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MIRACULOUS RECOVERY OF A CHILD. — About ½ past 7 o'clock on the evening of the 11th ult., it was reported to Mr Norcott that one of Mr Hall's children, a boy between 5 and 6 years of age, was missing, and that he had not been seen since one o'clock on that day, when his brother left him on the beach looking at some soldiers who were fishing there. The natural conclusion was that the child had mistaken his path on returning home and had wandered into the bush. Immediate search was made, conceiving that he could not have gone far from the settlement, and was kept up for two hours, indeed, until the darkness of the night compelled the party to relinquish all hope of finding him. At 4 o'clock the next morning, Mr Norcott, accompanied by Corporal (sic) Blyth of the 21st Regt., Smith of the Police, and the two natives Migo and Molly-dobbin, who are now attached to the Mounted Police Corps, set out to renew the search, fully calculating upon finding the little boy in less than an hour. They soon came upon the track where he had been the preceding day, and pursued it for some distance to the northward, when it was lost to all but the natives, who, notwithstanding the wind had been blowing very fresh, and had rendered the traces imperceptible to an unpractised eye, still continued to follow them up, along the beach, for about 4 miles, when they intimated that he had turned into the bush. Here they still followed him into an almost impenetrable thicket, through which they said he must have crawled on his hands and knees. Their progress was now very slow, in consequence of the thick bush, and the difficulty of perceiving the track on the loose sand, — but the acuteness of the natives, who are certainly most astonishingly gifted, led them through it, and in about an hour's time they regained the beach, the boy having made a circuit inland of about 400 yards. The track was now more strongly marked, and was perceptible to the whole party, continuing so over a space of about 5 miles, occasionally turning in and out of the bush. At the end of about 9 miles further, the natives were quite at fault; owing to his having left the beach and having entered a thicket which it was with difficulty they could push themselves through; they, however, persevered, and delighted the party, by every now-and-then crying out, *Me meyal geena*, meaning, *I see the foot-marks*. Mr Norcott, who was on horseback, finding great difficulty in passing through the shrub, took a position on a high hill, overlooking the interesting progress of the natives in the hollow below. They were then making their way through a perfect mass of matted bush, and Mr Norcott informs us, such was the apparent difficulty in tracking the child, that he was about to despair of success, when, to his astonishment, they held up a cap which was known to belong to the boy. This circumstance cheered them in their pursuit, and about half an hour afterwards, the track directed them again to the beach, they proceeded until they reached the Sand Cliffs, about 10 or 12 miles from Clarence, one native continuing to walk a little way in the bush, in order to be certain that the boy had not crossed, or left the beach, and the other remaining with the party on the beach. Here it was ascertained he had again taken to the bush and they found no difficulty in tracking him until they came to an elevated spot, where the wind had entirely effaced the marks of his feet. This was a most anxious moment, as even the natives seemed to be doubtful whether they would again discover the track. Migo, however, descended the hill, persisting in his search along the plains inland, and after having made a circuit of about half a mile, was once more fortunate to fall in with the track, but notwithstanding they had found it, they were sorely perplexed to retain it, and were kept near that spot for two hours, off and on, losing and again discovering it. The party had nearly given up all hope of seeing the child when Molly-dobbin pointed out the track on the side of a deep ravine. They were then

about 600 yards from the beach. The natives then went down into the ravine, and commenced hallooing, thinking that the child might be asleep in the bush, and still persevered in pressing through the thickest shrub, and the most difficult country to penetrate through which they had as yet passed : in a short time they once more found themselves on the beach, and observing, by the tracks, that the child had evidently been there within a very short period, they journeyed on with a better hope of obtaining their object, and restoring the lost child to his afflicted parents. No sooner were these feelings of gratification excited, at viewing the recent footsteps, than, at a distance of about 300 yards, the child was seen lying on the beach, its legs washed by the surf, and apparently in a state of insensibility. Mr Norcott galloped up to him, and calling him by name, the boy awoke and instantly jumped up. Another hour, and probably the child would have perished, as the waves were rapidly gaining upon him. The joy and delight of the two natives is represented to have been beyond conception, and their steady perseverance, Mr Norcott says, was beyond any thing he could have anticipated from them ; and really, when it is considered that they walked a distance of nearly 22 miles, with their eyes, for ten hours, constantly fixed upon the ground, and at the same time evinced the most intense anxiety to be instrumental in rescuing the child from its impending fate, we cannot but esteem the act, and highly applaud the noble disposition of these two savages.

Mr Norcott took the child up, and placing him on the horse before him, the party made for the nearest road home, where they arrived about 9 o'clock at night, having been over a distance of 39 miles, after being out seventeen hours, without the slightest refreshment.

It is certainly surprising that the child should have got so far, in the manner he must have been frequently compelled to force himself through the bush. He is not three feet high. His clothes were much torn, and his body was covered with scratches and bruises.

Mr Norcott, in speaking of the conduct of the natives, conceives that he cannot too highly commend their behaviour, and adduces this circumstance as an instance of the great advantage derived from having these two natives, Migo and Molly-dobbin, permanently attached to the Corps.