

The Hearthstone.

GEORGE E. DESBARATS, Publisher and Proprietor.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 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. For \$10.00: 6 copies of the Hearthstone for 1872, and 6 Presentation Plates. For \$20.00: 12 copies of the Hearthstone for 1872 and 12 Presentation Plates. For \$40.00: 25 copies of the Hearthstone for 1872 and 25 Presentation Plates. For \$15.00: 6 copies Hearthstone 1871 and 1872, 6 Presentation Plates and 6 Family Records. For \$30.00: 12 copies Hearthstone for 1871 and 1872, 12 Presentation Plates and 12 Family Records. For \$60.00: 25 copies Hearthstone for 1871 and 1872, 25 Presentation Plates and 25 Family Records.

Every body sending a club of 5 will also receive one copy of the Family Record. Let each Subscriber send us at least a club of 5, and secure his Paper and Presentation Plate FREE.

Young Ladies! young men! with very little exertion you can form a club of 25, get your paper and plate free, and pocket \$8.00 for your trouble.

THE ENGRAVING IS NOW READY FOR IMMEDIATE DISTRIBUTION.

MAKE UP YOUR CLUBS.

Address, GEORGE E. DESBARATS, Publisher, Montreal.

No. 16. CONTENTS.

STORIES.

- IN AFTER-YEARS. By Mrs. Alexander Ross. Chap. X. THE BUTTER END. By Miss M. E. Braddon. Chaps. XII, XIII, XIV. THE ROSE AND THE SHAMROCK. By the Author of "The Flowers of Glenavon." Chaps. XXXIII, XXXIV, XXXV, XXXVI. THE WATER BARNES: A Fairy Tale for a Land Baby. By Rev. Charles Kingsley, M.A. Chap. VI. A PERFECT FRAUD. By J. A. PHILLIPS. EDITORIAL.

Our new story. Extension of time. The Cat-o-nine tails. ORIGINAL ARTICLES.

The Bumptown Papers. By James Bumpus. Teardrops of Sorrow. By Dr. Norman Smith. Superior Bad People. By Lizzie Branson.

SELECTED ARTICLES.

My first Earthquake. By Mark Twain.—Dogs and Railroad Trains. By Colorado.—A Chapter on Coasting. By Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.

POETRY.

The Eagle and the Wren.—A Patient Creditor.—The Brook's Message. By Kate Hilliard.—The Wind and the Rose. By John G. Saxe.—The Old Man in the New Church.

NEWS ITEMS.

LITERARY ITEMS. SCIENTIFIC ITEMS. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS. GEMS OF THOUGHT. HOUSEHOLD ITEMS. WIT AND HUMOR. HEARTHSTONE SPINNS. MARKET REPORT. \$30,000 TO BE GIVEN AWAY. (See Eighth Page.)

OUR NEW STORY.

On the fourth of May we will commence a new and very interesting local story by Mr. J. A. Phillips, entitled

FROM BAD TO WORSE.

The scene is laid in Montreal and the incidents relate to every day social intercourse; the story will be splendidly illustrated with pictures of Montreal and can scarcely fail to be highly interesting to our readers.

EXTENSION OF TIME.

We would call the attention of all our readers who are trying for one of the GRAND PREMIUMS in our prize list, as advertised on eighth page, to an extension of time which we have been forced to make.

These extra prizes were originally intended to be awarded on the 15th April, but we have received so many complaints from parties competing complaining of the shortness of the time that we have decided to KEEP THE LIST OPEN FOR THE WHOLE YEAR, and to award the four grand premiums to the four persons who shall have sent us the largest numbers of subscribers up to the 31st day of December next; this will embrace the whole year and give everybody a fair chance. The premiums will be awarded and forwarded to the winners of them immediately after next New Year's Day. This change does not, of course, apply to prizes for a specific number of subscribers, these remain as before and the prize will be forwarded immediately on the receipt of the specified number of subscriptions. Parties who are working for prizes and have sent in a few names are requested to close their lists as quickly as possible.

THE CAT-O-NINE TAILS.

