

The Hearthstone. GEORGE E. DESBARATS, Publisher and Proprietor.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, DEC. 21, 1872.

Club Terms: PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

For \$2.00: The Hearthstone for 1872, and Presentation Plate. For \$3.00: The Hearthstone for 1871 and 1872, a copy of the Presentation Plate and a copy of Trumbull's Family Record.

Every body sending a club of 5 will also receive one copy of the Family Record.

THE ENGRAVING IS NOW READY FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION.

MAKE UP YOUR CLUBS. Address, GEORGE E. DESBARATS, Montreal.

MURDER IN THE UNITED STATES.

At the present time there are no less than twenty-three murderers awaiting trial in the Tombs prison, New York; if we take the whole United States we will find that hundreds—we had almost said thousands—of persons accused of murder are awaiting trial in the various prisons throughout the country.

A curious report about a celebrated murderess has lately reached us, which at first looked like a joke, but on consideration we are prepared to believe it, in fact we are prepared to believe almost anything with regard to murderers in the United States.

acquitted; and now she wants the State of California to pay the expenses of said acquittal. The State of California might reimburse Mrs. Fair, but if they do we shall certainly think that all the wise men have gone back to the East, and that none are left in the Legislature of the State of California.

MANSARD ROOFS.

Although mansard roofs are looked on as a modern invention, they are really about a century old, having first been used by Mansard, whose name they bear and who was superintendent of public buildings in the reign of Louis XIV.

A THOROUGHLY GOOD THING.

A THOROUGHLY GOOD THING.—One of the most complete and useful inventions which we have lately examined is Wilson's Adjustable Iron Chair, the Canadian Agents for which are Dr. N. A. Smith & Co., 241 St. James Street.

THE FIRE IN FULTON, N. Y.

(From the Fulton Patriot and Gazette, Nov. 20, 1872.)

Yesterday forenoon our village was startled by the cry of fire. (We haven't any alarm, and are obliged to depend upon human lungs for notice in such a case.) The scene of the excitement proved to be H. S. Condee & Son's Knitting Mill, at the east end of the lower dam.

LITERARY ITEMS.

THE DOLL WORLD SERIES. By Mrs. Robert O'Reilly. 3 vols in a neat little case. Boston: Roberts Bros. Montreal: Dawson Bros. Price \$3.

These three little volumes, DOLL WORLD, DOROTHY'S DRAWER, and DAISY'S COMPANION, are excellent stories for children and are particularly well adapted for a Christmas present as they are handsomely bound in cloth and embellished with six or eight engravings each.

KING ALFRED AND OTHERS, the discoverer of the North Cape.

THE MARQUESS OF CAHARRS, OF PESS IN BOOTS. These are two of Marcus Ward & Co's Illustrated Legends, published by W. P. Nimmo, Edinburgh. Montreal: Dawson Bros. Price 25 cents each.

A brace of capital Christmas books finely illuminated. The new version of Puss in Boots is well and pleasantly told, and the bright showy pictures are just the thing to delight the juvenile heart.

John E. Potter & Co., Philadelphia, have in press and will shortly publish POTTER'S COMPANION BIBLE ENCYCLOPEDIA; a Universal Dictionary of Biblical, Ecclesiastical and Historical Information, from the earliest times to the present day.

CASSELL'S MAGAZINE for December is as full of good things as usual. Mr. P. W. Robinson's serial "Little Kate Kirby" is continued, and is interesting as it progresses.

THE ALPINE.—This is without doubt the very best art magazine published in America, and very nearly resembles the Art Journal of London. It contains twenty-four pages and has about thirty-six illustrations, printed in the most perfect manner on tinted paper.

THE CANADIAN EVANGELIST is the title of a new religious paper published in German at Preston, Ont., and is designed to fill in the German literature of our country somewhat the same position that the Witness does in English.

TOR TAYLOR, the popular English dramatic author, has retired from his place in the Public Health Department of England on a pension.

WILKIE COLLINS will pay a visit to the United States early in January.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

A WOMAN'S VENGEANCE. A novel. By James Payal. New York: Harper & Brothers. Montreal: Dawson Bros. Paper, 50 cents.

FOR THE KING. By Charles Gibbon. New York: Harper & Brothers. Montreal: Dawson Bros. Paper, 50 cents.

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

A boy with microscopic eyes is the latest scientific wonder in England. He possesses the faculty of seeing minute objects magnified to a marvellous degree. His eyes were diseased when he was young, and he came near losing his sight, which, however, he gradually recovered.

toristic seems to consist in howling at stated times. Regular hours are fixed during the day for engaging in this devotion, and twice during the night the members are obliged to rise and howl. At their stated meetings, (which are held in the open air, doubtless because of their inability to pay for a room to howl in,) they meet and howl in concert.

