

"THE FAVORITE"

TERMS: INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

THE FAVORITE..... \$2.00 p anj
 THE CANADIAN ILLUS-
 TRATED NEWS..... 4.00 "
 THE CANADIAN PATENT OF
 FICE RECORD AND ME-
 CHANICS' MAGAZINE.... 1.50 "
 L'OPINION PUBLIQUE..... 3.00 "

THE DESBARATS LITHOGRAPHIC AND PUBLISHING
 COMPANY; Montreal; Publishers.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE IN ADVANCE.

All remittances and business communica-
 tions to be addressed to,
 THE MANAGER,
 DESBARATS COMPANY, Montreal.

All correspondence for the Papers, and liter-
 ary contributions to be addressed to,
 THE EDITOR,
 DESBARATS COMPANY, Montreal.

When an answer is required, stamps for re-
 turn postage should be inclosed.

THE FAVORITE

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1874.

NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

We request intending contributors to
 take notice that in future Rejected Contri-
 butions will not be returned

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

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

THE EDUCATION OF WOMAN.

Of the various prevailing modes of education, that adopted for the formation of the female character is the most defective and misdirected. From the qualifications which the custom of society has been pleased to dole out to women, and the number of literary pursuits proscribed to them, in consequence of the foolish and overweening vanity of man (or rather, his arrogant assumption of superiority of intellect), in mistaking and conceitedly supposing that he alone is capable of comprehending them, it seems a necessary implication, that it was the intention of the authors of the notable device that the female portion of the species should never become women, but should always remain girls. By the moodish, frivolous, and misdirected plan of "accomplishments," as they are termed, instead of mental culture, the female mind is curtailed of its just proportions, and its powers are rendered waste and unproductive. By the bygone process in vogue among our grandmothers, of limiting the education of their daughters to cross-stitch and embroidery—to patch-work and piecing—to pickling and preserving—to the reparation of cotton and woollen hose, and chronicling of small beer—to the consideration of notable housewifery as the sole qualification for womankind—the grand and distinguishing symbol of domestic virtue and perfection—woman was not only excluded from a participation in the knowledge of all the sublime and ennobling truths of moral and intellectual science, but seems to have been considered merely a household drudge, or a creature of show—the instrument for supplying man's wants and necessities, instead of holding that rank and condition in the social scale which was ordained her by Heaven and the precepts of Christianity—his friend and equal, and a being of immortal hopes and destinies, as well as himself.

But, as female influence, though silent and unpretending, is great and decided on the interests and welfare of society (indeed, is the main and most powerful spring in the regulation and impulsion of the entangled machinery of human action—even her smile has the power of calling up the latent energies of man), and tends more to the advancement of excellence among men than any other human incentive, the proper direction of the female mind, the disciplining of it, and the exercise of its powers on matters of the utmost importance, not only to the present generation, but also to those that are to appear in indefinite succession on the theatre of existence. By the full development of the moral and the intellectual powers of woman, and the elevation of her worth and character in the scale of society, the hastening of the approach of a more perfect state of society, of the attainment of a higher tone of morals and mental illumination, may with confidence be looked

to; for the history of nations furnishes incontrovertible evidence that in proportion to the elevation or the depression of the sex, in the same ratio has the improvement of the condition of society progressed or retrograded; indeed, the condition of women is a safe index to determine the social advancement of states. According as the mental talents of women are elicited and cultivated, in the same proportion she is qualified to become man's instructive and interesting companion, or a clog and make-weight in retarding his progress and advancement to the full ordination of his being. As long as she is allowed to remain in a comparatively mental state of bondage and ignorance, so long must every qualification of man, the value of which woman cannot appreciate, be retarded, from the mere want of that applause and admiration, which man is most anxious to obtain, and which is not only his stimulus to exertion, but is also the sweetest and securest bond of virtue.

Another strong and conclusive argument that a substantial education—that is, one partaking of a little more sense, a little more science, a little more intellectuality, or, in more popular language, a few of the general principles of moral intellectual knowledge—of science and literature—should be given to females, is, that as maternal education forms the substratum upon which all instruction that is subsequently communicated is grounded, it is an indisputable axiom of ethical truth, that according to the groundwork the mother lays, she has the most decided influence on the future character and destinies of her offspring. To her charge is committed the immortal treasure of the infant mind—the cherishing and expanding the earliest germs of our intellect—the eliciting of the development of our moral and intellectual capabilities—the giving of the earliest, and therefore the most important, bias to the disposition. In fact, to her is confided, by the ordination of heaven, the power of moulding man into the worst or the best of created beings—whether he is to be virtuous or vicious—a useful or a useless member of society—the humble instrument for the fulfilment of the wise and inrotatable purposes of ineffable goodness and illimitable wisdom, or the bane and disgrace of humanity. As has been well and justly observed, "Possessed of warm and tender attachments, pure morals, and high religious feelings, woman is peculiarly calculated for the sacred charge of watching over and training up the young, and of instilling into their tender and plastic minds the beautiful lessons of early wisdom—of faith, truth, and charity." In truth, the foundation of many of the greatest and brightest minds that have adorned human nature—of patriots, philanthropists, improvers and benefactors of their species—has been elicited and fostered by maternal care and influence. Let, then, the mothers and daughters of the generation which now is, as well as those which are still to appear on the theatre of being, endeavor to qualify themselves for the same sublime and angelic purpose; and no doubt but that the countless millions of the human race who now are, and still are to come into existence, will derive the same incalculable and permanent benefit from their notable and exalted, their righteous and hallowed, exertions.