The young man, Arthur O'Connor who committed such a mad assault on the Queen on 29th February has been tried at the Old Bailey, found guilty, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment with hard labor, and to receive twenty lashes. Of course, an effort was made to prove that he was insane.—Every body is insane now-a-days who attempts to commit murder. His father was examined and testified that he, the father, was nephew of Fergus O'Connor, and that several members of his family besides prisoner, were insane. The accused, he stated, was very studious when a child and fell into bad health, from which he had suffered ever since. The prisoner was wounded in the head in the year 1866, and received injuries which rendered him insensible for some time. The medical testimony, however, went to show that the prisoner was perfectly sane, and the jury consequently brought in a verdict of guilty. The sentence is not a heavy one and we think most people will regard it as a just one, especially the application of the cat-o-nine tails. Some fanatics attempt the lives of eminent personages only for the sake of attaining a little notoriety; and it is the safest means of deterring them from their mad attempts to let it be distinctly understood that they shall receive a good sound flogging as a preliminary punishment. There is something very repulsive to a would be notorious individual in the knowledge that he will certainly be tied up like an ill-behaved dog, and have a good flogging administered to him. There is nothing noble or inspiring about it; none of the interest which attaches itself to an execution, or a long term of penal servitude, or of solitary confinement, surrounds a good dose of the cat-o-nine tails. The prisoner simply receives his twenty or thirty lashes, and the general verdict is "served him right."

We remember in our early days when we were out in the West Indies, that at one time the island of Barbadoes got into a terrible condition on account of the immense number of robberies, and fires which were constantly occurring. There was a regular gang of thieves—darkies—who would fire a plantation almost every night and steal what they could during the excitement and confusion. The leader of this gang was an immense burly ruffian who had spent the greater portion of his life in gaol, indeed for several years he was never known to be out of gaol for a longer period than six weeks at any one time. The gaol was crowded almost to suffocation and a new one had to be built. About that time a new Governor of the island was appointed, Col. Reed, an old soldier and an excellent officer of the Government. After his arrival he paid the customary visit to Grenada, and on the night before his return to Barbadoes there was a very large fire, and the leader of this gang was caught with some stolen goods on him; he was strongly suspected of setting the fire but that could not be proved. When the Governor arrived next day, he heard of this new outrage, and drove from the lauding to the gaol. There were then about four hundred prisoners in the gaol nearly all for robbery at fires; he caused them all to be collected in the gaol yard, had the old triangle moved from its time honoured place in a corner of the yard to the centre of the enclosure, and ordered the leader of the gang to be strung up and thirty-nine lashes administered. When ordered to strip the fellow refused, saying he was a free man, that flogging was for slaves, &c., and that no one could order him to be flogged. The Governor heard him very quietly, and then ordered a file of soldiers to seize him up, and stood by while the cat-o-nine-tails was vigorously applied. The man bore his punishment very quietly, and when released walked up to where the Governor was standing, and said very quietly, "Now I know, you're a Gubner, an' I never comes back here no more so long as you're Gubner of de Island." He kept his word, and during the four years Reed remained Governor he was not once arrested. A few more of the gang were flogged also, and the result was that when Reed went to Malta there was scarcely a dozen prisoners for theft in the gaol instead of four hundred.

We by no means advocate general and indiscriminate flogging, but a judicious use of the whip is frequently very useful. There is one class of criminals, very common in Montreal, to whom we should very much like to see the cat-o-nine-tails applied, and that is the wife-beaters. It is hard to conceive of a more cowardly brute than one who will take advantage of his superior strength to inflict corporal punishment on the woman he has sworn to "love and cherish," and the punishment is worse than a mockery to the poor woman, for it not unfrequently falls on her. The man is fined or imprisoned—sometimes both—and the woman has frequently to pay the fine, or exist as best she may for the two or three weeks the "bread-winner" of the family passes in gaol. It would be much better just to take him into the back yard, seize him up, give him two or three dozen and let him go. He would not beat that woman again in a hurry; and others, warned by his punishment, would think twice before they assaulted their own wives.

BUMPTOWN PAPERS. BY JAMES BUMPUS.

PAPER V.—ON THE STRIKE.

