

The Hearthstone.

GEORGE E. DESBARATS,
Publisher and Proprietor.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1872.

Club Terms: PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

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No. 29.
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WANTED!!

\$1,275 REWARD.

TO THE LITERARY MEN AND WOMEN
OF
CANADA.

We want to become acquainted with you!
We want to unearth the hidden talent, now buried in our cities and hamlets, inland farms and seaside dwellings, primeval forests and storm-tossed barks.

We crave narratives, novels, sketches penned by vigorous Canadian hands, welling out from fresh and fertile Canadian brains, thrilling with the adventures by sea and land, of Canadian heroes; redolent with the perfume of Canadian fields and forests, soft as our sunshine, noble as our landscapes, grand as our inland seas and foam-girt shores.

What inexhaustible fields in the realms of fact and fancy lie open to your industry and genius, women and men of Canada! What oceans of romance! What worlds of poetry! Why then do we see so little worthy of note brought forth in literature by our countrymen and countrywomen? Merely for want of material support and encouragement! That is all.

Now we open a tournament to native talent, and invite all to enter the lists. We ask for novels and stories founded on Canadian history, experience and incident—illustrative of back wood life, fishing, lumbering, farming; taking the reader through our industrious cities, floating palaces, steam-driven factories, ship-building yards, lumbering shanties, fishing smacks, &c., and we offer the following prizes for the best Canadian stories:

	1st prize.	2nd prize.
For a story of 100 cols.	\$500	\$300
" " 50 " "	250	150

For the two best short stories, complete in one number, \$50 for the best, \$25 for the next best.

We want to have an essentially Canadian paper, and gradually to dispense with selections and foreign contributions, &c.

Stories will be received until the first of October.

tober, when the selections will be made and the prizes forwarded at once. Rejected stories will be preserved for three months, and the authors may have them returned on forwarding stamps.

Send along your manuscript now as soon as you please.

OUR PRIZE STORIES.

We have received several letters with reference to the prizes offered by us for original stories, asking various questions which we will endeavour to generalize, and answer as follows:

1st. A story will do with the scenes laid partly in Canada and partly in another country; but the choice will be given to a purely Canadian story; the more Canadian it is in plot, incident and feeling, the more likely it is to be accepted.

2nd. By "native talent" we do not mean to exclude all but born Canadians; any resident of Canada is eligible to compete, and the subject of birth or nationality will not be taken into consideration at all as long as the writer is resident of Canada.

3rd. We do not consider the time at all too short; three months is ample time in which to write stories of the lengths we require.

4th. Stories not gaining prizes, but which are still interesting and worthy of publication, may possibly be desired by us for future use; in such cases we will communicate with the author.

5th. Some of our correspondents seem to have forgotten the rule "write only on one side of your paper," please observe it in sending us stories.

OUR NEXT NEW STORY.

In our number for 3rd August will be commenced a new and interesting story, entitled,

THE DEAD WITNESS;

OR,

LILLIAN'S PERIL.

By the well-known Canadian authoress, Mrs. Leprohon. The story is highly interesting, and written in a pleasing style calculated to absorb the attention of the reader. It will be appropriately illustrated by our well-known artist, Mr. E. Jump.

THE TWO G'S.

