# Correspondence.

THE MOURNING QUEEN OF THE SOUŤH.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED News

SIR.

I had intended sending to your ILLUSTRATED News my annual letter in regard to the displays of our masked secret societies. That of "Twelfth Night Revelers," which was to have occurred on the 6th inst. had been prepared at great expense, the costumes and furniture imported as usual the costumes and furniture imported as usual from Paris, and I am betraying no secret, when I state that the pageant would have equaled any of the "Mystic Krewe's" previous efforts. Our political troubles had, some months since, not been anticipated, at least we did not apprehend such a Gordian appearance of our difficulties, and though, milke that of Alexander, the sword of the "Piegan" hero, did not solve the difficulty, it was agreed by the members of the "Revelers" that an appearance of such a procession on our streets at such a time, would procession on our streets at such a time, would cause an accusation of heartlessness to our people, that would benefit us to no extent. The display has been therefore postponed to a more fitting season, and the other societies—the "Mystick Krew of Comus," and the "Knights of Momus" have most properly followed in the footsteps of the "Revelers." Whether "Rex," the potentate of the Carnival season, will likewise abstain from contributing to the public entertainment is a metter yet undecided tertainment is a matter yet undecided.

To those of your citizens who have visited our

burgh during the winter season, the "Crescent City" would doubtles wear a strange look. There have been no parties or private entertainments, the theatres have only held small audiences, and the lessee of the Opera House was compelled, last week, to announce that he would have to close its gates, as far as he was concerned. And so all pleasures, all business, have the same impress of dullness, consequent on a dull season, caused by mal-administration of public affairs, and an enforced submission to the will of a few adventurers, fattening, vampirelike on our lifeblood. With State and City securities daily depreciating with real extra education of the season. preciating, with real estate gradually diminishing in value, but as rapidly advancing in the rate of assessment, with no immediate prospects of reassessment, with no immediate prospects of the lief from any quarter, small wonder it is, that men's eyes will flash, and their jaws set firm, hands clench, while they mutter: "How long, oh God, how long?"

New-Orleans, Jan. 20, 1875.

# FORT McLEOD.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED

SIR, -- I am glad to be able to communicate to you the latest news received from Fort Hoop Up, (now Fort McLeod), on Old Man's River. Col. now Fort McLeod), on Old Man's River. Col. McLeod arrived at that place, on the 1st of November, and had to build quarters for his three troops. He has met with no trouble, except the arrest of two parties of outlaws with liquor which was spilt in the river. The men tried to collect some but could make nothing out of it. A pity: for the poor follows were under canvas pity; for the poor fellows were under canvas when the thermometer marked 20 below zero. The chiefs were fined from \$150 to \$200. One of them was retained, as the supposed Chatham murderer, who was to be taken down to Fort Garry in the spring, but the fellow effected his escape at the peril of his life, while being led by two keepers. Being a nigger, ball-cartridges had no effect on his skull. They have had plenty of splendid sport, and won't have any butcher's bill in the spring. All necessaries have been provided, and the men seem to be satisfied. Col. McLeod has unbounded confidence from his men from his men.

Fort Dufferin, Jan. 20, 1875.

# NEW PUBLICATIONS.

PENN MONTHLY. - If working out of the beaten track is a benefit to the reader, and a recommendation to the publisher—and we believe in both—then the young Philadelphia monthly deserves credit for its enterprise, as well as its learning. There is certainly something odd in the idea of the German Protest against slavery in 1688, but a perusal of the article shows principles and precedents of the highest actual utility. We look forward to much instruction from the series of papers on National Education, the first of which appeared in the February number. As we have often had occasion to day, the PENN MONTHLY is a solid publication, always well stored with new and substantial information.