Remind me, a melancholy and disheartened, middle-aged gentleman I fully intended to write something funny this week, but how can I? A vast domestic affliction has fallen on me, and all the fun is knocked out of me. My family has struck. Yes, every Man Jack of them, Mrs. Bumpus included, has struck, and our domestic life is in a state of revolution. You see it is all caused by the Nine Hour Movement and the Toronto printers' strike. As soon as we heard of the Nine Hour Movement, my eldest boy, Nathaniel, aged ten, the smartest boy in Bumptown, gravely informed me that he was a workman, and that he, therefore, represented "labour"; that I was a newspaper writer and, therefore, represented "capital," (which is quite a mistake I assure you), and that he did not intend to be ground down and have his "soul worked out of him"—I quote his own words—to enrich me. He needed, he said, more time to "improve his mind," and, therefore, he only intended to go to school four hours a day in the afternoon. Of course, I objected to this summary suspension of his studies, but Seraphina Angellina (that's Mrs. Bumpus) came to his assistance; she wanted to strike too. She said she was a workman—I could not quite understand how she made that out—and she did not mean to be a domestic slave any longer; she meant to assert her rights—she frequently does, and to some purpose as a general thing. She did not mean to slave, and worry, and bother the whole day long; she meant to "strike one blow for freedom"; she has struck it. Then the servant girl, she wanted to "improve her mind," and because I could not persuade her that "Sunday" did not come twice a week, and that her "day off" was not twice a week, she was a "blasted aristocrat," a "grinding capitalist, living on her blood and bones"—I quote her own words—and finally she struck. Then Seraphina Angellina, Jr., my little four-year-old pet, declared her mind needed improvement, and so she struck, and I was placed, much against my will, in a position of antagonism to my whole household! How can I try to be amusing? I am sitting at my open window, watching how the various members of my family are improving their minds; and I will tell you how they are doing it. There is Mrs. Bumpus walking up the opposite side of the street, perched on top of a pair of high-heeled boots, with an unsightly bump, which she calls a "Dolly Varden," sticking out over her hips, and something that looks like a small tan saucer, with a stiff red feather projecting from it, perched on top of several pounds of somebody else's hair, which Mrs. B. insists in putting over her own ample locks. Mrs. B.'s method of improving her mind appears to be simple, as it consists principally in looking into the shop windows and eyeing the dresses of passers by. I am afraid she is also improving her mind by indulging in a little quiet flirtation with two young fops who have been bravely propping up the telegraph post at the corner for the past half-hour, and who appear to think that an old gentleman on the wrong side of fifty—Angellina always says sixty, but I tell her she is fifty—has no business with a pretty young wife on the right side of thirty—Angellina says twenty-five, but I am sure she is wrong. Then there is my son and heir, Nathaniel, the pride of the house of Bumpus, engaged in a lively game of marbles in the cross street, with three scrubby-looking boys whom I strongly suspect of being newsboys or bootblacks, and who seem to be rapidly reducing the pride of the house of Bumpus to a state of bankruptcy on the marble question. Nathaniel might be improving his mind, but he certainly is not improving his clothes by kneeling on one knee in the mud to "knuckle down," and I sigh as I think of the high price of dry goods. As for the servant girl, she is standing by the arched entrance, improving her mind with the assistance of the greasy boy who has two or three times squeezed her round the waist, as if to discover how fast she is improving. Seraphina Angellina, Jr., is up-stairs in the nursery, sorely sitting, with her best clothes on, in a tub of water, improving her mind by trying to wash the cat, to which pussy strenuously objects, and a lively scrimmage is imminent. The house is in a state of confusion and neglect, for the servant refuses to work unless I submit to the Nine Hour Movement, and Mrs. B. still remains "on the strike," and will perform no more arduous duties than walking about the streets or playing on the boys' grass. I am determined to improve my mind in my own house, but what can I do? This nine hour folly has turned Angellina's head, and until she gets it turned right again I must remain a wretched Bumpus; so you must excuse me from trying to be funny this week, and I will try to do better next.

FOR THE HEARTHSTONE. "SUPERIOR" BAD PEOPLE.

Yes; and this is a world teeming with such according to some cyntes who look on the masses of humanity with distorted vision, whilst others plead always for mercy, to the extinction of justice. True a goodly number of those considered holy and pure by their brethren, if their secret character were analyzed by the "Code" of the worldly press, would be found to be arch-hypocrites. The man who professing christian faith, master may be of a large establishment and yet pays his employers starvation wages, what is he? but a bad man, although superior by education. The poor girl with a sewing machine at labor from dawn till night for the pittance of fifty cents "per diem" and then if an extra spool of thread is asked for—on account of its inferior quality—is immediately charged with self appropriation and the cost deducted from her work. And in the endeavour to make up for losses stitches a short time on the Sabbath, at first with closed shutters and blinds down and rage stuffed in the key-hole and the poor thief covertly designated by courtesy a comforter—folded four times thick, for the machine to stand upon in hopes of deadening the sound, but after a time as harsh usage causes harsher feelings and her better angel deserts her, these precautions are done away with and the poor creature is designated as a "Bad girl" by those who only regard appearances. But is she not more sinned against than sinning, who would not rather work than starve? Her employer may even on that holy day attend public service, be a class leader or superintendent in the school, and conform to all christian usages, and yet I say at the judgement his sins will weigh down the scale, when placed on a balance with the poor oppressed. Far from advocating Sabbath-breaking I would that all should remember that "man was made for the Sabbath not the Sabbath for man," and he who oppresses the poor, even robs them of their just deserts what is he? and methinks if his worldly prospects

