The Mearthstone.

GEORGE E. DESBARATS, Publisher and Proprietor.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, FEB. 10, 1872.

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OUR NEW STORY.

In our number of the 24th inst, we shall give the opening chapters of an original story by Mrs. ALEXANDER ROSS,

which promises to be one of the most interesting stories which we have ever had the pleasure of offering to the readers of the HEARTHSTONE. This story is written expressly for us, and is copyrighted, so that no other paper in Canada can produce it.

ANOTHER NEW STORY.

In our next number we shall commence another new story from the pen of the most talented female writer of the day,

MISS M. E. BRADDON,

Author of " Lady Audley's Secret," &c., entitled TO THE BITTER END.

Miss Braddon is a writer of great force, and draws her characters with a fidelity to nature and truthfulness of conception which would justly entitle her to the title of a "female Dickens" Her works are replete with incidents, and the interest is never allowed to flag. From the few chapters which we have received, "To the Bitter End" promises to be the best of her many good works.

CHANGE OF PROGRAMME.

The arrangements for transferring to local agents the total charge of our subscribers, as far as renewing and collecting subscriptions, and distributing papers are concerned, not having met with general approval on the part of subscribers; and the agents on the other hand having in many cases declined the responsibility, and in others neglected our interests, theirs, and that of our subscribers, we are obliged to revert to the former mode of distribution through post. This need not disturb arrangements already made between any subscriber and any local news-dealer. We hope to see the sales effected by news agents increase rapidly, and desire that as much of our business

ceive their papers, as formerly, through the application at this office.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

When the Joint High Commissioners had completed their labours and the treaty of Washngton had been signed, it was generally hoped the Arbitrators who were to meet at Geneva would have little more than what may be callthe amount to be paid by England for the depredations of the rebel cruisers. But it seems ve had only reached the beginning of the difficulty, and there is yet some trouble ahead before this vexatious question of the Alabama claims can be settled. It will be remembered that the Arbitrators met at Geneva and the case then adjourning until September. The case made up by America is a most extraordinary siderably modified. and exorbitant one, amounting to some \$300,-00,000, and we can scarcely bring ourselves to believe that the Americans for one moment think that England would even entertain the idea of paving such an amount. The Alabama claims proper-that is the actual value of property destroyed by the robel cruisers-amount to some \$20,000,000, and the balance of this extraordinary demand is made up of what is called "indirect damages," amongst which are included so much for "moral support to the rebels ;* " increased naval expenses in capturing the cruisers;" " prolongation of the war;" "loss to American commerce ;" " increased insurance rates," &c.; all of which are put in in round sums, and pretty round sums too.

This matter of indirect damages was fully discussed by the Joint High Commissioners, and it was generally understood that they were not to be included in the case as the treaty stipulates that a separate claim shall be made for each vessel, showing at length the damages done by her, and it would be an utter impossibility to estimate how much each vessel affected commerce, or prolonged the war, or did any of the things which are included under the title "indirect damages." The Americans have evidently had their case made up by the far-famed "Philadelphia lawyer," and have consequently crammed it with a large quantity of buncombe; and are prepared to bargain and split hairs over each item as if taxing a bill of costs. They apparently regard the Geneva Board as a Court before which they claim for damages with a lively expectation of the amount being severely cut down and, therefore, made it preposterously high at the outset that it may stand a good reduction. England, on the other hand, regards the Geneva Board as a friendly meeting for the adjustment of existing difficulties, where each nation should meet the other in a fair and friendly manner, asking only what is just and fair and in accordance with the acknowledged understanding of the treaty by the other party. The English press has spoken out in an excited manner quite unusual with it ; and the opinion unanimously expressed is that unless America withdraws the claim for "indirect damages." England must at once withdraw from the treaty. The excitement has run very high in England, and it has been freely said that an appeal to arms would be preferable to allowing so unfair and unjust a demand to be submitted to arbitration. Since the delivery of the Queen's speech, however, on 6th inst., in which the claims are re ferred to in very moderate and temperate terms (see report in our epitome of news) the tone of the press has changed and there seems to be less disposition towards denunciatory articles, and a desire to view the position calmly and dispassionately, as one not likely to lead to extremes, although still full of difficulty and requiring skilful diplomacy.

