

Correspondence.

THE MOURNING QUEEN OF THE SOUTH.

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 from Paris, and I am betraying no secret, when I state that the pageant would have equalled any of the "Mystic Krewe's" previous efforts.

To those of your citizens who have visited our burgh during the winter season, the "Crescent City" would doubtless 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.

E. B.

New-Orleans, Jan. 20, 1875.

FORT McLEOD.

To the Editor of the CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS.

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. 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 split in the river.

X.

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.

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.

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 Whitaker 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 reader.

ST. NICHOLAS.—The February number of this excellent juvenile magazine reached us in due time. As usual, it is replete with instructive, entertaining and amusing matter for the young. We heartily recommend all families to procure this unrivalled publication.

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.

LIPPINCOTT'S.—From the Rhine to the Tiber, what a charming transition, and this is what LIPPINCOTT has furnished us. The only pity is that 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 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 finished literary scholar, but he is not a poet.

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 CANADIAN MONTHLY.—As a national enterprise 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.

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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 figures he pleases.

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.

15 6 . 7 2
15 1 . 5 9
15 8 3 . 4—15
15 15 15

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. "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."

A NEW-OLD FRESCO.

Concerning the recent discovery of a fresco in Pompeii a writer says: "The excavations 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.

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 England.

The Marquis of Hartington, in a speech delivered last evening, declared that he did not think the British people 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 Archbishop of Cashel, the Rev. Dr. Leahay.

A bill has been introduced into the German Parliament 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 system, by the aid of torpedo boats, 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. Ventavou.

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

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

The Khedive of Egypt has presented General Sherman's daughter with a diamond necklace and ear-drops said to be worth \$250,000.

The electors of Greenwich have passed resolutions expressive 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 Louisiana.

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

The French Assembly have rejected M. Laboulaye's amendment to the Ventavou 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 Caraquez 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 pamphlet 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 mines 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, by his being reprieved for a week by Chief Justice Wood.

In a report presented to the 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 30 feet of water, the estimated cost was shown to be \$4,000,000.

A letter from Victoria, B. C., complains of the daily infixing 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 considered in their relation to insects has been written by Sir John Lubbock.

A WORK by Captain Burton, containing a history 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 200,000'.

A NEW work, entitled, "The Inner Life of Syria; or, Beni of the Child of My Sorrow," is about to be published. This work contains an account 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 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 the 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 philosophical works the numbers are 365 in all, 301 being our new books; of juvenile works the two numbers are 229 and 107; novels, 825 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; medicine, 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.