The action of the Democratic Convention at Baltimore on the 10th inst. in endorsing both the platform, and the candidates for President and Vice-President, of the Cincinnati Convention, has narrowed the coming Presidential election in the United States into two channels. The "soreheads" of the Democratic party threaten to hold a convention at Louisville and nominate a third candidate, but their action will be perfectly futile, and can have no effect on the result of the contest. The question simply resolves itself into this proposition: Will the Democrats and Liberal Republicans vote solidly together and elect Greeley, or will Grant's office-holding clique prove too strong for the hero of the white coat and keep him in dignified retirement, so that he may devote his time to cultivating strawberries and editing the *Tribune*? The question is a very open one, and the chances are so nearly balanced that it is almost impossible to say, at present, who is most likely to win. Grant, undoubtedly, has still a great hold on the people for his fancied services during the war—much more imaginary than real—but the Democrats have a hard-headed way of voting the "straight ticket" which will land Greeley in the Presidential chair if the Liberal Republicans will stick to him as closely as the "great unwashed" will after the endorsement he has received from the Baltimore Convention. It seems very much like choosing between two evils to select one of two such men as Grant or Greeley. As for Grant we have little to say; he is, probably, the most successful fraud alive to-day, but, also, the most lucky man; he has fallen into circumstances which have made him appear a great man, while he has really been a very little one. He has got the credit of finishing the war, while he really lost more men, expended more treasure, and occupied a longer time in finishing the work which other men had begun than any other acknowledged great general ever did; and even then he did not win until the South was so thoroughly exhausted and borne down by superior numbers that they could not find another boy or man to put in the ranks, or a crust of bread to feed on. Grant was elected President on his military reputation, but he has failed to satisfy the great mass of the people; noticeably he has lost "caste" by the shamless way in which he has allowed himself to be bribed by presents of every conceivable thing, from a house and lot to a bull-pup; and by the free and easy style in which he has dispensed offices amongst his relations and personal friends, without any respect to their ability to fill the offices to which they were appointed. His foreign policy has been a failure throughout; and although his partisans will doubtless try to make capital out of his action with reference to the Alabama claims, the thinking men of

America will deeply deplore the position in which their government was placed by the introduction of the "indirect damages," which looks very little different from an attempt to obtain money under false pretences. Still, Grant, having command of the thirty or forty thousand office-holders—nearly all politicians and able to control other votes—has an immense power, which it will be difficult to overcome.

Greeley is not a desirable candidate for the Presidential chair; his election would be tantamount to the appointment of John Dougall as Governor-General of Canada; although a very excellent man in his way, we do not think Mr. Dougall would make a good Governor-General; and so, although we should like, for the honor and credit of the press, to see a man who by his own unaided ability has worked up from a "devil" to the editorial chair of one of the most successful and influential papers in the United States, yet we do not think Mr. Greeley would make a good President. Honest in his convictions, no reasonable man doubts he is; pure and simple as a child in many things, all who know him are sure he is; but bigotted, prejudiced, narrow-minded, and bitter in many things it is well known he also is. A life-long politician, he can scarcely be expected at the eleventh hour to develop into a statesman; after being for nearly half a century a strict and severe partisan, it is scarcely reasonable to believe that he will now entirely cast aside party ties and work for the general good of the whole nation, by a fusion of party feelings. If Greeley should be elected, there would be very little real stability in his government, as it would be composed of too many incongruous elements; his bitter antipathy to England, and his violent denunciations of the ratification of the Washington treaty, give us little hope that his government would be likely to increase and strengthen the bonds of good feeling which it is so desirable to perpetuate between England and America. It appears to us that the nominations of the conventions are both bad; and of two evils it is always best to choose the least; but which is the least? Is it big G or little g; and which is big G, and which little g? Of course, the man who is elected will be big G and the other will be little g; but it is very hard to tell which will be which just at present. We cannot heartily endorse either candidate, and can only regret that the nominations of the conventions have left so little to choose from that many will undoubtedly refrain from voting, and we expect in consequence that by we means a full expression of the feeling of the United States will be obtained this fall.

HOW IT IS ENDING.

For the past few months we have heard nothing amongst the manufacturing classes but strikes, and rumors of strikes; in England, in the States, in Canada the so-called "workmen" have made combinations against the employers and endeavored to enhance the value of their labor from ten to twenty per cent, at the expense of the general consuming community. Now it might be as well for us at once to distinguish between the "strikers" who arrogate to themselves the title of "workmen," and the class we call "general consumers." The strikers are simply the members of "trade unions," who belong to certain manufacturing interests; and their entire number in England, America and Canada does not exceed half a million of persons, all told—in fact we think we are far over the mark when we say half a million; yet this fractional part of the real and actual "workmen" in the English speaking portion of the population of this globe want, and have tried in their arrogance to increase, the cost of living to twenty millions and upwards of the men and women who do work for their living, and support their families, by from ten to twenty per cent. This violent effort to disrupt commerce and cripple the manufacturing industries of both England and America has been attempted principally in large cities, and in New York the most stubborn fight occurred. Over twenty thousand mechanics, artisans, and other members of different "Unions" have been "on strike" for over two months, and now the strike has culminated; the employers have combined against the employees; the employees have spent all their money in processions, mass meetings, bar-rooms &c., and in the end have to come back like whipped curs, with their tails between their legs, and beg to be allowed to work on their old terms. It is estimated by careful computation that the New York strikes have cost the strikers about one million and a half of dollars, which represents to a great extent their savings, and the accumulated mounds of the different "Unions," all of which are now in a more or less impecunious condition, owing to the heavy status for relief which have been made on them by their members for the past two or three months. The so-called workmen of New York find themselves in a far worse position at the end of their strike than they were at the beginning, impoverished in purse, their