The American papers have, with few exceptions, treated the matter as one not likely to lead to serious complications; some of them go so far as to take the English view of the case, and maintain that America is decidedly wrong in making the demand she has. The following from the N. Y. Tribune is a fair sample of the general tone of the press:

"The London despatches intimate that the British Government objects particularly to the claims for constructive damages which the American case contains. It was impossible for the American Government to omit these. The very language with which the Treaty opens makes it necessary for us, at least, to urge those claims before the Geneva Conference. The Treaty provides " for the amicable settlement of all points of difference between the United States and Great Britain." These claims for construct-ive damages constitute one of those points of difference. They have been urged by American statesmen ever since the close of the war, and Cobden even informed Parliament, as long ago as 1864, that Great Britain would surely be call ed upon to pay them. Had the United States omitted these claims from its case, all points of difference would not have been settled by the Treaty. Nobody now expects that they will be allowed by the Genera Conference, but it is a set tled principle in international, as well as in other law, that a claimant must always ask for all that he thinks his due, even though he may have no good reason to expect to receive it."

For ourselves, we do not see any probability of the little difficulty causing any disruption of as possible may be transacted through them. the good feeling existing between the two But we cannot overlook the complaints now | countries. We look on the "indirect damages"

made, and henceforth our subscribers will re- as an electioneering dodge, got up in favour of " the man who smokes," and who is very anxi-Post. Any one who has missed any numbers ous to serve his country for another term. It since 1st of January can , we them gratis on must be borne in mind that the Presidential election takes place in November, the country must be "stumped," and where can the swarm of demagogues who "harangue the multitude" find a more congenial theme on which to build their flowery and imaginative outbursts of eloquence than "war with England," The old battle cries are getting pretty well worn, and supposed that all the difficulties between slavery no more exists, the Southern rebellion England and America were at an end; and that has been "talked to death," but "a war with England" would make a grand subject for a genuine Yankee stump orator. Of there being ed "routine work" to perform in determining any actual hostilities, or even a cessation of diplomatic relations, we have no fear whatever. It is not probable, in our estimation, that England will hastily withdraw from the treaty: the Geneva Board does not meet until September, when counter-claims will be received, and the Board will then adjourn until next February, before which time the Presidential election of each nation was handed in, the Arbitrators | will be over, and we have little doubt that the obnoxious claims will be withdrawn or con-

"STILL HARPING ON MY DAUGHTER."

It is so long since we have had a letter about Those Spoons" that we thought we had heard the last of them; but no, one kind friend is still left us, and he writes us so unique and elegant a letter that we cannot refrain from publishing it verbatim et literatim, with the exception only of about half a handful of stops which we were obliged to put in, "Johney Perow " being evidently superior to such triding affairs, and not having put a punctuation mark of any kind in his entire epistle. Here it is :-

B---. January 26, 1872.

Mn. hearth stone,-your hearth stone was we have a double one; do not send us that singer family sewing machine of \$70 dollars you cant aford it. A ladys watch would be nice if we had it; if it is the same price you had better send us a gold watch, by telegraph, we would know the time of day the sconer, as for the or-gain it would be a little difficult to send by tele-

graph please send a Jewsharp, please donot send the orgain before the 32 of May, for the roads will be breaking up then and we might loose it, the same as we lost the spoons

last year, but if you send it please registirit.

I am surprised at knolage men like ye to think
we would be taken in the second time with your
prises, the same as you disseaved us last year; I would mivise you to try some one else that knows nothing about ye if you want to continue the hearthstone.

it would have been better for you if you had sent us the spoons last year, as you promised, and you would have had more subscribers for 72, men here are made on the same plan as you are made, and we have aright to know when men

are trying to make fools of us. honesty is the best of polascy. discense nobody and you will not be dissensed

on the Last day.

you have not found all those lying promises in your cread. all those nice long tails and fine stories looks very foolish in our eyes, for we do not profess those things; we have not seen them in the communiments. here is two many prin-ters now like you. did you not read what Abra-kam said to the rich man, you have moses and kum said to the rich man, you have moses and the prophets you have heard that it has been said of men of old, an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth, but I say unto you resist not evil, and, if any one strikes you on the check with a sewing machine, turn to him an orgain also.

remember the parable of the sowers that went out to sow, some seed fell among the hearth stones, and I think you are some of the same

seed. take patron by this letter, and dont make fun of any one, and no one will make fun of you. do to others as you would wish to be done by.

