

# CHICAGO POST.

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VOL. 8.—NO. 37.

SACKVILLE, N. B., THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1878.

WHOLE NO. 391.

## LITERATURE.

### THE USURER'S GIFT.

From New York Sun.

A few months ago in London an old man sat in a large parlour in one of the streets near Soho square. Everything in the apartment was brown with age and neglect. Nothing more superlatively dingy could well be imagined. The leather covers of the chairs were white and glossy at the edges; the carpet was almost of a uniform tint, notwithstanding its original gaudy contrasts; there were absurd old engravings on the walls—relics of the infancy of the art—and curtains to the windows which the smoke of years had darkened from a delicate fawn to a rusty chocolate brown and mottled of the room, and, as it were, the sun of this dusty street, stood on the edge of a table of more modern manufacture, at which was seated the old man alluded to, sole lord and master of the dismal domicile. He was by profession a money-lender. His age might be from sixty to sixty-five years; his face was long, and his features seemed carved out of box-wood or yellow sandstone, so desiccated were they of mobility; his eyes were of cold, pale steel color, but his brows were black and arched like a grim old owl; a long, aquiline nose, a thin and compressed mouth, and a vast double chin, buried in a voluminous white neckcloth of more than one day's wear, completed the portrait. Nor did the expression of his countenance undergo any perceptible change as he rose, and knocked the door open, and a young man of singularly interesting appearance entered.

The new comer was well dressed, though his clothes were none of the newest, and the air of a man accustomed to society, whose poverty had not already caused to forget him. He felt that the thing was impossible. There was not one he could think of who would have even dreamed of entering into such a compact. He turned desperately to the money-lender, and said, "I have no friend, if I had I should not be here. Are there no terms, however high, on which you can lend me even the most trifling sum, for which I myself alone need be responsible?"

"None," replied the usurer, already commencing his letter. "I will give 30 per cent."

"Impossible!"

"Fifty?"

"The usurer shook his head impatiently. "A hundred—cent per cent?"

"No!"

The strange seeker of loans at length rose to depart. He reached the door. Suddenly he turned back, his eyes blazing with the sombre radiance of despair. He strode to the usurer, and said, "I am an old man. I never gave away a cent in my life. Repay me if you will when and how it pleases you. I have no security; I ask no acknowledgment; I want none; it is gone!"

And the usurer pronounced the last word with an effort which was heroic from the evident self-denial and generosity of his noble and generous soul can alone inspire. "I accept your assistance."

The face of Bernard brightened up as if by an electric agent. But how were the two children of sorrow comforted by the discovery that they were no longer alone in their misery? The conversation had been overheard by an utter stranger, who, leaning on a chair at the other end of the room near the door, appeared to survey them with an utter indifference to the propriety of such behavior!

He was a man of about forty and fifty years; a great beard and moustache concealed the lower part of a swarthy but handsome countenance of rare dignity and severity of expression. His dress was utterly un-English. A vast mantle with a golden hood nearly to the ground, and he wore huge counter-boots, which were still splashed, as if from a long journey. His great dark eyes rested with an expression of royal benevolence upon the two young people, toward whom he had advanced with a courteous inclination that, as if magnetically, drew toward Bernard's first indignant impulse.

"I am the heir-at-law," he said, in a mild voice, as if he had been announcing a most agreeable piece of intelligence.

"Then, sir," said Bernard, "I trust—"

"Trust; absolutely!" interrupted quickly the foreign-looking man. "My children, do you know who I am? No? I will tell you. I am a monster who in his youth preferred beauty to ambition and glory to gold. For ten years after attaining manhood I struggled on, an outcast from my family, in poverty and humiliation, without friends and without bread. At the end of five more years I was a great man, and those who had neglected and scorned and starved me bowed to me for a king, and to work a few fancies from his brain, to trace a few elphers with this hand, and they become gold at my command. Yet, mark my words, my children! One look of love is, in my esteem, worth more than all the applause of an age or all the wealth of an empire!" The dark stranger passed for an instant, as if in meditation, and then abruptly went on: "I take your inheritance, fair child—I rob the orphan!" and the smile of diabolical pride which followed these words said more than whole piles of parchment as to his intention. Involuntarily the orphan and Bernard seized each a lamp of the mysterious man before them, who, silently uniting the two hands, gently said: "Love each other as you will, my young friends, yet spare at times a thought for the old wandering poet. Not another word! I understand enough of your nature to govern yourselves. It is as easy to tell a fortune as to give one."

