

The Hearthstone.

GEORGE E. DESBARATS, Publisher and Proprietor.

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THE ELECTIONS.

Before this reaches the eyes of our readers the bulk of the elections for the Dominion Parliament will have taken place; and from present indications the present ministry promises to receive a hearty endorsement from the public and to enter on the next session with an increased working majority.

"To beard the lion in his den, The Douglas in his hall;"

was a bold one and they fought the fight out to the bitter end with pluck and persistency, and their defeat will doubtless have the effect of greatly discouraging them through the remainder of the campaign.

EMANCIPATING THE BLACKS.

The emancipation of the slaves in the British West India Islands went into effect on 1st August 1834; on which date upwards of eight hundred thousand slaves were given their liberty; the English government purchasing them from the owners at a cost of one hundred millions of dollars, or about one hundred and twenty five dollars each.

effort was at last attained, and the greatest blot which ever disgraced the escutcheon of England removed. Since then almost every civilized nation has followed in the footsteps of England and abolished slavery in their dominions.

(For the Hearthstone.) AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY. BY G. M. JACOBS.

Like the majority of my sex, I have loved in several cases, "not wisely but too well." Although I will not complain that I have been much deceived, but like others who have lived before me, and who will live after me, I feel sure that if my time were to come over again, I should act differently.

THE HERALD EXPEDITION.

It does seem rather hard that ill-natured and skeptical people will insist in believing that Mr. Stanley never met Dr. Livingstone at all; and that the pathetic meeting so graphically described occurred only in the imagination of the "great special." It appears hard, but it is only the result of the reputation for unreliability which the Herald has gained for itself; while every one will admit the great enterprise of the paper in gathering news, still its constant disposition to manufacture when the real article cannot be had, is too well known for much confidence to be placed in any report which appears exclusively in the Herald.

ANOTHER VIEW.—A tabular statement recently appeared in some of the city papers, showing that the number of prisoners in jail on the first day of July, for the last ten years, had gradually diminished.

The following is another tabular statement, referring exclusively to the city. It gives the number of convictions for offences against statutes and by-laws of the City of Montreal, from 1861 to 1871, both inclusive, being for the most part for petty misdemeanors.

Table with 2 columns: Years, Convictions. 1861 4929, 1862 5181, 1863 6153, 1864 6972, 1865 6948, 1866 7368, 1867 7088, 1868 7025, 1869 7030, 1870 7070, 1871 7167.

Taking the population of the city in 1861 at 90,000, and in 1871 at 110,000, it would seem that whilst the population had increased by about 30 per cent, the convictions had increased by some 45 per cent.—Montreal Witness.

never forget it, the poor dear was just going to her daily toll, it was a very dark and dismal morning when the postman put a foreign looking letter in her hand. She knew the handwriting at once, the colour came and went over her marble like face, trembling she tottered into her mother's room, when she came out the brightest of smiles beamed through her tears.

I get plenty to eat now, and eat with a more cheerful heart than when food was so scarce. I hope no more changes will come. My old age will terminate in my present happy home.

Montreal, July 19, 1872.

EPITOME OF LATEST NEWS.

UNITED STATES.—The Boston four mills were burned on 27th ult., together with a large amount of property to the value of \$100,000. The fire started in a Washington despatch office, and General Sterling, U. S. Consul agent, in his report of the investigation of Consul-General Butler's affairs sustains the official and assumed position of the fire.

CANADA.—It is currently reported that Messrs. Blake and McKenzie will no longer submit to the dictation of the Globe, and that they will purchase the right of the Toronto Telegraph, and run a rival paper in the city of Toronto.

ENGLAND.—At the Goodwood races, on the 31st ult., the Goodwood stakes were won by Spennithorne, the winner of the preceding year, and the second was second, Kingarath third; 16 ran.—Sir James O'Connell, brother of Daniel O'Connell, died on 27th ult.—There is authority for the statement that there is considerable interest in the organization of a Universal Teachers' Association.

SWITZERLAND.—Advices to the 1st inst. state that a despatch from Geneva says that absolutely no particulars are obtainable of the proceedings at the trial of the American artist, who received commissions from the Queen and the Marquis of Lorne to paint for them several pictures representing scenes in the Arctic ocean.—The race for the Goodwood Cup occurred on the 31st inst. and was won by Fenwick's Albert Victor second; Verdure third. Only five horses ran. The course was two and a half miles.

SPAIN.—The statement that the government intends selling the property which has been seized belonging to persons engaged in the Cuban insurrection is denied. The accounts have been received at the Department of War of the defeat of another band of Carlist insurgents in the first department, with the loss of 8 killed and 30 wounded.—An official report is made to the Department of War, announcing the total defeat of Castille's band of Carlists, numbering one thousand men, which has maintained its organization in the north of Spain. Thirteen Carlists were killed and forty-five captured, ten of whom were wounded. The defeated insurgents carried off wounded with them. The defeat of another band of insurgents is reported with the loss of three men killed and many wounded.