REPORTERS AND WEDDINGS.

There is a form of misery (says a writer in the *Saturday Review*) with which most of us have to make acquaintance at least once in our lives. Mankind has agreed to surround the marriage ceremony with observances of a distressing, not to say ridiculous, nature. It is generally assumed, we need not ask with what accuracy, that a marriage is in itself a cause for congratulation to the persons most immediately interested; and therefore it is inferred that they should suffer cheerfully the small deduction from their satisfaction which is involved in making themselves a show to their acquaintances and to the public generally. As the world becomes more civilized there is a tendency to diminish the quantity of ceremonial observed; the couple are allowed to seek refuge in flight, instead of being exposed to the coarse conviviality customary in former times; speech-making is rapidly dropping out of fashion; and it may be hoped that in time two human beings, performing the most solemn act of their lives, will be allowed to get through the business quietly and seriously without being exposed to the impertinent intrusions of the outside world. The world, however, is not disposed to give up its rights without a struggle. It is curious to remark how, even in London, the general public insists upon associating itself with what surely ought to be a private ceremony. The sight of a coachman with a white favor is sufficient to send a visible thrill of sensation through the population of a whole street. The doors of the church are thronged with a crowd as excited as though, instead of being absolute strangers, they were the attached tenantry of a feudal noble. Little knots of enthusiasts gather outside the house of the bride, and watch for hours on the chance of a distant vision of a wreath of orange flowers or of the white waistcoat of a sheepish young gentleman. The philosopher would be interested by a clear analysis of the state of mind of these unbidden guests. Are the poor ragged figures which gaze through the doors of the social paradise actuated by Communist sentiments? Are they jealous of splendors which they can never obtain, and repining at the arrangements which limit them to beer in place

of champagne? Or do they feel that for the moment all ranks are levelled, and rejoice in the consciousness that, after all, their social superiors are made of flesh and blood, and share the common passions of humanity? Or, as is perhaps more probable, is the ordinary emotion nothing but an unreflecting delight in the spectacle of well-dressed ladies and gentlemen, and visionary glimpses of sumptuous living? In spite of the democratic jealousy of which we hear so much, there is certainly a great capacity in ordinary human beings of taking a pleasure, which we may call unselfish if we approve, or funkyish if we disapprove, in any display of luxury, whether they have or have not any personal association with it.

THE SICILIAN VESPERS.

The terrible massacre known by the above title took place at Easter, in the year 1282. It was but a verification of the old proverb of the trodden worm turning to bite its oppressor's foot. At this period the Sicilians were ruled over by a French prince of the House of Anjou, with a tyranny of the most cruel and galling nature. Obnoxious to the Sicilians from his nation, the people had as well to bear the presence of a licentious and brutal alien soldiery to whom nothing was sacred; and the history of the times teems with accounts of the coarse insults to which husbands and fathers of all classes had to submit, as offered to those who were the nearest and dearest of their families. Under such a long course of oppression, it was but little wonder that the hot fire of Italian wrath should be smouldering, and waiting but for some slight fanning to leap into a devastating flame that should destroy all before it. The occasion arrived. Easter Monday being a grand fête day, a procession of the people of Palermo, was formed to attend vespers at a neighboring church; when the French rulers, who gazed with suspicion upon all gatherings of the people, made this a pretext for searching for arms. To a brutal, licentious soldiery, this supplied an opportunity for offering gross insults to the females, one of whom was a young married lady of great beauty and position. Her screams aroused the multitude; the spark was laid to the train; and, led by the lady's father and husband, the people rose in tumult. Arms were seized, and an indiscriminate slaughter of all the French in the city was the result.

This was but the alarm note for a general rising; and in town after town, upon that same day, massacres took place, the news flying swiftly, till not a place remained in the hands of the French but Messina. So hot was the people's rage, and so long a reign of cruelty had they to avenge, that mercy was forgotten, neither sex nor age was spared—French nationality being the password for death. Fortresses were attacked and carried, sharp and decisive engagements took place, and garrison after garrison was slaughtered; Messina only remaining at last to be taken to free the island from foreign yoke. But here a pause ensued; many of the more substantial inhabitants fearing the power of the insurgents as opposed to that of the trained soldiery. But again a spark illumined the fire. A citizen was seized by the French for appearing in public bearing arms. He resisted, aided by friends; but being overcome, they were borne off to prison; when, not content with the conquest, the viceroy sent to arrest the prisoners' wives. This injustice roused the people, who flew to arms, attacked the French, and slaughtered above three thousand, driving the others into their fortresses, which they took after an obstinate defence, and put the defenders to the sword.