The following are medical signs of dreams, as published in a medical work.—Lively dreams are, in general, a sign of nervous action. Soft dreams, a sign of slight irritation of the brain; often, in nervous fever, announcing the approach of a favourable crisis.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM.—It is generally supposed that the words and air of "God save the King" originated with Handel, in the time of George the First. It is also attributed to John Bull, musical professor, in Queen Elizabeth's time, who, it is said, composed it for a dinner given at the Merchant Tailors' Hall, in 1603.

THE latest novelty in suicides comes from Cleveland, Ohio, where an individual who had drawn a blank in a lottery, went to his death after the following unique and elaborate preparations: He first procured a loaded revolver and connected it with clock-work, so that it should be fired at a certain time.

A QUEER country is China; a country where roses which no fragrance and women no petticoats; where the laborer has no Sabbath and the magistrate no sense of honor; where the roads bear no vehicles and the ships no keel; where old men fly kites and the needle points to the South; where the place of honor is on the left hand and the seat of intellect in the stomach; where to take off your hat is an insolent gesture and to wear white garments is mourning; which has a literature without an alphabet and a language without a grammar.

THE remains of John Howard Payne, the author of "Home, Sweet Home," are to be brought from Tunis, where he died and was buried, and will be interred by the Faunt Club of Brooklyn, at his old home on Long Island. The Club proposes to erect a monument to his memory.

A SINGULAR COINCIDENCE.—There is a singular coincidence between the destruction of Chicago and Boston. The Boston fire occurred at the very same hour and on the same day of the week and month. The only difference is that one happened in October and the other in November.

A COMPLETE set of all the documents, opinions, arguments, and other papers connected with the Geneva arbitration has been received at the Congressional Library in Washington. They include even the leading articles of the European press and are splendidly bound.

A SUBSTITUTE FOR HORSE POWER WANTED.

One of the results of the prevalent horse epidemic will unquestionably be to give a great impetus to investigations and experiments having for their object the substitution of some perfectly safe and practical motive power for street cars and road vehicles in place of horse and mule power.

It is stated, indeed, that a New Orleans scientist has already solved the problem, so far as it relates to street railways. His engine, which has been thoroughly tested and pronounced to work most successfully, is said to effect a saving of thirty-three per cent of the cost of running cars by horse power. No fire is used. The driving engine is of ordinary character. It has a reservoir large enough to contain three hundred gallons of water with steam room above it.

ing as the power is expended; while so simple is its construction there is less skill required in handling this locomotive than a horse or mule. Some of the intelligent and ambitious mechanics and machinists of Pittsburgh might find their account in entering the same field of investigation and experiment.—American Manufacturer, Pittsburgh.

EPITOME OF LATEST NEWS.

UNITED STATES.—A fire occurred in the upper flats of the Fifth Avenue Hotel, corner of 23rd Street and Fifth Avenue, New York, on the night of 19th inst., seriously damaging the 23rd Street wing. The loss by fire and water is estimated at \$50,000, fully covered by insurance. The most melancholy feature of the fire was the burning to death of eleven servant girls of the hotel who were in what is called "the cockpit," the stairs leading to which caught fire and the unfortunate girls had no means of escape.

CANADA.—The Dominion Board of Trade will hold its annual meeting here under the Presidency of Col. McTavish, commencing on the 15th Jan. It is expected that the President and Secretary will probably be other members of the National Board of Trade of the U. S. The Free Press believes that the revised census returns will place the population of the four unincorporated Provinces at an amount of 1,000,000. Ontario, 1,000,000; Quebec, 553,000; Nova Scotia, 287,800; New Brunswick, 253,777.

FRANCE.—The number of petitions for the dissolution of the National Assembly circulating for signatures throughout Paris and departments is greatly increasing. The Prefects of the several departments where the movement has assumed a formidable proportions have been summoned to transmit to members of the moderate left are in favor of the dissolution of the Assembly.

SOUTH AMERICA.—Advices from Rio Janeiro to November 22nd, state that General Mitre, the Argentine envoy, brought his negotiations with Brazil to an end, and the conclusion of the treaty is satisfactory. The treaty already made between Brazil and Paraguay is not disturbed. The allies in the late war against Paraguay are placed on an identical footing with regard to the indemnification of their expenses.

ENGLAND.—Several of the gas stokers, who were summoned to appear on a charge of conspiracy, have been found guilty and sentenced to six weeks imprisonment. The Vice-Chancellor, Lord Justice Bowen, in the Diocesan case, is seriously ill. The ship Franklin which sailed from Hamburg several days ago for San Francisco with a large number of emigrants on board, is reported on the coast of the Island of Netherlands in the North Sea, and is in pieces. Eighty persons are known to have perished.

SWITZERLAND.—The election for President and Vice-President of the Swiss Confederation for the year 1873 has resulted in the choice of M. Chesand for the former office, and Dr. Schenk for the latter. SPAIN.—A body of Carlists entered the town of Alamos last week, but were met by troops, and repulsed after a sharp fight. JAMAICA.—Large numbers of wealthy Cubans are leaving Cuba and purchasing plantations in Jamaica.