

THE MYSTERIOUS ABDICATION.

The literary sensation of the hour in Germany is a revelation regarding the "mysterious abdication" of Ferdinand the Fifth, in Austria, during the revolutionary troubles of 1848. Baron Helfert, who seems to have been in the secret, now gives it to the world in his history of recent Austria, and it seems to have been a mystery from the very beginning. The Emperor had fled from Vienna to Olmutz to avoid the dangers of the rebellion. Early one morning a mysterious excitement pervaded the old town. Ladies and gentlemen were hastening on foot and in carriages, to the Archbishop's palace; mounted orderlies were flying hither and thither, and troops of every grade were hastening to a common rendezvous. It was soon discovered that nearly all the members of the Imperial household had arrived in the night, and that the ministers and all the high officers of State were present. No one could divine the cause of this unusual activity—neither the actors nor the spectators. The most influential men of the realm simply knew that they were ordered to assemble in gala dress in the palace at Olmutz, a little after daylight of a December morning. The company represented nearly every department of the Government, in all varieties of dress, even to the priestly robes of the high officials of the Church. Anxiety and consternation were on every countenance. Even the Archduke Ferdinand approached the master of ceremonies, begging to know why they were thus mysteriously called together at so unreasonable an hour. His only answer was, that his lips were sealed until events should tell their own story. And thus the fairest princesses of the Imperial Court were kept in the agony of suspense.

The incubus on the company was shown by the ominous silence or painful whispers, and the waiting minutes seemed to be hours. At last, at 8 o'clock, the folding-doors were thrown open, and their majesties, the Emperor and Empress, accompanied by the Archdukes Francis Charles and the present Emperor, Francis Joseph, solemnly entered and took the seats assigned to them. A breathless suspense controlled the assemblage as the Emperor arose, and taking a document from his breast, read as follows: "Weighty reasons have brought me to the irrevocable determination to lay down the imperial crown, which I do in favour of my beloved nephew; his father, my dear brother, renouncing all his rights to the throne in favour of his cherished son."

The Emperor then bade the Minister of State lay before him the necessary documents for signature and ratification by witnesses, after which the youthful successor approached his uncle and knelt before him, in such a state of mental agitation that he could not command his words of gratitude. The abdicating monarch bent over him with his benediction, and then embracing him, uttered the only free words heard during the entire scene: "God bless thee; be honest and God will protect thee. I have acted freely and willingly." Women burst into violent sobs, and the eyes of strong men became fountains of tears.—*Scribner's for April.*

A GENEROUS BUTCHER.—In a journal published in the canton of Geneva we read: "We advise the butchers of Geneva to imitate the following example that we take from the *Journal et Feuille d'Avis d'Yverdon*: 'I, Frederic Roulet, butcher, inform the public of Yverdon and its neighbourhood that, from this day forward, I lower the price of meat; if this first abatement does not suffice, I will still more reduce the price. The poor brother shall be able to enjoy himself at a small cost. The rich one shall find economy and profit. Everyone shall be well served. I shall have the satisfaction, as a good Christian, of giving a good turn to all here below; since, if the sinister prediction of a certain astronomer be realized, I shall find myself, at the first shock, taking a spring into the abode of the blest, surrounded with friends, and with obliged and grateful souls. A bon entendeur salut.'"

In the *Chicago Post* we find the following anecdote of the Rev. Wm. Scott, of Canada:—"TABLE TALK.—Here is an anecdote worth giving. There is a Methodist minister in Canada, named Scott, eloquent, witty and genial. There was a Methodist minister in Canada, named Steer—the Rev. Wm. Steer. It is not flattering Mr. Steer to say that he was the worst speaker that ever attained to 'thirteenthly.' It was during a conference (at Sherbrooke, if the Table-talker is not wrong) that several ministers billeted in one house were discussing Mr. Steer's merits and eccentricities. Mr. Scott lay luxuriously on a sofa during the debate. Finally one of the disputants asked him: 'Brother Scott, what do you think about Brother Steer's preaching?' 'Think?' replied Brother Scott, without removing his clasped hands from under his head, 'why, I think Steer will never become a Knox.'"