could be bettered by deserting the banner of sanctity, such an one would not hesitate to pray and ask aid of the hosts of "Hell" just as soon and with as little compunction as he now in words asks the Divine aid. A strange sight you may think to see one on his knees entreating the "Good" Devil to assist him under his banner, only give him his desires, health, wealth and a long life and the hereafter—he craves naught about—Blaphemy, some may say, to even surmise such a case—but you mild go-betweeners it's equally true, as it's shocking—how many in this world of ours are slaves to "Mammon" and that is only one of Satan's weapons.

Look at our religious sects—how many backsliders are amongst the number, and the one who has lusted and drank at the fountain head only too willingly turns his back and deserts its service, what is he but bad? Then again the tradesman employing a number of clerks, and who upon engaging, stipulates that each one shall appear well dressed—for the credit of the store—even as respectable as himself. But the salary (its more genteel) than wages—may be only a pittance. What can that young man do? To appear in threadbare garments were the signal for dismissal, yet it takes his all, for board, washing, and mending. And so the young man fails, satisfying his conscience by just helping himself to some trifling article at the station his master would wish—besides Master and Smith only eat the same, and thus the strict probity of the mother's darling is jeopardized, through the inferior morality of man, whose is the sin here? surely he who judges as mercifully as just, will know how to condemn. Another may employ married man, and their salary be no more, than one minus the matrimonial ties—no account of a wife and growing children are taken into consideration—that is his business says the unscrupulous man, he agrees to serve me for so much, how he lives is no affair of mine. But if you detect him taking some minor article of pressing need to his family, then, it is your affair—he may plead a father's love, and even urge stern necessity, but your heart is as a stone, he is given over to justice and branded through life as a thief but in the eye of God the tempter ought to take the place of the tempted. Some may and will argue the tempted ought to be strong in the hour of temptation, yes; that right, fits us all, the pith of the matter is in right, right, moral training, but as long as the employer with all his advantages of religious and social training is not possessed of sufficient christianity to withhold the temptation—so long will young men and women fail. "Is not the laborer worthy of his hire." The poor sin from stern necessity, but the rich lack that excuse. But sufficient has been said in connection with this class, hoping, that even the word of a "fool may profiteth some." Only in my experience of the world where one bad person is discovered, two truly good individuals arise to counteract the influence of the former. The wrong is felt of conscience and joy—to those who will rightly seek it—but ye rich or poor in this worlds goods, bear a conscience void of offence and that pure sunshine of the soul shall be yours.

LIZZIE BRANSON.

MY FIRST EARTHQUAKE.

BY MARK TWAIN.

A month after I landed in Sacramento I enjoyed my first earthquake. It was once which was long called the great earthquake, and it is doubtless so distinguished till this day. It was just after noon, on a bright October day. I was coming down and down, and there was a heavy grinding noise as of brick houses rubbing together. I fell up against the frame house and hurt my elbow. I knew what it was now and from mere reportorial instinct, nothing else, took out my watch and noted the time of day; at that moment a rattle and still severer shock came, and as I reeled about in the pavement, trying to keep my footing, I saw a sight! The entire front of a tall four-story brick building in third street sprang out like a door and fell sprawling across the street, raising a dust like a great volume of smoke. And here came the bang—overboard the man, and in less than a twinkling I can tell it the vehicle was distributed in small fragments along 800 yards of street. One could have fancied that somebody had fired a charge of chair-rounds and rags down the thoroughfare. The street car had stopped, the horses were rearing, and plunging, and passengers were pouring out at both ends, and one man had crashed, half-way through a glass window on one side of the car, got wedged fast, and was squirming and screaming like an amputated madman. Every door of every house, as far as the eye could reach, was vomiting a stream of human beings; and almost before one could utter a word and begin another there was a massed multitude of people stretching in endless procession down every street my position commanded. Never was solemn solitude turned into teeming life quicker. Of the wonders wrought by "the great earthquake," these were all that came under my eye; but the tricks it did elsewhere, far and wide over the town, made toothsome gossip for nine days. The destruction of property was trifling—the injury to it was wide-spread and somewhat serious. The "curiosities" of the earthquake were simply endless. Gentlemen and ladies who were sick, or were taking a sleaze, or had disipated till a late hour and were making up lost sleep, thronged into the public streets in all sorts of queer apparel, and some without any at all. One woman who had been washing a naked child ran down the street holding it by the ankles as if it were a dressed turkey. Prominent citizens, who were supposed to keep the Sabbath strictly, rushed out of saloons in their shirt-sleeves, with brilliant-cues in their hands. Dozens of men, with necks swathed in napkins, rushed from "barbers" shops, lathered to the eyes, or with one check clean shaven and the other still bearing a hairy stubble. Horses broke from stables and a frightened dog rushed up a short attic ladder and out on to a roof, and when his scare was over had not the nerve to go down again the same way he had gone up. A prominent editor was flying down stairs, in the principal hotel, with no check of shoes, and exclaiming, "Oh, what shall I do! Where shall I go?" She responded with naive serenity—"If you have a choice, you might try a clothing store!"

