition of peace which
exists is in strong contrast to the
state of affairs in the Indian coun-
try of the United States, where
faith between contracting parties
has been completely broken, and
will only end with the death whoop
of the warrior.

To illustrate the Sioux Indians
correspond with the Canadian
Cree tribes, who occupy a similar
geographical position on this side
of the boundary line. The two
tribes are about equal in numbers.
Both are hunters of the prairie, both
practical horsemen and expert
shoots. Fifteen years ago the Sioux
were in as profound a state of peace
with the United States as the Cree
now are with Canada; but grievan-
ces were ignored, remonstrances
were pigeonholed and warnings by
half-breeds and traders ignored until
suddenly the story of the massacre
of 1862 was echoed through the land
and the horizon of hundreds of miles
was lighted with burning buildings
in which the shrieks of women and
children had been silenced by the
tomahawk. The soldiers in the end
overcame the savage, but not until
a vast area of country had been
desolated, foreign emigration had
been diverted and three military
expeditions in three successive years
had traversed the Indian country,
at a cost to the United States
government of \$10,000,000.

With the terrible incidents and
saddens of the last few years the
people are sufficiently familiar. He
parts with nothing for which he
does not receive just pay. Partly
he has become an agriculturist
and a worker. His children
attend the common schools and
religious missions, seminaries
for the youth who are advanced,
and employment among the whites
for those who seek the profits of
civilized associations. In fact there
are business settlements in which
the Indian nature has so far
changed as to make him in point
of industry, of truthfulness, and of
obedience, the equal if not the su-
perior of the average white man.

As an illustration of the sturdy
honesty and the strong common
sense with which the public men
of Canada have dealt and are still
dealing with the Indians, which
has given us so much trouble in the
States, I quote from a speech made
in the House of Commons by the
Hon. Dr. Schullis. He says—

"While it will be the easiest
thing in the world by the adoption
of an unwise policy to sow the seeds
of an everlasting enmity yet I hold
that it is equally possible by wise
measures to retain their friendship
even while we are pursuing their
land; that, in fact, we can accom-
plish what we wish to do, and we
may allow the expression, while we
are protecting him. To do this, I
hold that it is necessary to treat
the Indian as a man, and not as a
child, and to give him the same
rights and responsibilities as we
give to our own people. The Indian
is not a savage, but a man, and he
should be treated as such. The
policy of the United States has been
to treat the Indian as a child, and
this has led to the present state of
affairs. The policy of Canada has
been to treat the Indian as a man,
and this has led to the present state
of affairs. The policy of the United
States has been to treat the Indian
as a child, and this has led to the
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of Canada has been to treat the
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"The fact that the late conflicts
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In the territory there was a
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leges connected with their land.

The Hudson Bay Company received
\$1,500,000 in money and were al-
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To illustrate the Sioux Indians
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