"THE FAVORITE"

TERMS: INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

Single subscription, one year \$ 2.00 Olub of seven, 10.00

Those desirous of forming larger clubs or otherwise to obtain subscribers for THE FAVORITE, will be furnished with special terms on application.

Parties sending remittances should do so by Post Office order, or registered letter.

Address, GEORGE E. DESBARATS,

Publisher Montreal P. Q

THE FAVORITE

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, DEC. 20, 1873.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

We request intending contributors to take notice that in future Rejected Contributions will not be returned

Letters requiring a private answer should always contain a stamp for return postage.

No notice will be taken of contributions unaccompanied by the name and address of the writer (not necessarily for publication.) and the Editor will not be responsible for their safe keeping.

CONTRIBUTIONS DECLINED.

Queer Day's Fishing; A Wayward Woman; Christmas Eve on the Snow; Miss March's Christmas Eve; Love in Poetry; Delays are Dangerous: The Wrong Boat; Three Lovers; Poetical Temperance Tale; George Leitrim; The Mysterious Letter; Trial and Triumphs of Elizabeth Ray, School Teacher; Little Mrs. Rivington; Sentenced to Death; The New Teacher; Harris Lockwood; The Backwoods Schoolmaster; Mrs. Power's Lucky Day; Nick Plowshare's Fairy Story; That Emigrant Girl; The Phantom Trapper; A Romance of Poutsville; My Cousin Coralie; The Dying Year's Lament; Dawn; Improvisation; Skeletons; He Will Return; Susie; The Merchant's Reward; A Night at St. Aubé's; And Then; Blossom and Blight! Esther's Lovers; The Mystery of Boutwell Hall; Mount Royal Cemetery; Blighted Hopes; Minnie Lee's Valentines; Eva Hilltone's Valentine; A Tom Catin the Breach; The Fatal Stroke; Only a Farmer; Meta's Broken Faith; How We Spend a Holiday in Newfoundland; Twice Wedded; John Jones and His Bargsin; The Clouded Life; My Own Canadian Home; The Lost Atlantic; Gay and Grave Gossip; Lovely Spring; From India to Canada; Resurgam; A Railway Nap and its Consequences; Love or Money; For His Sake; Showed In; The False Heart and the True; Leave Me; Is There Another Shore; Weep Not For Me; Those Old Grey Walls; The Stepmother; Tom Arnold's Charge; Worth, Not Wealth; Miriam's Love; Modern Conveniences; Little Clare; Mirabile Dictu; Up the Saguenay; Ella Loring; Charles Foot; The Heroine of Mount Royal; The Rose of Fernhurst; Photographing Our First-born; Neskeonough Lake; A Midnight Adventure; Jean Douglas; The Restored Lover; Woman's Coursge; A Story in a Story; Tried and True; Dr. Solon Sweetbottle; Second Sight; Eclipses; Geneylève Duclos; Our A Midnight Adventure; Jean Douglas; The Restored Lover; Woman's Courage; A Story in a Story; Tried and True; Dr. Solon Sweetbottle; Second Sight; Eclipses; Geneviève Duclos; Our Destiny; Port Royal; Night Thoughts; Mr. Bouncer's Travels; Watching the Dead; Delusions; To Shakespeare; An Adventuress; The Wandering Minstrel; Spring; The White Man's Revenue: The Lilege: A Trip Argund the State Wandering Minstrel; Spring; The White Man's Revenge; The Lilacs; A Trip Around the Stove; My First Situation; An Unfortunate Resurrection; Our John; Kitty Merle; History of William Wood; Willersleigh Hall; A Night at Mrs. Manning's; Won and Lost; The Lady of the Falls; Chronicles of Willoughby Centre; Why Did She Doubt Him; Jack Miller the Drover; Ellen Mayford: Recompansed. ford: Recompensed.

These MSS, will be preserved until the Fourth of January next, and if not applied for by that time will be destroyed. Stamps should be sens for return postage.

The Age of Vulgar Glitter; Mrs. Seymore's Curls; To the Absent; By the Waters; Almc 11e; To a Lover; A Fragment from the Scenes of Life; The Axle of the Heavens; The Correct View; Apostrophe to a Tear; June; A Debtor's Dilemmas; Proved; Wanted Some Beaux; Canadian Rain Storm After Long Drought; The Murderer's Mistake; Yesterday; Carrie's Hat and What Came of It; Leonie Collyer's Error; A Memory Autumn. A Memory Autumn.