The insurrection, commencing as it did on the night of the Palermo procession, has since been known by the name of the Sicilian Vespers. The number of French put to the sword has been variously estimated at from twenty to thirty thousand; but, whatever the number, the slaughter was fierce and indiscriminate; and, in spite of after-efforts to recover the territory, Sicily was from that time lost to the reigning King of Naples, Charles of Anjou.

A few days ago a gentleman in Concord, N. H., purchased a black horse and took him to a livery stable for keeping. The proprietor has a white cat which strays about the stable, but the other night nothing was seen of her. On going to the stall of the black horse the next morning the cat was found cuddled upon the horse's back sound asleep. She was taken off, and made persistent efforts to get back again, but was prevented from doing so. The horse became restless, and the cat was permitted to go back again, when she immediately went to sleep and the horse became quiet.

Judge B—, now on the Supreme Bench of California, was recently trying a case where the farmer claimed damages against a mining company for blowing "vailings" on to the farmer's land. A witness testified as to the effect of a stick lying in the stream of water carrying the vailins and obstructing the same. Judge B— (to witness): How large was the stick you speak of?—Witness: I don't recollect.—Judge B—: Can't you approximate to the size?—Witness: Well, no; I didn't measure it.—Judge B— (growing impatient): Well, sir, was it as thick as my wrist?—Witness: Well, yes, something bigger; from my recollection now, I should judge it to have been about as thick as your head.—A jocular expression seemed to play upon the features of the audience, the size of the stick having been fairly "approximated."

NEWS NOTES.

The strike on the Erie Railroad has ended.

Deaths, from famine are reported at Nepal, India.

The American fleet, in Florida Bay, are at torpedo practice.

Asiatic cholera at Buenos Ayres is carrying off about 50 persons daily.

There is said to be much sickness among the British troops in Ashantee.

Dr. Livingstone's remains are expected at Zanzibar about the 20th inst.

The Ohio has risen 37 feet at Cincinnati, and fears are entertained of a flood.

It is reported Secretary Fish is to go to England in place of Schenck, resigned.

The insurrection in China is spreading, and the insurgents are marching on Nagasaki.

Twenty-eight thousand persons in the Presidency of Bengal are in distress from want of food.

Horse and cattle disease has broken out in Baker Co., Oregon, and is spreading extensively.

McKay, the supposed author of the fraud on the New York Stock Exchange, has been arrested.

New buildings to the value of twenty-two millions of dollars were erected in New York last year.

The course for American naval cadet engineers is to be four years instead of two, as heretofore.

A grand fête was given by U. S. Minister Jewell at St. Petersburg, in honor of Washington's birth-day.

It is said the English Parliament immediately on re-assembling will be prorogued till the 12th of March.

An earthquake took place at Laguayra on the 6th instant, said to be the most severe one experienced since 1812.

Three companies of infantry and seven of cavalry have been despatched from Cayenne to the vicinity of Red Cloud Agency.

At the recommendation of Mr. Gladstone, the Queen has granted a pension of \$1,000 per annum to Dr. Livingstone's children.

Troops had been telegraphed for to Red Cloud Agency, in expectation of an immediate outbreak of hostilities by the Sioux Indians.

It is said that over 3,000 Spaniards were killed in the recent battle near Puerto Principe, Havana, including the Spanish Commander.

All the family of ex-President Baez have been banished from San Domingo, and Gen. Gonzalez, the President elect, was installed on the 27th ult.

The report of the capture of Portuguese is confirmed. General Moriones now confronts the main body of the Carlists, and a general engagement is hourly expected.

One thousand seven hundred and fifty persons employed in the Philadelphia Cotton and Woollen Mills are on strike and mean to hold out till the employers come to terms.

The famine in India threatens some twenty-seven districts, comprising a total population of 40,000,000, twelve districts being described as almost entirely without food and water.

Further outrages are reported by the Indians at Grand River Agency, Dakota, and they will concentrate at the foot of Black Hill by April, preparatory to a general war with the whites during the summer.

A dispatch from Detroit says the heavy wind yesterday drove the ice from the mouth of the Saginaw River into the Bay. Three hundred fishermen are said to be on the floating ice and at last accounts were five miles from land.

An order has been issued for householders and head of families to make a return of all residents on their premises liable to militia duty, non-compliance with which is punishable by fine. All other attempts to get at an accurate conscription list in Cuba have failed.

The official news from general Wolseley, commander of the Ashantee expedition on the 26th ult., is as follows:

"We reached here yesterday after five days hard fighting. The troops behaved admirably. Our casualties are under 300. The King has left the town, but is close by; he promises to visit me to-day and sign a treaty of peace. We hope to start on our return to the coast to-morrow. The wounded are recovering, and the health of the remainder of the army is good."

WINDSOR SOAP.—Slice the best white soap as thin as possible; melt it in a stewpan over a slow fire; scent it with oil of sassafras or any other scent, and then pour it into a mould made for that purpose. When it has stood for three or four days in a dry situation, cut it into square pieces, and it is fit for use.