MR. BLAKE'S AURORA SPEECH .-- We hail as a good sign the publication in permanent form of the utterances of our public men. They go to form the history of the country. Americans have been in the habit of publishing such pamphlets and the effect has always been apparent. Mr. Blake's speech deserved to be thus preserved, not so much for what it is, though its merits are undeniable, as for the tendencies to which it pointed. The work is published by our national annalist,

Henry J. Morgan, is printed by Perry, Ottawa, and is for sale at Dawson Bros. The comments of the Canadian press, forming a copious appendix, are no less curious than the speech itself, as showing that, spite of party differences, an appeal to national sentiment is well received by writers of every stamp.

STARK'S ALMANAC.—We have to thank the publisher of this useful little work—the Whittaker of Canada—for a copy of his Almanac. In small compass, it is crammed with every variety of useful information to the merchant, the professional man, the student and the ordinary fessional man, the student, and the ordinary reader.

ST. NICHOLAS.—The February number of this excellent juvenile magazine reached us in due time. As usual, it is replete with instructive, entime. As usual, it is replete with instructive, entertaining and amusing matter for the young. We heartily recommend all families to procure this unrivaled publication. The yearly price is only a trifle. Every single number is worth it, while at the end of the volume, the collected series is simply invaluable for the purposes to which it is devoted. We publish in our present issue a poem extracted from the present number.

SCRIBNER'S.—We have no space this week to give a list of the papers which constitute the February number of SCRIBNER'S MONTHLY, but we may say briefly that the chapters of Seven Oaks which it contains, and the second paper of Powell on the Canons of the Colorado, hold the first place, and are sufficient in themselves to ensure a large sale of the number. Scribner's monographs are a feature, and the present one on Thomas, the leader of the best orchestra ever heard in America, is in every way worthy of its predecessors. It is true that it is Hazzard's, one of the finest pens of the *Tribune*.

LIPPINCOTT'S.—From the Rhine to the Tiber. what a charming transition, and this is what LIPthat the papers on the Tiber were restricted to two, and that the concluding portion of the second, that describing the old river below Rome to the sea, was rather vague and hurried. The illustrations are beyond criticism. LIPPINCOTT promises a host of new features for the succeeding numbers to which we shall look with pleasure. In lightness, freshness, variety and beauty of appearance, this magazine is unsurpassed.

THE ATLANTIC--How rich in resources must THE ATLANTIC—How rich in resources must be that magazine which can give us, in one number, poems by Bryant and Longfellow, and verses by Celia Thaxter, Trowbridge and Stedman. All good, it goes without saying, except perhaps "The Skull in the Gold Drift," of the last. Stedman is an admirable critic and a His rhyme is good, his rhythm is good, the "make up" of his matter is good, but the mens make up of his matter is good, but the mens divinior and os magna sonaturum are wanting. He is perfect in the mechanics of verse, but no more. But the ATLANTIC has something better than even its poetry in this February number. It has a revealed a new writer at least to us. The sketch "Two Girls that tried Farming," is exquisite, not exactly for its matter which is charming humbug, but for its original manner. Dolly Shepherd must write again, and if she does, he will make a name or we are mistaken. The she will make a name, or we are mistaken. The description of Lou Burney's breaking of the aristocratic horse Pampas deserves a place in the next "Reader."

POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY.—Full and satisfactory as ever. "Animals not Automata" goes over old ground and is complete, but hardly clear enough, and, as a consequence, not conclusive. It is too much the fashion to scoff at pure metaphysics, and yet it is only the trained metaphysician, the schooled ontologist who can adequately treat this vamped up question of the origin of physical things. The old masters, from Aristotle to Aquinas, were not pigmies, but giants, and what they did not know about this giants, and what they did not know about this question, is not worth knowing, and cannot be taught us by Tyndall or Huxley. Tyndalls "Reply to the Critics," in the present number, is wordy and much of it is good, but extra viam. In mere autobiographic statement it is fair and satisfactory, but in disputation, it is lamentably weak. It will not help the writer's reputation. "The Relations of Women to the Professions and Skilled Labor," is exhaustive, matter of fact, and as such, deserving of wide attention.