SOMETHING ABOUT MORGAN.—The man who drove the stage in which Morgan, the man who "exposed" Masonry, was carried off, lives

near Ridgeway Station, in this State, as we learn upon good authority, and expect everybody to believe. His name is Charles Davis. Let no one imagine, however, that he knows what became of Morgan, or that if he does he will divulge the secret. But of one thing we are assured—that he lives in constant dread of some imaginary danger threatening him, and never leaves his house alone after dark. If he only wishes to go to his barn after the sun has set, he calls upon his wife to accompany him. He is now an old man, but the terror of his early days still hangs over him.—*Port Huron Times.*

QUITE CORRECT.—The Indian Medicine known as the Great Shoshonees Remedy and Pills will be found to be the most reliable curative and blood purifier when spring after a long and inclement winter re-opens the pores of the skin and an alternative is required to transfer impurities from the body through these natural outlets. The Remedy and Pills can be confidently recommended as the surest, safest, and easiest means of attaining this desirable end, without weakening the most delicate or incommencing the most feeble. When from frequent chills or impure air the blood becomes foul and the secretions vitiated, this medicine presents a ready and efficient means of cleansing the former and correcting the latter; it may fairly be said of this celebrated Indian Medicine that it radically removes all corrupt and disordered elements from the system. 5-14 d

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BUY YOUR WHITE DRESS SHIRTS,
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BUY YOUR OXFORD SHIRTS,
BUY YOUR GLOVES & COLLARS,
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A CHEMICAL FOOD AND NUTRITIVE TONIC.

ALL the Organs and Tissues of the body are constructed and nourished by the Blood which holds in solution the material of which are made bone, muscle and nerve, and distributes to each its proper proportion. To insure perfect formation of this vitalizing agent, there must be complete Digestion and Assimilation. When these functions are deranged there will be Dyspepsia, the food will be imperfectly dissolved from insufficient gastric juice, the blood will become watery and deficient in fibrin, the vital principle, and the whole system undergo degeneration from perverted nutrition; diseases of the Liver, Kidneys, Heart and Lungs, with Nervous Prostration and General Debility result, and the constitution is broken down with Wasting Chronic Diseases. To enable the Stomach to digest food, and to supply the waste going on from mental and physical exertion, Dr. Wheeler's Compound Elixir of Phosphates and Calisaya is reliable, and permanent in its effects.
Sold by all Druggists at \$1. 4-26zz

NOTICE.

DOMINION METAL WORKS.

WE beg to inform our customers that we have made arrangements which will enable us (notwithstanding the fire which occurred on our premises this day), to execute all orders as usual. In the meantime we have taken the premises, No. 77 St. James Street, in rear of our late premises, where all orders will be received and attended to with as little delay as possible.
CHARLES GARTH & CO.
Montreal, March 27th, 1872. 5-14a

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GEORGE E. DESBARATS,

Canadian Illustrated News,

MONTREAL.

20th March, 1872.

5-12 tf

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NOTICE is hereby given that the water will be drawn out of the "Lachine Canal" on the tenth instant, or as soon after as the repairs can be proceeded with, and will remain out until the necessary repairs have been completed.

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PROSPECTUS.

THE INCREASED COST OF FUEL IS yearly becoming a matter of the most serious importance to the Citizens of Montreal. In a climate so rigorous as ours, this question becomes, next to food, a vital one. Indeed it may be said that the one is as important as the other.

The sufferings experienced by the poorer classes during the winter from an insufficient supply of fuel can hardly be over-estimated, while the cost has been gradually increasing, almost putting it without the power of many to keep themselves and their children from perishing.

To counteract, in some degree at least, the amount of suffering which exists in this city every winter, it is proposed to form a Joint-Stock Company, for the purpose of selling fuel at such a price, which, while returning to the Shareholders a good remuneration for their investments, will at the same time furnish the public with an opportunity of supplying themselves with Wood and Coal of the best qualities, and guaranteed both as regards measure and weight, at a moderate advance on the cost.

In order to assist the working classes to lay in their winter supply of fuel with least inconvenience, and to encourage habits of saving and forethought, it is proposed to receive weekly deposits during the summer and autumn months, for which Wood or Coal will be supplied; and as a further inducement to depositors, a discount of five per cent. will be allowed on all their purchases. Shareholders in the Company will also be entitled to a discount on their purchases of five per cent.

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The annual consumption of wood in the city of Montreal must exceed 150,000 cords. With the inducements which this Company will present, it may safely be estimated that sales will be easily effected to the extent of 10,000 cords per annum, which, at a profit of \$1 per cord, will yield a revenue of \$10,000. Added to which, Coal, to the extent of 5,000 tons, could be disposed of, yielding a profit of \$1 per ton, 5,000

Expense of management, 10,000

Yielding a net profit of \$5,000

Or at the rate of 10 per cent. on the gross capital.

It will thus be seen that three objects of considerable importance will be obtained by the organization of this Company.

1st. Fuel will be supplied at the lowest possible rate, and with guaranteed weights and measure.

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Applications for Shares will be received by Mr. ROBERT WATSON, at the Office of WATSON & LINDSAY, Merchants' Exchange.

MONTREAL, March 18th, 1872. 5-14 b

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4-16 tf

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