I am yours very truly
Johney Perow

We regret three things about this letter: 1. We regret that the Postmaster at whatever

place it was posted could not afford enough ink to make the postmark intelligible; if we knew where to find him we would certainly send him a small supply.

2. We regret that "Johney Perow" did not give his address as, if the present letter is anything like a fair sample of what he can do, we should have liked to offer him a position on our paper to take charge of the funny department, feeling sure that he would shortly eclipse Josh

United States.—The Alabama claims form the all absorbing topic in the press. The N. Y. Herald is particularly rampant and is going to annex Canada, invade England and form a Republic in Ireland immediately. The President and Cabinet express themselves as perfectly sure that the difficulty will be amicably arranged and the good feeling existing between the two countries not disturbed.—Wm. Ewing, employee of Dr. Johnson of Bozrah, Conn. shot the latter's daughter in her father's house for refusing to marry him, struck her mother with the gun, and then out his throat from ear to ear.

The snow blockade belt on the Union Pacific Railroad is increased. The passenger trains from Egden on the 25th ult. are reported at Miser Station, the passengers subsisting on crackers and fish.—A

fire at Ogdensburgh on the morning of 6th inst. destroyed the Ogdensburgh and Lake Champlain Rr. ilroad depot. two cars and a quantity of freight. The loss amounts to about \$40,000. — Manton E. Hoard late Cashier of the Rhode Island National Bank has been arrested for embezzing \$20,000, and placed under bonds for \$75,000; Rotert A. Pearson was also arrested for abetting the fraud. — The Chicago Relief and Aid Society announce that further donation are not needed to enable them to get through the winter. — At Providence R. I. Mrs. Phebe Ann Wood slipped onlite ice on 3rd inst. striking her head and died soon after of concussion of the brain. — Mrs. Mary Hackett, aged 76, committed suicide at Philadelphia on 2nd inst. by taking morphia. — Charles Billing, of the Humboldt Mills, in Nevada, attempted to marry him. He fired two shots at her from a rovolver, but ineffectually, and then placed the weapon to his own head, and blow his brains out. — Five powder mills belonging to the Miami Powder Co., located between Xenia and Yellow Springs on the little Miami R. R. near Springfield, Ohio, exploded about 10 o'clock on the morning of 6th inst. Five men were killed and another who is missing is supposed to have perished. The ground is strewn with timbers and debris for half mile around at Yellow Springs, and hundreds of windows were domolished. — William Freeman, a dyer, in Waterford, R. L. felt into a vat of hot dye and was scalded to death — The Union Republican General Committee adopted resolutions requesting the Common Council to impeach Mayor Ilall, and the Legislature to abrogate the office of Mayor, till otherwise ordered by law. — Of 25 bills returned by the New York Grand Jury, it is said six were against Tweed, and others against Gen. Il. Smith, Davidson, P. B. & J. M. Sweeney. ——All sorts of stories are afoat concerning the New York Grand Jury. Ten or twelve are said to be been bribed with, anadjaned and wined nightly, has been indicted, and it is reported he theratens to make astounding revelations. The jurer

Stouch's cell, and marched him out a short distance where they hung him to a tree. The mob then quietly dispersed.