THE CANADIAN MONTHLY. -As a national enterprise we cannot commend this periodical too terprise we cannot commend this periodical too highly. It should be supported by every lettered Canadian. Like all attempts of the kind in a young country, it has had its initial period of trial and loss, but now, it has fallen into active hands, and we believe will be pursued bravely and confidently. The tyographical execution is equal to the best. We may well be proud of the appearance of our Canadian Magazine. Its matter appearance of our Canadian Magazine. Its matter is very creditable indeed. The paper on "Ato-mism and Theism" is old fashioned in the sense that it goes honestly back to first principles and works out its logical conclusions carefully, but the substance is magnificent and unsurpassed by any thing we have read in more pretentious publications. The review of Draper's last work is also remarkable, as the first outspoken criticism, which we have seen, of an overrated book, crammed with padding and second hand information. "Current Events" which had undue importance attached to it, on account of its former writer, should be more accurate and better written, if it is to be retained as a feature. It reads too much like a hasty newspaper summary. We wish the CANADIAN MONTHLY every success, and if readers will only encourage it, we know there is talent and learning enough in the country to raise it to a high standard.

#### PUZZLES.

THE WONDERFUL TAKING.—Can you take forty-five from forty-five and let forty-five remain?—O yes. Subtract the digits 1 to 9, which added together make 45 from the same figures placed backwards, thus:—

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1=45
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9=45

8 6 4 1 9 7 5 3 2=45 To Tell the Figure Struck Out of the

SUM OF TWO GIVEN NUMBERS. - Command those numbers only that are divisible by nine—such, for instance, as 36, 63, 18, 117, 126, 162, 261, 360, 315, and 432. Then let a person choose any two of these numbers, and, after adding them together in his mind, strike out from the sum any one of the formers, he pleases from the sum any one of the figures he pleases.

After he has done so, desire him to tell you the sum of the remaining figures; and it follows that the number which you are obliged to add to this amount, in order to make it 9 or 18, is the one he struck out. Thus, suppose he choose the number 162 and 261, making the struck out. the numbers 162 and 261, making together 423, and that he strike out the centre figure, the two other figures will, added together, produce 7, which to make 9, requires 2, the number struck out struck out.

ANOTHER PUZZLER. - What is two-thirds of three-fourths of elevenpence-halfpenny?—Answer. Fivepence three-farthings. The two-thirds of the three-fourths of anything are just the one half of the whole.

ONE MORE.—Place the nine digits (that is the several figures or numbers under 10) in three rows, in such a way that adding them together, either up or down, across, or from corner to corner, they shall always make fifteen. Can't you do it? This, then, is the way:—

DON'T YOU SEE WHAT THIS IS ?-T. U. C. Co.—Does it not plainly say—After tea you see company.

Now, You CAN Do This ?-To half-a-dozen add six more, and put to that five hundred, when you will take out of it a lively word. What is the word? Answer. VI VI D (vivid).

BUYING A HORSE.—A man bought a horse to a fair. The price was a hundred and fifty guineas. "Can't you take less?" asked a buyer. a fair. The price was a hundred and fifty guineas. "Can't you take less?" asked a buyer. "Well, I'll tell you what I'll do. The horse has four shoes, and six nails in each shoe, and you shall give me a farthing for the first nail, halfpenny for the second, penny for the third, and so on." "Done!" said the buyer. "But," said the man, "will you promise if you do not like this arrangement, you will pay me the original price?" "Willingly," said the gentleman. So he began to reckon; so great was his astonishment, however, that he gladly paid the first price. How much was the second price?—Answer. 1st nail, \$\frac{1}{4}\times 2nd, \$\frac{1}{2}\times 3rd, 1d; \$4th, 2d; 5th, 4d; 6th, 8d; 7th, 1s 4d; 3rd, 1d; \$2th, £2 2s 8d; 13th, £4 5s 4d; 14th, £8 10s 8d; 15th, £17 1s 4d; 16th, £34 2s 8d; 17th, £68 5s 4d; 18th, £136 10s 8d; 19th, £273 1s 4c; 20th, £546 2s 8d; 21st, £1,092 5s 4d; 22nd, £2,184 10s 8d; 23rd, £4,369 1s 4d; 24th, £8,738 2s 8d. The sum total being £17,476 5s 3\frac{3}{2}\text{d}. 476 5s 32d.

