



Our Gas Company

Taking advantage of a fire that is raging in the neighbourhood.

A New (and a happy) Invention.

The last arrivals from Europe bring intelligence of a new invention, which has been christened a Pick-pocket Trap. Some ingenious snip has designed a pocket, on the plan of an eel-trap, which, at one and the same time, holds the purse of those who are fortunate enough to be the possessor of such 'trash,' and also holds the person of him who would surreptitiously seek to make it his. Surely, it must be very capacious. We may, however, reasonably doubt its effectiveness, for thieves are much more slippery than eels. Be this as it may, it is likely to come into very general use, for some of its earliest results were of the most agreeable nature. Among other instances, we read that a man captured a *very beautiful young girl in an omnibus*. We should be pleased to learn how he secured the pretty culprit; whether by a chain, or by a ring, or by both.

New Idea.

Annexation of the North (west) having failed, our confederates contemplate, it is said, that (*sub rosa*) of the South.

It is Mr. Brown, they say, who has given colour to the report. The scheme is *black* indeed.

(Subsequently received.)

DIED.

In London, (England,) on the 31st ult., of apoplexy, "NORTH-WEST," last surviving "issue" of the Reverend George Brown, D.D., LL.D., Toronto, Canada West.

"The hopes are fled—the garland's dead
And all but me departed."
Ichabod! Ichabod!

* We implore our readers not to be deceived by the spurious intelligence received from England. The above is the 'correct card.' *Sprite*.

Cricket.

The return match between the Fusiliers and the Q. C. C., came off on Thursday. The military star was again in the ascendant. It is generally believed that several of the Quebecers had, before entering the field, taken a vow of total abstinence—in the article of runs. It certainly looked very much like it, for the first four men who went in earned the duck's eggs with neatness, celerity and despatch, as Mr. Reade hath it. One of the principal features of the match was the extremely good bowling of Mr. Steele. Mr. Barton and Sergeant Wright were also very much on the spot; Mr. White did good work in the second innings. With one or two exceptions, the least said about the *battery*, the better. The fielding, on both sides, was, generally, pretty good. We noticed a very neat bit of stumping by Mr. Crombie, which disposed of Mr. Hynd, one of the most dangerous men of the Fusiliers, and an extremely good catch at point, by Mr. Lemesurier, which got rid of Major Waller, another teaser. It promised to be a very close thing at the finish; the 7th lost six wickets, for a little over 20 runs, and but for one or two mistakes in the field the match might have had a different result.

Another word or two of admonition. The *Sprite* hears, with regret, that the Q. C. C. is not in that state of organization and discipline which leads to victory; that there are no regular periods set apart for practice; that the attendance of members in the field is uncertain and intermittent, that a lamentable state of indifference prevails, &c., &c. Reform this, and go to work in earnest. The raw material exists in abundance. There is another point, on which the *Sprite* is *really angry*:—why should well-conducted people be excluded from the field? It is something quite new to make a cricket match an exclusive or a hole-and-corner affair. On Thursday (fact!) three carriages, with ladies and gentlemen, visitors from the 'States,' drove to the field and were denied admission. They went away, no doubt, with some singular ideas respecting the politeness and courtesy of the Quebec Cricketers and Quebecers in general. This won't do.

Notices to Correspondents.

W.—Thanks for the idea.

"In the dead hours of the night." Paper so commencing, in our next. Lord A. Russell, &c., &c.—Should your lordship again have occasion to address the *Sprite*, please pay the postage.

RETURNS.—You may place implicit confidence in the *Sprite*. As the best proof we can give of this, we shall never insert a line of which a man has reason to be either afraid or ashamed.

BUSINESS NOTICES.

Advertisers will find THE SPRITE one of the most valuable mediums for communicating with the public which exists in the Province. Its circulation is very large; it is everywhere read and preserved; which last is of the first importance to advertisers; and it goes amongst every class of society. Our space, in this department, is very limited, and early applications will be necessary.

TERMS:—10 cts. per line for short advertisements; if over ten lines, 8 cts. per line. For second insertions, 5 cts. per line. Special contracts can be made.

Subscriptions will be received for the *Sprite* from the rural districts, (\$2.50 per annum,) but, in all cases, they must be paid in advance. Cash or P. O. Orders addressed to Editor, will be duly acknowledged.

We shall be happy to receive contributions; but it is almost needless to remark that they must be of excellent quality, and suitable for a publication of a high order. Respectability is a *sine qua non*. In a short time we shall pay, and liberally, for articles of sterling merit.

All communications to be addressed to the "Editor of the *Sprite*, Post Office, Quebec." We shall strictly adhere to the rule of rejecting unpaid letters. Books for review, &c., can be left with our publisher, Mr. Holwell, Puade Street, (opposite the post office,) Quebec.