Canara.—Two suspected Fenian raiders talk of suing the Manitoba authorities for false imprisonment.—A merchants' club is to be formed at Toronto.—Falton has concluded to accept Brown's offer to row a four mile course on the river Kennebecassis for \$1500, and \$150 for his expenses.
—The Brantford News gives us a condensed statement of Ontario finances, as follows:—The total receipts during the year have been \$3.622 185; but, omitting cash on hand at the opening of 1871 and special deposits withdrawn, the net income has been \$2.344.179. Of this, \$4.036, 436 comes from the Dominion of Canada, leaving \$1.273.712 raised by local taxation and interest on bonds: the amount received from Crown Lands was \$453.403, and from roads and forests, \$2.55.073. The net expenditures were \$1.816.857. leaving a net surplus for the year of \$51.317. The total surplus now is \$3.810.603, as follows: Five per cent. Dominion bonds, \$250.000; Bank of Montreal special deposit, \$90.000; Bank of Montreal on demand, \$17.285; Royal Canadian Bank special deposit, \$90.000; Bank of Montreal on demand, \$17.285; Royal Canadian Bank special deposit, \$90.000. Canadian Bank special deposit, \$90.000. Canadian Bank special deposit, \$90.000; Rank of Montreal special deposit, \$90.000. Canadian Bank special deposit, \$90.074. Total, \$3.810.833. — Toronto is greatly exercised at present over the alleged bribery of Alderman Riddel and others as to whom they should vet for for Mayor. — A man named Mounded nattempted to cut the throats of his children with a butcher's knife at crific, on 6th inst. while labouring under an attack of delivery the special deposit. Spoil for on 6th inst. It broke out in the rear of Fanning's livery stable and express office. — The bookbinders of Toronto are on a strike. — Lady Tayleur, wife of Lady Liszar's brother, is dead. The hookbinders of Toronto are on a strike.

Sooth all builders, to the amount of several thou

ribly charred. The house was completely gutted; loss about \$1.000.

E. S. L. A.D. — The excitement about the Alabama claims is very great; the papers are full of it and are unanimous in opposing the immense demands of the Americans. — In the Speech from the Throne on the opening of Parliament on 6th inst. the claims are referred to in the following words: "The arbitrators appointed pursuant to the Treaty of Washington for the purpose of amicably settling the Alabama claims held their first meeting at Geneva. Cases were laid before the arbitrators on behalf of each party to the treaty. In the case so submitted by America large claims were included which were understood on myar not to be within the province of the arbitrators on this subject. I have caused a friendly communication to be made to the Government of the United States." ——It is rumored that eight British regiments are preparing to leave various points for Canada——It is reported that the American Government has ordered a large number of sea torpedees of English manufacturers. —The Court Circular announces that the Prince and Princess of Wales will be present at the Thanksgiving services in St. Paul's Cathedral. The seating has been limited to \$.000. —Chief Justice Cock burn has officially counselled the Cabinet that England must recede from the Washington Treaty, leaving America to decide between a new treaty or war. — The Times complains that the American case has been translated and scattered over the continent, and that nothing more effectual could have been chosen to make retractation impossible. — A republican mass meeting was held in Trafalgar Square on 5th inst. In honor of Sir Charles Dilke. Mr. Oder presiding. About 15.000 people were present and the meeting passed off very quietly. — At an election meeting in Galway, on 3rd inst. the majority favored Nolan, the Ilome Rule candidate, and the uproar ensaing culminated in a riot, when many were seriously injured. The police attempted to suppress the disturbance.

Australia—A telegraph cable from

paper to take charge of the funny department, feeling sure that he would shortly eclipse Josh Billings and other wits of the same school.

3. We regret that we do not know where to address "Johney Perow" because he says "all those nice long tails and fine stories looks very foolish in our eyes," and we thought we might perhaps get him to write a "nice long tail" for us which would not "look foolish" in his eyes. We also confess that we should like to send "Johney" his jewsharp by telegraph, and if he should happen to see this and will give us his address we will be happy to try to accomodate him.

Our friends who will laugh over Johney's letter are well aware of the fact that the present proprietor of the Heartmetone had nothing to do with Mr. Churchill and his spoons, that itself what he (the present proprietor) promises he is perfectly able to perform.

EPITOME OF LATEST NEWS.

In riot, when many were seriously injured. The police attempted to suppress the disturbance. Attempted to suppress the disturbance in strail had been successfully laid. The Australia had been successfully laid. The Australia had been successfully laid. The Australia to complete to suppress the disturbance in stempted to condition that the overland line could be completed. The yield of the gold fields was and will the overland line could be could be could be an excessfully laid. The Australia had been successfully laid. The Australian had here a "nice long the form and the minor until the overland line could be an excessfully laid. The Australia had here a "attempted to suppress the disturbance. The Avaluable to here in a read-count

henvy loss.

France.—President Thiers was shot at on the night of 6th inst. but was not hurt. The assassin escaped.

Schism has occurred among the clergy in Paris on account of the extreme ultramontanism of the new Archbishop.—The Patric says the German Government has notified its willingness to accept a French colony in part payment of the war indemnity.