# A NEW-OLD FRESCO.

Concerning the recent discovery of a fresco in Pompeii a writer says: "The excavacations are being made in the centre of the city, in the Strada Stabiana, leading to the Gate of Vesuvius, which is still underground; and it was at the eastern corner of the street, south of the Strada Nolana, that the fresco in question was discovered. Orpheus, seated on a rock by the side of a lake, is amusing himself by playing on a lyre. Many animals are running to listen to him. A panther has taken a seat on his left, and with open mouth, and a face expressive of wonder, is listening attentively. On the other side a lion, extended at full length on the ground, has changed his usually fierce expression for one of mildness; below his paws are a stag, a wild boar, a hare, an ibis, a stork, whilst two ducks are swimming rapidly across the lake, as if to approach Orpheus; above, on either side of the painting, are a panther, a leopard, tigers, cattle, and other animals. Not the least surprising fea-ture is an eagle, in the midst of this assembly, holding a rabbit in his talons, but which he has ceased to devour, so charmed is he by the attractions of the music. On each side of this fresco is a picture representing birds, arabesques, flowers, and fruit-trees. So much for the subject. As to critical observations, the wall itself is about seven metres in length and five in breadth. The beauty of Orpheus surpasses all description, especially the head, which is covered with curly locks; the face is cheerful, and full of the fire and rigor of youth. Amongst all the discoveries made in Pompeii this subject is unique, and whilst it is most interesting to art from its exact representation of life, it is equally so to archæology.

# HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

Jan. 28.—The Home Rule members have decided not to take part in the election of a Liberal leader for the Opposition in the British Parliament.

A Bill has been drafted in the French Assembly which authorizes a Government grant for the construction of a

Submarine Railway Tunnel between France and Eng

The Marquis of Hartington, in a speech delivered last evening, declared that he did not think the British peo-ple were prepared for such radical changes in the church and Parliament as Mr. Bright recently supported.

JAN. 29.—The Carlists have been firing on a British vessel on the Biscayan coast.

The death is telegraphed of the Roman Catholic Arch-bishop of Cashel, the Rev. Dr. Leahey.

A bill has been introduced into the German Parlia-ment for the prohibition of the import of potatoes from foreign countries, on account of the introduction of the Colorado beetle.

A despatch, quoting from the London Globe, says that the English Government have adopted a defensive sys-tem, by the aid of torpedoes, for the harbors of Bermuda and Halifax.

A vote is to be taken to-day in the French Assembly on the Constitutional Bill of M. Ventavon.

A battle seems to be imminent between the Carlists and the Alfonsists, to prevent the latter from relieving

Mr Duncan Macmillan has been elected for Eeast Middlesex by a majority of 173 over his opponent, Mr.

The Khedive of Egypt has presented General Sherman's daughter with a diamond necklace and ear-drops add to be worth \$250,000. The electors of Greenwich have passed resolutions ex-pressive of confidence in Mr. Gladstone, and regret at his retirement from the Leadership of the Liberal party

The United States Senates Privileges and Election Committee have decided that the Kellogg Government should be recognized as the legal administration of Louising.

JAN. 30—The Queen has telegraphed from Osborne for the immediate attendance of the Cabinet Ministers.

The French Assembly have rejected M. Laboulaye's smendment to the Ventavon bill by a majority of 24.

The first fancy dress skating carnival ever held at Fort Garry took place on Thursday night, some 300 people attending.

The Army of the North have made a move, and have already captured several important Carlist positions, a general attack being expected to day.

Thirteen of the Caraquet rioters have been lodged in jail. The excitement is said to be intense in the vicinity of the disturbance, and further trouble is apprehended notwithstanding the presence of the military.