FRANCE.—A report is in circulation that the Duc D'Anjou intends resigning his seat in the Assembly.—The French Government contemplates the resumption of diplomatic relations with Mexico, the death of Juarez having removed the only obstacle thereto.—A magnificent railway station at Metz has been destroyed by fire. This is the fourth large fire which has occurred in this city within twelve months.—The total amount of the loan authorized by the Emperor amounts to four milliard francs, while but three milliards were called for. Of the amount 500 millions of francs have been subscribed by German capitalists in the city of Berlin.

track in Kustrin, was run into by the mail train, and dashed to pieces. Eight passengers were killed outright, and of the others in the omnibus some escaped injury.

JAPAN.—Advices from Y-pau say the Mikado has avoided the difficulty about the presentation of foreign Ministers by consenting to both parties standing during the reception, which satisfies the English Minister. The first party presented was Admiral Feilding, of the U. S. Navy.

MEXICO.—Banished revolutionists are returning to Mexico.—Telegraphic communication will be opened to the City of Mexico in a few days.—Flores and revolutionary chiefs are to hold a conference on the 23rd of Monterey.—The revolution is virtually ended.

ITALY.—The Pope will shortly issue an encyclical letter, declaring the Society of American Catholics to be separated from the Church of Rome, and placing its members under the ban of excommunication.

AUSTRIA.—The Vienna Industrial Exhibition for all nations will commence on May 1st, 1873, and close on October 31st of that year.

LITERARY ITEMS.

The August number of "Old and New" opens with a decided array of views on "The Two England's," one friendly and the other hostile to the United States. This is followed by a very interesting summary from the official documents of the American and British Cases at Geneva.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE for August is more than usually brilliant and attractive. The opening article, "A Sketch of the History of the Slave Trade," is one of the most pleasing sketches which have lately been contributed to the periodical press. It delineates, with an appreciative skill, the charming scenery of the Lehigh, and the striking contrast between the popular manner, considerable information respecting one of the most important and delightful sections of Pennsylvania. It is illustrated in a profuse and masterly manner, and the concluding portion of "Travels in the Air," this paper is full of recitals of daring and singular adventures in aerostatics, and whilst furnishing many curious and valuable facts, offers a liberal share of beautiful excitement.

HARPER'S MAGAZINE for August is crowded with fresh, seasonable, and attractive matter, illustrated with sixty-six engravings, and presents a magnificent array of contributors, including the names of Charles Reade, Anthony Trollope, Miss Thackeray, G. A. Henty, Justin McCarthy, Fortie Crayon, Hayward Taylor, Harriet Prescott Spofford, Eugene Lawrence, Charles K. Tuckerman, George Ward Nichols, Kate Putnam Osgood, Constance E. Woolson, &c. Its opening article, "Mount Desert," by George Ward Nichols, is illustrated by Charles Parsons. Porto Crayon's Southern sketches, "The Mountains," are resumed, with twelve illustrations by the author. J. Augustus Johnson contributes an interesting article of travel, "On the Routes of Prussia," "The Bulwers," and "Tommyson as a Smoker." Upon the whole this number is one of a particularly entertaining character.

AN UNMANNABLE ENO.—Up in the Lehigh Valley there is a hotelkeeper who has a mountain about a quarter of a mile from his house, and it occurred to him that it would be a good idea if he could fix things so that a magnificent echo would be heard from the mountain by persons who stood at his hotel and talked. He thought the phenomenon might attract visitors.

He engaged a boy named Jim Simms, who lived over on the mountain, to be on hand every day from twelve to two, and to create himself behind a little clump of trees, and when he saw anybody on the roof of the hotel, and heard them talking, to shout their words fifty or sixty times in a voice which grew fainter and fainter. He made Jim practice, and the result was splendid. So one day the landlord announced that he had discovered that a noble echo could be heard from the roof of the hotel, and took a lot of people up to let them enjoy the discovery.

Some guests called for half an hour, but without hearing any echo. The landlord was grinning with rage; but just as he was about to give it up the voice of Jim came sailing over the river to this effect: "Jim down to the spring for water. Fire away, now, I'm all right." The guests smiled, and the landlord glided down-stairs and tore over to Simms's, where he shook James up a few times, and gave him letters and some fresh instructions. In a few days the landlord went home, attended the choir, and heard the echo. It worked grandly for a while, but all of a sudden it stopped in the middle of an impressive reverberation. In vain the callers strove to awake the echo. It was dumb. But, presently, in answer to an exceedingly boisterous cry, the following strain was whistled across from Mr. Simms: "You come over here and make Jim gimme my knife, and then I'll hand." The guests smiled, and the landlord dropped down-stairs and charged over to the mountain. There was Mr. James Simms lying prone upon the ground, with a big boy holding him down and whistling him. Mr. Simms and his antagonist had engaged in a game of whumples, during which the big boy had seized Mr. Simms's knife, and Jim had at once lost his interest in the echo business. The landlord went home, attended the choir, and nailed the trap-door fast. No more echoes for him.