And was the prophecy realized? asks a curious reader. But no answer is needed, for if the prophecy were false, why record it? And, pray, who the stranger, after all? To a curious reader, it is one thing to tell stories, and another thing to commit breaches of confidence.

**Horror of Plevna.**

The London correspondent of the New York Herald telegraphs the following under the date of Dec. 26:—

Mr. McGahan, the correspondent of the London Daily News at Plevna, sends a terrible story of the state of things prevailing in and around the captured town. Before the recent great storm Plevna was simply a charnel house. Modern warfare has no parallel for it, and its horrors can only be compared to those which followed in the wake of Genghis Khan or Timur, as their savage Tartar hordes swept over and desolated Asia.

**DOGS DEVOUR THE DEAD AND WOUNDED.**

The famished dogs of which there are always large numbers in every Turkish town, were seen feeding on the corpses of the dead and on the bodies of the still living wounded. The savage howls of the greedy brutes as they tore the putrid flesh from the dead or sunched the bones between their teeth, the cries and groans of the wounded as they vainly struggled with the dogs might be heard for miles around and made the soul sick.

**HORROR UPON HORROR.**

Birds were pecking at the skulls, hopping from body to body with beaks and plumage besmeared with human blood and screaming with fiendish delight. Dogs fought among themselves, and bird struggled with bird for the possession of a morsel of human flesh and the most indescribable horror prevailed.

**A HIDEOUS SPECTACLE.**

In one house alone thirty-seven dead and fifty-three wounded Turks were found, some of the former in a half decomposed and putrid state, and the wounded in a condition that can be more easily imagined than described. Some of the wounded were able to crawl about and clutched at old morsels of food that were found in the hands of the dead, devouring it with feverish avidity; but thousands of them were utterly helpless and awaited death or succor with a listless fatalism.

**DEAD AND WOUNDED PILED LIKE WOOD.**

Eighteen hundred prisoners were huddled together on the bank of the Vistula and the horrors of their position equalled those of the great plague which ravaged Europe in the fourteenth century. Living and dead were piled together promiscuously in heaps like wood, and carted away to be found in the provinces available for this work, and the confusion was indescribable.

**A STAIN ON OSMAN'S BRAVERY.**

Osman's bravery is stained and blackened by his treatment of the Russian wounded that fell into his hands. His gallant defence of Plevna for a moment blinded the victors and Europe to the fact that all prisoners were treated as if they were the property of the Russian wounded, whose corpses lie unburied on the hills around Plevna.

**A LUNG TESTER.**—We don't want a Moore township girl for a lung tester. At a singing school up there the other night a young man was bragging about the strength of his lungs and invited a girl in the company to hit him in the breast. She said she was left-handed; had been washing that day and was tired, and didn't feel very active, but, at his urgent request she let go at him. When his friends went to pick him up he said he thought he would die easier living down. He had lost all recollection of having any lungs, but the young woman consoled him by admitting that she didn't hit him as hard as she might have done, because she rather liked him. —Detroit Free Press.

**COOKING BY MEANS OF SOLAR RAYS** has been tried successfully at Bombay, and an apparatus has been contrived to cook chops and steaks in the open air, as well as expeditiously as over an ordinary fire. The apparatus consists of a copper vessel, tinned inside and painted black outside, with a glass cover enveloping the vessel with an inch of hot air, and fixed to the bottom of a conical reflector lined with common silver glass. If properly covered over it will retain the heat for three hours and a half.

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D. HANINGTON. W. W. WELLS.

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Barristers and Attorneys-at-Law,  
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Formerly Surgeon to Toronto Eye Hospital and Ear Infirmary.  
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Office: — 32 GERMAIN STREET, corner North Market Street,  
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Hours: — 10 to 12, and 2 to 5. (Apr 19)

**STIMPSON, WALLAGE & CO.,**  
MANUFACTURERS OF THE  
Improved New Dominion  
**ORGANS.**  
ST. JOHN, — — — — N. B.  
This is the most popular Organ manufactured in Canada.  
Sales have doubled in six months.  
Manufacture six per week.  
Send for Circular and Price List.