A despatch from Quebec states that the Beauport Asylum was burnt down last night. Two of the patients were burnt to death; and the loss, which is little provided against by insurance, is said to be about \$75,000.

Archbishop Manning has published a 200 page pamph-let in reply to Mr. Gladstone's "Expostulation."

FEB. 1 .- Small pox is very prevalent in Yeddo.

Russia has recognised Alfonso as King of Spain.

The Bank Bill has passed the German Reichstag The Oxford and Cambridge boat race is fixed for March 20th.

M. Carlyle has declined the proffered honor of the Order of the Bath.

A new planet of the twelfth magnitude, has been discovered in Berlin.

The coal miners of South Wales, to the number of 120,000, have struck work.

A cordial interview took place, last week, between General Garibaldi and King Victor Emmanuel, when the unhealthy sanitary condition of the Campagna was discussed, and the General submitted proposals for an alleviation of the evil.

There was great excitement in Fort Garry, on Friday, the day fixed for the execution, in consequence of Lepine's commutation papers not being arrived. The difficulty was got over, however, hy his being reprieved for a week by Chief Justice Wood.

In a report presented tothe U.S. House by the Secretary of War, in reference to deepening the connection water-ways between Lakes Huron and Erie for the accommodation of vessels drawing 20 feet of water, the estimated cost was shown to be \$4,000,000.

A letter from Victoria, B. C., complains of the daily in fixing the boundary line between British Columbia and Alaska.

# LITERARY.

THE Rev. George Gilfillan is busy on a new book of poems.

ALEXANDER LEIGHTON, the author of the greater part of "Tales of the Borders," died, lately, in Edinburgh at the age of seventy-four.

A LITTLE work on British wild flowers consilered in their relation to insects has been written by Sir John Lubbock.

A WORK by Captain Burton, containing a his-tory of Congo and an account of all that is known of the river from the days of Diego Cam to recent times, is in the hands of the publisher.

SIR CHARLES LYELL has just been elected Foreign Member of the Royal Academy of Turin, in the room of the late Perpetual Secretary to the French Institute, M. Elie de Beaumont.

THE property and title of the Gazette de France, one of the oldest papers published in Paris, have just been sold to M. Gustave Janicot, principal editor of the journal the price and costs amounting to nearly journa! 200,000' f.

A NEW work, entitled, "The Inner Life o Syria; or, Benoni the Child of My Sorrow," is about to be published. This work contains an ascount of the habits and customs of the harem, and also enters upon the kind of life that an Englishwoman may make for herself who takes up her abode in the East. THE BOOKS OF 1874.—The Publisher's

THE BOOKS OF 1874.—The Publisher's Circular states that in the year 1874, there were published in Great Britain 3,351 new books, 961 new editions of older books, and 291 importations from America, making a total of 4,603' or 388 less than in the preceding year. This falling off may be accounted for by the increase in the cost of production. There is a decline of nearly 150 in theological books, but an increase in the number of scientific works and in the books classed under the title "Essays, Belles Lettres, &c." The publications of the year are divided into 14 classes. There are 664 theological works, 478 of them being new books, and not merely new editions nor American importations; of educational, classical, and philological works the numbers are 365 in all. 301 being our new books; of juvenile works the two numbers are 229 and 107; novels, 225 and 516; law, 124 and 71; on politics and trade, 133 and 101; arts, science, and illustrated works, 623 and 421; travels and geographical research, 244 and 178; history, biography, &c., 393 and 265; poetry and the drama, 305 and 223; year books and series in volumes, 249 and 243; medecine, 135 and 95; belles-lettres, essays, monographs, &c., 211 and 159; miscellaneous, including pamphlets, but not sermons. 103 and 93. Of our own 3,351 new books, 133 were published in January, 225 in February, 310 in March, 204 in April, 370 in May, 238 in June, 234 in July, 207 in August, 186 in September, 284 in October, 369 in November, 501 in December.