savings spent, their spirit broken; they find that a few would-be demagogues amongst them have led them on to ruin; and, worse than their present condition seems their future, for their combined efforts to paralyze manufactures has ended in the manufacturers forming a combination, and, although they have been rather moderate so far, there is every reason to fear that the employers will take advantage of the exhausted condition of the employees and insist on a reduction of wages, while the employees are not in a position to combat the demand. It is not at all probable that this attempt will be made at present, with the long arrears of back work to be made up and a brisk summer trade on hand; but in the winter, when labor is plentiful and trade is dull, it is to be feared that the employees will find a combination of employers made against them by which their wages will be considerably reduced. Capital has never attacked labor before; of course, a man who has money and wants to get anything done is anxious to get it done for the lowest price; but good workmen have always been able to obtain better pay than bad workmen, and capital has never before combined against labor in the way which it now threatens to do; and instead of bad workmen being raised to the standard of good workmen—as the Unions have tried to accomplish—good workmen will be forced down to the level—or lower—of bad workmen, by the combined influence of the capital which employs labor. In a normal condition of affairs a good workman can always command better wages than an inferior hand; and employers, as a rule, have not been slow to discover the difference between a man who does his work well and thoroughly, and one who is careless, inefficient, suncy and incompetent; but when the good man is foolish enough to be led away by the inefficient man and strides for a general increase of wages, the employer naturally takes fright at the impending ruin threatening him and forms a combination with other employers against all classes of employees. As the eight hour movement in New York has terminated, so we fear the attempt at a nine hour movement in Montreal will terminate. Our climate is peculiarly well adapted for giving the employer a hold over the employee; it is only for a limited period of the year that manufacturers really need to be actively employed; but they usually try to keep going as nearly all the year round as possible, so as to keep their hands on; but if the hands attempt to control their employers during the busy season, it is almost certain that the employers will take advantage of the dull season to close their premises, and force their employees not only to work the old time—ten hours—but for less pay than they have been getting. This strike for shorter hours—which is virtually an increase of pay under another name—was ill-advised and untimely, and bids fair to meet with the defeat it deserves. The mass of the strikers were, however, we firmly believe, led on by a few demagogues who were too lazy to work at all, and who tried to make political capital out of those who were foolish enough to be led by them. We should like to see the ringleaders of these strikes punished; but we sincerely trust that the great mass of workmen who have been foolishly led away may not suffer any more than they have already suffered.

EPITOME OF LATEST NEWS.

CANADA.—The second inquest as to the cause of the late Shannonville disaster closed on 12th inst. following verdict being in: "After a severe and exhaustive inquiry, we agree that the said Joseph Berthiaume, a passenger on east No. 3, came to his death by falling on the morning of the 2nd of June, 1872, from the top of the rails about one thousand yards off Shannonville, said accident being occasioned by the fracture of the flange of the right wheel of the truck of the engine, and from the conflicting character of the evidence adduced, the jury cannot arrive at a definite conclusion as to the cause of the said fracture." The above verdict was signed by thirteen of eighteen of the jury.—The single rail road between Brown and Fenton at Digby, on 12th inst., was won by the former.—A sad case of burning to death occurred in Montreal, on the evening of 14th inst. It appears that a girl named Mary, 25 years of age, engaged as a servant by Dr. McCallum, 30 St. Antoine street, who was subject to epileptic fits, was in the back parlor where she appears to have been seized with one of these fits and in falling knocked over a lamp which set fire to the clothing on the room; there was no one in the house but Dr. McCallum's mother who is old and quite blind, and it was some time before the fire was discovered. When the young girl was found she was horribly burned, but still breathed, and existed in an unconscious state for three or four hours.—The Governor-General is not expected to take up his residence in Ottawa before September.—Aylmer was voted unanimously in favour of the Northern Colonization by-law.—The crops in P. E. Island, since the fine weather, have progressed wonderfully and are likely to be beyond the general average. On 12th inst., about 6 o'clock in the afternoon, as two young men named John Joseph Smith and William Edwards were walking through Victoria Square, Montreal, Smith, who wore an orange lily in his coat, was accosted by a man named Hugh Coghlan, who told him to throw away the flower. Smith refused, and the latter struck him, whereupon Smith drew a revolver and fired. The ball entered Coghlan's wrist, inflicting a severe wound. A crowd instantly gathered, and Smith was pretty roughly handled until he was taken charge of by the police. Edwards, his companion, was also chased by the crowd, and ran into a liveryman's goods store, where he was arrested. Coghlan, as soon as the excitement had subsided, went to Dr. Reddy's, where it was ascertained that the ball had entered the wrist, and passed up through the forearm and lodged in the fleshy part near the elbow.