Whisky sandwiches are the popular beverage. They are composed of a layer of water, a slice of whisky, and another layer of water on top.

EPITOME OF LATEST NEWS.

UNITED STATES.—Letters from Lone Pine, Cal., say the whole of Owens' Valley has been moved southward fourteen feet. Over 7,000 shocks had occurred to date and they will continue, but not with sufficient force to do any damage. The earth-quake of March 26 buried immense rocks down cliffs into the Valley of the Yosemite, smashing great piles into splinters, but destroying nothing of consequence of the Valley. An Indian runner brings a despatch from the mouth of the Colorado River which says the earthquake caused immense waves to roll up the Gulf of California, breaking the schooner Alito Drako from her anchorages.—A terrible accident occurred on 10th inst., on the Midland Railroad near Hackensack, Saddle River bridge gave way and precipitated the train into the river. A brakeman was instantly killed and twenty five or thirty passengers taken from the wreck more or less injured.—The Ohio River has risen twenty feet and is still rising.—A fire broke out in the Licking River, and 125 coal boats, containing over one million bushels of coal, were swept away.—The report of Dr. Evans, the abolitionist, being received on bail is confirmed.—A Baltimore man tried again as witness against him cannot be found.—The Mormon conference have, by unanimous vote, re-elected Brigham Young President of the Church, Geo. A. Smith and Daniel H. Wells, Second Counselors, and Orson Lyds President of the Quorum of Twelve Apostles.—The Grand Opera House, and adjoining buildings on 23rd and 24th streets, N. Y., are now the property of the widow of James Fisk.—Bauch & Sons bono phosphate works on Morris st. wharf, Philadelphia, were entirely destroyed by fire on 9th inst. Loss about \$100,000, covered by insurance.—A Baltimore despatch states a report that the committee in the case of Rev. Dr. Hinton, will show a degree of criminality on his part seldom known.—An 8th inst. during a row in a grocery store in Wilkesbarre, Pa., between Stimms and Hockett, the proprietors, beat Thomas Gilchrist so badly that he died next morning. The murderers have been arrested.

CANADA.—The third annual meeting of the Toronto New-boys Home shows that institution to be in a flourishing condition.—The Toronto 65-cent has been sold out by the Sheriff.—The Grand Railway is expected to be open to Quebec by Monday next which will greatly relieve the wind famine as regards the Montreal and Quebec route.—One hundred and fifty eight employers of all branches of labor in Toronto have issued a manifesto that they intend to continue the ten hour system, and to resist all attempts at the compulsory part of employees.—Lieut.-Governor Archibald has asked to be relieved and his resignation was on the eleventh inst., accepted by His Excellency. We understand that it was tendered once before, in the autumn of last year. The Government of the Province will be administered by Judge Johnston until a permanent appointment is made.—Lieut.-Governor Archibald has received the commission of the Order of Isabella by the King of Spain in recognition of the energy displayed by him and the Department of Justice last year in preventing the departure of a filibuster expedition from Canada in aid of the Cuban rebels.—Caldwell and McFarlane convicted of causing the death of Geo. Brown, builder, were sentenced on 10th inst., Caldwell to years in the penitentiary, and McFarlane to the common goal.—The St. Lawrence is rising rapidly and altho' the river is unusually low there are grave apprehensions of a flood at Montreal, as there is a large quantity of anchor ice in the lower part of the rapids which may cause a jam at Victoria Bridge and as a natural consequence Grifflintown would be inundated.