**DRESS-MAKING**  
AND  
**MILLINERY!**

THE SUBSCRIBER wishes to intimate to the ladies of Sackville and vicinity, that he has added to his business of DRESS-MAKING and MILLINERY DEPARTMENT, each branch of which is under the supervision of a competent person, having had experience in first-class establishments in St. John. A good stock of DRESS GOODS and MILLINERY will be kept, which will be made up in Fashionable Styles and at reasonable prices.  
Patronage respectfully solicited.  
July 26 J. F. ALLISON.

**MARBLE AND FREESTONE WORKS.**

**H. J. McGRATH,**  
Dorchester, N. B.

HAVING purchased the entire Stock in Trade of Mr. Peter Logan, and retained in his previous large Stock of ITALIAN, SOUTHERN FALLS, and RUTLAND MARBLES, the Subscriber has now one of the largest and best selected stock of Monumental Marbles to be found in the Province. All Stock is guaranteed.  
Prices twenty per cent. lower than any other Establishment in the Province.

**Andres' Marble Works,**  
Amherst and Wallace, N. S.

THE Subscriber having a large amount of superior ITALIAN and AMERICAN MARBLE on hand, is prepared to sell at greatly reduced prices. He has also a large amount of MARBLE and first quality FREESTONE at extremely low prices. Also Italian Marble Table and Counter Tops.  
Persons are cautioned against buying Southern Falls American Marble for the Italian, as on account of their resemblance, it is frequently sold for the latter.  
Persons wishing to purchase will find it desirable to their advantage to call and examine for themselves before buying elsewhere.  
All orders promptly attended to, and finished in a workmanlike manner. Designs sent free when required.  
S. B. ANDRES.  
Amherst, N. S., Dec. 12, 1876.

**D. LUND, Agent for taking orders in Sackville and vicinity.**

**AMHERST FOUNDRY**  
—AND—  
**MACHINE SHOP,**  
MANUFACTORY OF  
**Mill & other Machinery,**  
Ship's Castings, Stores,  
HOLLOW WARE, TIN WARE,  
**PLOUCHS, & C.**  
AMHERST, — — — — NOVA SCOTIA.  
Jan 24 1877

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**T. S. SIMMS & CO.,**  
Manufacturers of all kinds of Brushes and Corn Brooms,  
No. 203 UNION STREET,  
June 14 ST. JOHN, N. B.

**L. WESTERGAARD & CO.,**  
Ship Agents & Ship Brokers,  
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(Consulate of Austria and Hungary),  
No. 127 WALNUT STREET,  
L. WESTERGAARD, Philadelphia, July 24  
GEO. S. TOWNSEND, Sackville, N. B.

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DEALER IN  
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Brushes and Window Glass,  
King St. — — — — ST. JOHN, N. B.

**New Harness Shop.**

THE Subscriber has opened a Harness Shop opposite the Lawrence House, where he intends to  
Manufacture Harnesses  
and do general repairing, at moderate rates.  
NATHAN G. BULMER.  
Sackville, Sept. 9th, 1877.

**NEW BRUNSWICK PARLOR & VESTRY Organ Manufactory.**

**PETITCODIAC, — — — N. B.**

**CABINETS & ORGANS** of all descriptions on hand, and manufactured to order. Piano Stools, Covers, &c., always on hand. All instruments of our manufacture warranted to give satisfaction. A liberal discount made to churches.  
Wm. MURPHY, Proprietor.  
May 15

**VICTORIA STEAM CONFECTIONERY WORKS.**  
Waterloo St., St. John, N. B.

Call the attention of Wholesale Dealers and others to our Stock of Fine Confections. Wholesale only.

**J. R. WOODBURN & Co.,**  
Victoria Steam Confectionery Works.  
J. R. WOODBURN. H. P. KEAR.

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Estimates made of Buildings  
Doors, Sashes, and Coffins Furnished.

All kinds of planing and sawing executed at the shortest notice.  
The facilities for filling orders cheaply and promptly are unsurpassed. oct 20

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STEPHEN AYER.

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