These MSS, will be preserved until the Twentieth of December next.

THE ART OF TALKING.

Conversation, as an art, has been made less the subject of study than might have been expected; and professors of that art have, as one cannot but think, shown some degree of selfishness in keeping their discoveries in connection with it to themselves. We are thrown then, upon our own resources. Let us see if we cannot grope our way to some few truths concerning it. Among these, one of the first which asserts itself strongly is the conviction that we must avoid, by all means and at any expense, the practice of dragging in the topic on which we wish to talk, by main force. If our talk is to prosper, the subject of it must be led up to gradually; and what is more, naturally; the conversation reaching it by easy stages, and, as one may say, in the course of nature. And this leading up must, you are entreated to remember, be the work of destiny, and by no means brought about by you who desire to profit by it.

Next in magnitude to the fault of dragging in your subject neck and heels, is the error of leading up to it yourself in a forced and unnatural manner. You must wait for your opportunity. Self-control and patience are as necessary to the attainment of conversation as of other distinction. You must be patient, but you must also be vigilant; a combiany other distinction nation of qualities rare, but indispensable to those who would be great in anything. You must be ready when that opportunity which has been enables of data come to gain it and has been spoken of does com to seize it and hold it fast. You must hold your remark, your description, your story, or whatever it is, in check, as a skilful gillie does a deerhound; but you must be ready to let it slip when the right moment comes. If that moment is missed your chance is gone. You cannot revive the subject: to assert that such resuscitation is possible, would be to mislead many unoffending

sible, would be to mislea! many unoffending and perhaps deserving persons.

We have all of us seen resuscitation attempted. "You were talking just now of dromedaries; it reminds me of a clever thing said by Professor Humps." We have all heard something of this sort in our time; but have we ever known the anecdote thus introduced to succeed? The fact is, that there are some people, the peculiar pattern of whose periods. people, the peculiar nature of whose genius it is to suggest to them the most brilliant retorts is to suggest to them the most prilibrat retorus and the most apposite remarks, some considerable time after the occasion when they would have been useful and appropriate has passed away. We should be sorry to disparage the intellectual gifts of such persons, but we are compelled to say that we can give them no comfect. Above all we cannot encourage any comfort. Above all, we cannot encourage any comfort. Above all, we cannot encourage any attempt to make use of these same laggard ideas. If a good thing comes into your head after the opportunity of letting it loose upon society has gone by, the less thing you can do, therefore, is to gulp it down altogether, or keep it by you, in case a use for it should come in the course of time.

In addition to this readiness the importance

In addition to this readiness, the importance of which has been so stro agly insisted on, it is necessary that any individual who ho; es to get on as a talker, should be, to some extent, morally thick-skined and tough, as he will have in the pursuit of the object which he has set before him, to encounter many things which, to persons of a sensitive nature, are extremely distressing. It is, for instance—and still keeping to the question of fortunate and unfortunate times for starting a subject—by no means an uncommon thing with an habitual talker to make a false start, and to find himself baulked just at the moment when he is beginning to hold forth. The best talkers are liable to be thus interrupted. Therefore, if, when you begin, "I was travelling last summer in the Pyrenees," you should happen to find that so body else, with greater power of voice, or better social standing, or both, has just started something else, or that some other tiresome person, whose conversational innings you thought was over, is still, metaphorically, upon his legs, you must not mind, but must try again at the next opportunity, or at the next after that; for Destiny, when she has once begun to baulk a man, has a way of going One thing you must not do: you on doing so. One thing you must not do: you must not let the matter drop. You must travel over those Pyrenees, even if you are hindered in starting on the journey, as will occasionally happen, half a dozen times. You will get to have a very cordial detestation of the opening words of your own story, at whom the things. words of your own story at about the third re petition of them, and you will, moreover, find that any old established talkers who may be present will wear a surprised look as you go on; but you must bear these things as well as you can. There are difficulties connected with the pursuit of all the arts, and the art of talking is no exception to the rest.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

All communications intended for this department should be addressed to the Editor FAVORITE and marked "Correspondence."