STOKES for the murder of Jim Fisk, on 9th January last, is progressing slowly. The defence is trying to prove that Fisk drew a pistol, and that Stokes fired in self-defence, also that Stokes was insane at the time.—The Rev. S. J. Brown, a Methodist minister, 70 years of age, shot a boy named Schack, on 7th inst., at Cincinnati, killing him. It appears a ball was thrown into Schack's yard and Schack went to recover it, when the man shot him.—Browne was admitted to bail in \$50,000 by Judge Strauder; and the citizens assembled and threatened to lynch Browne, but were dispersed by the police. The Germans subsequently held an indignation meeting, and passed a resolution declaring that the Judge had insulted and violated the law of the land, and that he deserved severe censure.—Horace Greeley was unanimously endorsed by the Baltimore Convention on 10th inst. as the Democratic candidate for President.—A Madrid special says that Howard is true on an order from Madrid. He was offered his release as a set of pardon, to which Mr. Howard demurred, as his acceptance of it might appear an acknowledgment of guilt, and a waiver of his right to compensation. He was then turned or forced out.

FRANCE.—A report is in circulation that Victor Hugo, who has been persistent in his efforts to secure the commutation of sentence passed upon Henri Rochefort, has succeeded, and that Rochefort, instead of being transported to the penal colony of Caledonia, will be simply banished from France.—A Paris despatch states that England, Italy and Switzerland decline accepting the modifications proposed to the treaty of commerce with France. Two Communists named Bordin and Poulenc, who were tried and convicted by a court martial, were executed on 14th inst. at Satory.—The Minister of Finance has signed a convention with the officers of the Bank of France whereby the latter agree to loan the Government forty millions francs. In the Assembly, Mr. Toulard, Minister of Finance, has submitted a proposition to raise a loan of three milliards of francs at an interest of 5 per cent per annum; also giving the Government power to issue further loans if necessary.—The Assembly has rejected the amendment proposed by the opponents of a tax on raw materials, imposing a fine of one franc per thousand francs upon sales of traders and manufacturers. The amendment was lost by 40 of 310 yeas to 350 nays.

SPAIN.—The Republicans have reconsidered their determination to abstain from elections while monarchy exists in Spain and what they call the voting for members of the Cortes on August 23rd next. Cabrerilla, the insurgent leader, was wounded and taken prisoner while attempting to enter Renes. His troops were beaten and retreated to the mountains. The King will soon visit the northern provinces of the kingdom. He passed through those which have been most disturbed by the Carlists.—The Government has sent large reinforcements to the troops now in Catalonia, so as to be in readiness to act promptly should any demonstration be made. The *Epoca* newspaper of this city, in commenting upon an article recently published in the *London Times*, advising Spain to cede the island of Cuba to the United States, energetically scorns the idea of Spain parting with any of her colonial possessions.

MEXICO.—Kidnapping is carried on extensively. In one case a ransom of \$50,000 was demanded. The Ministry of Justice is still vacant. Bixen having refused to accept it.—Dizrova writes from Culiacan, June 25th, that Trevino did not attack Salsola in order to avoid collision with the army. The army has little ammunition, and having no hopes of a quick capitulation. The revolutionists are strong in the centre of the country. Diaz writes from near Jalisco that he is overruling the States with very strong forces. Marcano and Barra have 1,000 men between Monterey and Saltillo awaiting events. From Matanzas there is news of the defeat of 300 Ceballos cavalry by Martinez, with loss of 150 prisoners.