Pouver Quartier is now ready to pay the fourth half milliard of the German war indemnity, which is due on the 1st of May.—The Duke d'Aumale and the Prince de Joinville write to the Official Journal and state that if they had been present in the Assembly when the vote on the resolution to return to Paris was taken, they would have voted in favour of return.

Committees are being formed at Versailles and several other towns to receive subscriptions from the

women of France, for the purpose of paying the in-demnity. Jewellery and objects of art will be ac-copted, and bazaars will subsequently be organised by French ladies residing in London, Vienna, Rome, New York, and other capitals.

New York, and other capitals.

Mexico.—The Porfiresta robols have been defeated in the State of Yora Cruz.—The Government troops have whipped the negroes and other insurgents near Tutanoingo.—The Puebla train was recently attacked by highwaynen, who robbed the passengers and stripped them of their clothing. The pobbers kidnapped six of the passengers and maltreated others.—The revolution in Jalez has been unsuccessful.—There were seven hundred deaths from small-pox in the City of Mexico, in the month of January.—A revolutionary bulletin announces the fall of Camargo and calls the inhabitants of Tamaulepsis to arms against the Juarez tyrants. Gen. Palacios has organized löt national guards. No enthusiasm is shown, and many fly to the American side of the line to escape conscription.—tovernment papers affirm the defeat of Martinez and Trevina before San Luis.

Spain.—Several Communist refusees arrived at

SPAIN.—Several Communist refugees arrived at Madrid.—The disturbances at Barcelona. &co. were fomented by the Internationals many of whom have been arrested.—Subscriptions have been opened at Madrid to assist the French to pay the war indemnity.—The Porta Rico deputies in the late Cortes have issued a manifesto demanding that the Cortes have issued a manifesto demanding that the reforms, constitutional government and abolition of slavery, promised them in 1868, be carried into effect.—The Governmental Election Committee urgs adherence to King Amadeus as the best course for Spain's future welfare.

CUBA.—Gen. Requelrue, the new commander of the Eastern Department, arrived at Havana on 6th inst. from Spain.—A portion of the excursionists on the More Castle, from New York, have returned; the remainder were to return this week.

CHINA.—The crew of the ship Admiral, Captain Reid, from San Francisco, on fetcher Sth, abandoned at sea, were picked up and brought to Hong Kong. The Admiral belonged to Liverpool.

INDIA.—Deputy Commodore Cowan has ordered fifty of the Kooka mutineers to be blown from the mouths of cannon.

ITALY.—Cardinal Antonelli is sick, but there is nothing in the complaint to excite apprehension.

MEDICAL ITEMS.

MEDICAL ITEMS.

Mark of Cows Attacked with Typhers.—Dr. Husson has examined the milk of twenty-two cows belonging to the same proprietor (of which number four were so badly attacked by containous typhus as to necessitate the immediate killing of the same, while another batch of four were apparently quite well, and fourteen in a doubtful condition), has been investigated by the author. It appears that, as compared with the composition of normal milk, the milk of all these animals became more or less altered as regarded the quantity of normal constituents; yet, with the exception of the milk taken from the four cows which were very ill, there was nothing disagreeable about the samples; and of the milk, which had a bad taste and colour, a cat drank some without experiencing any bad effects. The author draws the conclusion, among others, that neither the milk normen or to other animals not belonging to the Ruminania; yet he very properly urges, says the Beith Medical Journal, that severe measures should be taken to prohibit the use for food of milk as well as meat of eattle even suspected to be attacked by contagious typhus; in fact, the milk, even at the beginning of the disease, is entirely altered, chemically as well as in its histological characters, as revealed by the microscope. The analysis of three samples of milk is given; one (A), from apparently healthy cow; one (B), from these least ill; and the third (C), from the worst. The sample A appeared to be milk in its normal condition; the two other samples exhibited a yellowish rose-red he; and the taste of, sample C was very disagreeable. In 1909 parts, the sample C was very disagreeable. In 1909 parts, the sample C, 1945; average normal milk, 30; albumen, B, 296; average normal milk, 6; salts, E, 1855; average normal milk, 6; salts, E, 1855; average normal milk, 7.