Julia.—There is no regrowth of the eyebrows. There is no receipt for thickening the

A SHIELD.—The name George is derived from the Greek, and means, "husbandman."

W. W.—A proper "four weeks' notice" is n from date to date, but for twenty-eight days. Honesty.—You have acted quite correctly, and in a manner that reflects credit upon you.

DAISY.—Superfluous hair, though removed by epilatory or tweezers, will always grow again.

Moss-Rose.—The engagement ring is worn, in this country, on the fourth finger of the left

E. B.—When an engagement is broken off, ne letters and presents should be returned on both sides.

MAY.—The gentlemen usually provides the home and furniture, and the lady the linen on

-Green tea is usually held to pro-SOUCHONG. At all times it should be drunk sparingly.

BETA.—We believe there is a school of art for ladies in Munich; but we are not quite sure. There are plenty in Paris.

ALFRED S. W .- Most certainly the master can punish his run-away apprentice, even though the latter has since attained his majority.

WINIFRED .-- An engagement ring is the one given to a young lady by her "intended." on the when he obtained her assent to his suit.

EXCELSIOR.—Archimedes was a celebrated ancient geometrician, born at Syracuse, about two hundred years before the Christian era.

FAIRPLAY.—It would be very improper and indecorous for a young lady to wave her hand-kerchief at all to a gentleman on the opposite

POLLY.—We can give you no better advice that that already given. Some people are constitutionally inclined to be stout, and cannot possibly get thin. Drinking vinegar is not to be thought of.

X, Y, N.—Under the circumstances you mention, you cannot do better than you seem to be doing, — namely, remaining faithful to each other until you are both of age, when you can act for yourselves.

JOHN .- A young lady has no business to be walking at all with a young gentleman who is engaged to another young lady. A gentleman need not take off his glove to shake hands with a lady when she has got her own gloves on.

NELLIE.—When a lady, at a ball, does not wish to dance, she must say so to those gentlemen who invite her; but having refused one for that reason, she must not accept the offer of any other. If your former letter remained unanered, it must have miscarried.

B. T.—1. To keep a good complexion wash your face in rain water and live moderately. Rise early and do not keep late hours. 2. A person by will can appoint trustees to pay the interest of a certain sum to any one while a minor, and when of age the principal may be paid over.

An ordinary clerk in an insurance office must write a good hand, be apt at figures, and possess, in fine, a good commercial education. There is no such thing as an "apprenticeship" in such an office. Salaries vary very much. As a matter of course, it requires interest with some director or manager to obtain a clerk-

T. C.—Glycerine comes from the Greek, and means sweet. It is obtained by saponifying olive oil with oxide of lead mixed with a little water. It is then purified from the oxide of lead by means of hydrosulphuric acid. It is transand devoid of smell, and is parent, colorless really no more than carbon, hydrogen, and ox-

FRANK.-Marshal MacMahon, marshal and senator, was born at Sully in July, 1808. He derives his descent from an Irish family who risked and lost all for the last of the Stuart kind ed and lost all for the last of the Stuart kings. The MacMahons carrying their national traditions, ancestral pride, and historic name to France, mingled their blood by marriage with the old noblity of their adopted country. This member of the family entered the military service of France in 1825, at the school of St. Cyr: vice of France in 1825, at the school of SL Cyr; was sent to the Algerian wars in 1830, while acting as aide-de-camp to General Achard, took part in the expedition to Antwerp in 1882; attained to the rank of Captain in 1833; and, after holding the post of aide-de-camp to several African generals, and taking part in the assault of Constantine, was nominated Major of Foot Chasseurs in 1840, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Foreign Legion in 1842, Colonel of the 41st of the Line in 1845, and General of Brigade in 1848. When, in 1855, General Canrobert left the Crimea, General MacMahon, then in France, was selected by Louis Napoleon to succeed him in the command of a division; and when the was selected by Louis Papoleon to succeed him in the command of a division; and when the chiefs of the allied armies resolved on assaulting Sebastopol, Sept. 8, they assigned to General MacMahon the perilous post of carrying the works of the Malakoff. For his brilliant success on this occasion he was made Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor; and in 1856 was nominat-

ed a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath. General ed a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath. General MacMahon, who took a consplcuous part in the Italian campaign of 1859, received the baton of a Marshal, and was created Duke of Magenta, in commemoration of that victory. He represented France at the coronation of William III. of Prussia (now the Emperor of the German people) in November, 1861; was nominated to the command of the third corps d'armée Oct. 14, 1862, and was nominated Governor-General of Algeria by decree Sept. 1, 1864. As Commander in Chief the destinies of France now lie. humanly speaking, within his hands. ly speaking, within his hands.