ENGLAND.—Letters from Geneva say that Don Carlos, the Spanish pretender, is expected in Switzerland next week.—A Berlin correspondent writes that the *Standard* urges that the increasing tide of emigration from Germany to America causes considerable uneasiness to the Imperial Government, and preventive measures are being taken.—The suit of O'Brien against the Marquis of Hartington, Chief Secretary for Ireland, for damages for injuries received by the attack of the police during the Phoenix Park riot in Dublin, which has been on trial in that city for some time, has resulted in favor of plaintiff, the jury awarding him £25.

HAYTI.—A Port au Prince letter states that two German men of war after threatening the town with bombardment and seizing two Haytian men of war, had sailed, finally left after the Haytian Commander was paid three thousand pounds ransom. A indemnity for damages to German citizens for outrages by Haytians. The Haytian Legislature have agreed to pay the American claims in twenty years, and the Americans are about petitioning their government to send naval vessels to follow the example of the Germans.

CUBA.—The resignation of Captain-General Valmaseda having been accepted, he has delivered up the command of the Island of Cuba and left for Spain on the 15th inst.

GERMANY.—The *Official Gazette* promulgates the law providing for the banishment of the Jesuits. All establishments now under their control must be completely broken up within six months.

LITERARY ITEMS.

LONDON SOCIETY for August will contain the opening chapters of Mr. Charles Randa's new novel.

CHURCH'S MUSICAL VISITOR, published by John Church & Co., Cincinnati, continues to be first class, and fills a long felt void in musical literature. The July number contains many excellent musical articles, and several very good instrumental and vocal pieces.

THE FARM AND FISHERMAN JOURNAL is the title of a very small and insignificant monthly just started in New York; which promises to be a most successful failure for subscribers and vendors; it threatens to begin with a circulation of a few copies, but we hope it won't, human nature could not stand it.

THE SCIENCE OF ILLUSTRATION.—We have received the initial number of a new monthly under this caption published by Samuel R. Wells, New York, which promises well. The July number treats, and treats well, and ably, on several important subjects connected with the science of our every day life, in its conducive, or otherwise, to our general good health; and consequently to our general happiness.

THE JULY, or Educational, or Commencement number of the *Old and New*, has a good deal of matter devoted to plans and to practical suggestions, and students and parents—who, we suppose, are the principal parties in interest. Thus, there is a directory to the faculties of one hundred and seventy-five of the best colleges; a very interesting and suggestive account of Round-Hill School, as managed by Messrs. Brewster and Cogswell, a paper as graphic and vital as if written by "Tom Hughes," an account of the way the French train female teachers; a summary of the American school system, prepared by the department at Washington for the use of the Japanese authorities; and an account of the present condition of things at Harvard and at Yale. There is a lively college story, besides; a curious poem "in limbo" Latin prose composition, and sung at the second Harvard College centennial in 1825; Messrs. MacDonald and Hale's serials; and other good articles.

SPENCER'S.—The West Point Military Academy and its surroundings are prettily and beautifully illustrated in Scribner's for July, the historical and descriptive text being supplied by Benson J. Lossing. This article appears just at the time that public attention is attracted to the Academy, and the illustration is a Detective, in which one of the most curious and suggestive branches of the Guntton House system is fully exposed. "Draxy Miller's Downy," a very strong piece of characterization, by the author of "The Saxe-Helm," is concluded in this number; and a generous installment is given of Mrs. Oliphant's "At the Gates." Mr. Wilkinson's scorching but courteous criticism of "Mr. Low's True" is concluded. Then we have a strong naturalistic story by James T. McKay, entitled "Harker and Blind," an interesting little illustrated article on spiders (Will you walk into my Parlor?), an illustrated paper, "As Others See Us," by Prof. Wilder, of "Cornell," a brief essay on "The Law of the Heart and the Law of the Street," by Mr. McKim, and poems by Mrs. Whitney and Miss Cogswell.

If you want your Panama and Straw hats properly cleaned and trimmed go to 691 Craig Street and have them done at once by G. E. Siegan successors to G. W. Ketchum. 2-25d.