The Medical Declaration on Alconol.—The discussion which the ill-advised Medical Declaration

normal milk, 6: salts, B, 18-5; average normal milk, 7.

The Medical Declaration on Alcohol.—The discussion which the ill-advised Medical Declaration on Alcohol has raised continues in the columns of the Times. It was begun by Mr. Skey and Dr. Risdon Bednett, and it has been maintained by Mr. Skey. Dr. Bree (of Colchester). Dr. Forbes Winslow. Dr. Wilks, and Dr. Lionel Beale. The editor of the Times very properly heads the discussion with the old question of "Who shall decide when doctors disagree?" The history of the declaration has yet to be written. Dr. Burrows has assured Dr. Bree that he was asked to sign it, but he does not know how the other signatures were obtained. Elsewhere we have seen that it was produced, on the instinction of an official of a temperance association, by the editor of a medical contemporary. We (Medical Times and Gazzter) should think that the medical profession are obliged to those gentlemen for the mire through which they are being dragged. Not only does the declaration itself give countenance to an untrue and undeserved libel on the medical profession, but it holds up our differences of opinion before the gaze of an annused public, and justifies the keenest satires that have over born launched at the fallacies of physic. When will the medical profession learn the respect due to itself in its corporate existence? When will its members learn that the echumns of a public newspaper are the last place in which their controversies should be aired?

Currous Remeny for Gour.—A curious remedy

CURIOUS REMEDY FOR GOUT.—A enrious remedy for gout is described by Kossuth in the Hungarian paper Mayner Uisage. He says that, having suffered for some time from gout in the head, he was recommended by his physicians to go to the greate of Monsumano, near Pistoja, in Tuscany, which has for the last thirty years had a local reputation for curing persons afflicted with rheumatism and other kindred diseases. On arriving at the grotte, he had to take off all his clothes and enter with nothing on but a long diseases. On arriving at the grotte, he had to take of all his clothes and enter with nothing on but a long shirt and a pair of slippers. The interior is lighted with wax candles, which show the beautiful stalactites that hang down from the roof. Here he sat for ten minutes, after which he began to perspire profusely, and the doctor hurried him out of the grotte, although he would have liked to remain some time longer. He was then rubbed with cloths and wrapped up in flannel, and, after a warm both, breakinsted in the adjoining rostnurant. This treatment was repeated daily for eight days, at the end of which time he was completely cured. Kossuth says that no one has yet been able to explain the healing properties of the grotto; the temperature in its warmest parts is not more than from 32 deg. to 34 deg. centigrade, and is often cooler than that of the air outside, while the water in the grotto is quite cold. Kossuth believes that the effect produced must be due to some electromagnetic agency.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

Papped insteps are the latest povelty for ladies. SIXTEEN railways of England own 8.400 locomotives. The kinglisher makes its nest of the bones of the skin which it has enten.

A trenton philanthropist sent six thousand doll ba-bies to Chicago for Christmas presents.

A RIFLE bullet takes upwards of three seconds to fly 900 yards, and nearly eight seconds to fly 1,800

THERE are probably not as many as a hundred stars whose light takes less then twelve years to tra-rel to the earth. vol to the carth.

In the reign of Charles I, a Norwich magistrate sent a fellow to prison for saying that the Prince of Wales was born without a shirt i

The world uses 250.000,000 pounds of tea each year, 718.000,000 pounds of coffee. China furnishes nearly all the tea, and Brazil over one half of the coffee.

ERRONEOUS PROPRIECT.—A'certain Edinburgh pro-lessor once pronounced upon a student this severe opinion: "Dunes you are, and dunes you will ever remain." That student was Sir Walter Scott.

THE WEDDING TOUR,—Perhaps, after all, there is some sense in wedding tours. At first, the attention is drawn away from each other by the change of scene, and afterwards by the duties of life. It lets them down easily. It is a dissolving view that imperceptibility discloses a storn reality.

perceptibility discosors a storm reality.

A LADY, writing on the cant of the day, as to the improvement in female education, says, "Let men be what they should be as men, before they pronounce dudgment upon as a women. Until then, we shall go on very much as we have done. If we were as perfect as they wish, where should we find suitable husbands? We should all of us live and die single, or clas be sadly swimmated. If they don't like us, they may de without us—if they can."