SPAIN.—The Captain-General of Catalonia informs the Government by telegraph that bands of armed Carlists have appeared near Barcelona. Flying columns have been sent in pursuit of them.—In Galicia an attempt was made to shoot the Governor, his brother who was by his side was wounded, but the Governor escaped unhurt.—Fuller returns of the recent elections for members of the Cortes are received and the list stands as follows:—Mineralists, 21; Radicals, 62; Republicans, 3; Carlists, 28; Opposition Conservatives, 22.—Madrid journals all publish articles condemning the Government for having prevented the departure of a filibuster expedition against Valparaiso under pretext that a truce only and not peace exists between that country and Spain.—The Government of Catalonia report that the Carlists bands which appeared in the Province of Barcelona numbered 900 men and that the leader was a prominent member of the International Society.—Internationalists are active in Spain and there is reason to fear that they are organizing a movement which will declare itself simultaneously there and in other countries in Europe.

ENGLAND.—The rumour that the Foreign Office had received a despatch from the United States which promised a solution of the question of indirect duties was pronounced by authority to be untrue. The report was first published in the Morning Post and was copied and widely circulated by the evening papers. Its contradiction produces a general feeling of disappointment.—The Morning Post repeats a rumour which it gave on 8th inst. that Napoleon had borrowed £15,000,000 in London, but the truth of the rumour is authoritatively denied.—Lord Dufferin, the newly appointed Governor-General of the Dominion of India, will sail for Quebec on the 25th inst.—The Grand Jury at the Old Bailey, returned a true bill of indictment against the Tichenborne claimant, charging him with forgery and perjury.—Mr. O'Connell addressed a public meeting at Norwich on 10th inst. He declared a change of ministry was needed. The only way the workmen could get power was to embarrass those who had it. The meeting was orderly.

FRANCE.—Thiers has formerly declared the order, requiring persons entering France to have passports, abolished. Henceforth, travellers will be registered at the frontiers, and no tax will be levied there, nor will they be subject to the scrutiny of civil officers while en route in the country.—The Spanish Government has ordered the Spanish border army to be instructed by Government to arrest all Spanish refugees and send them to the Basque provinces for detention. They have also been ordered to stop all packages going to Spain, containing cartridges or powder.—There is no truth in the report that has been current here that Rother took three million francs to the Emperor Napoleon at Ghent.—There are now in the prison of Vera 200 men and twenty-two Communists under sentence of death.—The jury painters of the annual exhibition have rejected two pictures sent in by the Court, the Communist, on the ground that the public Council has disqualified him from competition with honorable men.

ITALY.—The Pope will hold a consistory on the 29th inst. for the preconization of a number of Italian and Polish bishops.—The Pope has refused to execute the sum of money which was offered him by the Italian Government. His Holiness in declining the gift declared that when it became necessary for him to accept sums as a means of subsistence he would only receive them from the Catholic world.—The committee to provide for the erection of a monument to the memory of Joseph Mazzini has been organized with Garibaldi as President.

MEXICO.—The voluntary subscriptions of French residents in Mexico towards the payment of the war indemnity to Germany now amount to \$4,000,000. A preliminary session of the Congress was begun on the 25th, when Valle, a Jurist, was elected President. Congress will try to create a Senate and make the President the successor of the President in case of his death or resignation to prevent Mr. Lerdo from occupying the Presidency.

GERMANY.—Forty-seven thousand women of Alsace and Lorraine have addressed a petition to Bismark, in which they ask that their fathers and sons may be exempted from service in the German army for a few years.—The new university of Strasbourg opens on the 1st May, and grants will be required to provide for the scientific establishments connected with that institution.

TURKEY.—A telegram from Constantinople brings intelligence that the city of Andrius has been visited by an earthquake, causing terrible loss of life. The despatch states one half of the city wholly destroyed and that 1,500 persons lost their lives. Great distress prevails in that portion of the city and the remaining inhabitants are sadly in need of assistance.

PORTO RICO.—The elections in Porto Rico for the Cortes resulted in a victory for the Spanish. The Conservative party by extraordinary efforts, succeeded in electing 11 out of 13 members.

CUBA.—10,000 troops landed at Santiago de Cuba from Spain.

THE "TICHENBORNE CRAW" is an English relation of the Grecian bond.

An old man in Detroit has played 98,000 games of draughts in the course of a checkered career of 50 years.