NEWS NOTES.

THE death is announced of Bishop Armitage of Milwaukee.

A DESPATCH from Cartagena says the block ading squadron, except the "Saragossa," returned to off the harbor.

An attempt has been made to burn the "Virginius," and thus prevent her delivery to the United States Government.

It is now said that the marriage of the Duke of Edinburgh with the daughter of the Czar has been postponed until February.

BESIDES the great consistory to be held at Rome on the 22nd instant, another important consistory will be held about Easter.

PRESIDENT MacMahon and his wife have contributed 5,000 francs to the fund for the survivors of the "Ville du Havre" disaster.

THE crew of the "Loch Earn," which sank the "Ville du Havre," have been landed at Plymouth by another vessel, having abandoned their own in a sinking condition.

An imperial ukase has been issued requiring that six men out of every 1,000 inhabitants of Russia, including the Polish provinces, shall be drafted into the army.

King Victor Emmanuel and the Chavallet ca, late Italian ambassador at Paris, had a conference last week. It is understood Chevalier Nigra will return to Paris.

THE Reichstag has rejected, by 193 of majority, a motion censuring the Legislature, introduced by the Government and directed against the Ultramontane Catholics.

MR. CHARLES REED, M. P., addressing his constituents at Hackney lately testified to excellent effect of American temperance lation, and urged its imitation in England. A SPECIAL from Madrid says: A Cabinet

crisis is imminent; great indignation is manifested at President Grant's me lar's alleged pandering to the United States. A SPECIAL to the Pall Mall Gazette says, 25 Baron Reuter did not begin the works of inter-nal improvement in Persia within the time

fixed upon, the Shah declared the convention THE Bazaine trial has been concluded. ccused has been sentenced to be degraded from his rank and then executed. All the members of the Court afterwards signed an appeal for mercy. It is not likely the sentence will be

THE House Committee on appropriations has agreed to recommend that four millions be agreed to recommend that four millions be appropriated for the immediate requirements of the navy, complying with the request of Secretary Robeson, except as to the amount asked for, which they cut down from five to four.

It is said, at the time of writing, the demand of the United States set forth in the protocol has been agreed to, and the agreement has received official signatures. This agreement does not differ in terms in any essential particular from the protocol already printed, except that the time, place and manner of delivering the "Virginius" and prisoners to the United States and the salute to the flag, which had not been cettled it salute to the flag, which had not been settled at the time the protocol was signed, have now been fixed. The "Virginius" is to be delivered to our navy on Christmas Day.

In Congress last week Mr. Philips, of Kansas, In Congress last week Mr. Philips, of Kansa-asked leave to offer a resolution, reciting the fact "that a state of war has existed for some years in the island of Cuba, and that under its excitement the steamer "Virginius" has been seized, the American flag hauled down, and a large number of those on board cruelly massacred; and declaring that in that massacre cred; and declaring that in that massacre Congress recognized this act of barbarism unworthy of civilization; that the United States should use means to repress and check such cruel acts; that Congress reaffirms the doctrine cruel acts; that Congress reaffirms the doctrine that the occupants of any portion of the American continent and the island thereof are the proper rulers of the country they occupy; that it is the duty of the United States whenever the people of Cuba or any other part of America indicate their desire to throw off the yoke promptly to recognize and sympathize with them; that in view of recent events humanity dictates the early recognition of Cuban independence; that the continuance of slavery in Cuba is inconsistent with, and injurious to, the civilization of the continent, and it is the duty of the United States to exert all means for its speedy overthrow; that our maritime rights are disoverthrow; that our maritime rights are dis-respected; insult to the American flag should be promptly met." It was referred to the Com-mittee on Foreign Affairs.