

The Hearthstone. GEORGE E. DESBARATS, Publisher and Proprietor.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, NOV. 16, 1872.

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OUR PRIZE STORIES.

We must ask the competitors for the prizes offered by us for stories to have a little patience. We had a very large response to our offers, receiving upwards of sixty stories of various lengths, making the task of reading a much longer and heavier one than we had anticipated.

ABOUT FASHION.

It is "the fashion" to abuse the fashions; no matter what extremes they run into, or what happy medium they hit, there will always be found some to abuse the present fashions and call them "absurd," "ridiculous," &c., and sigh for the "good old days" when girls did not wear a bushel of false hair on their heads, or half a hundred weight of cotton stuck about various parts of their persons.

cause somebody says it is the fashion. We like to see people neatly and stylishly dressed; but we hate to see women devoting the best part of their time to an insane mania for following every new fashion.

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

The election for President and Vice-President of the United States passed off very quietly on 5th Inst., and resulted in the re-election of General Grant by an overwhelming majority. The returns are as yet rather incomplete, but it is certain that Grant will receive about two-thirds of the votes of the Electoral College, and the popular vote will probably be still more in his favor.

BURNT BOSTON.

Just thirteen months ago the world was startled at the sudden and terrible destruction by the Fire King of Chicago, and now we are informed that the whole business portion of Boston has been blotted out.

LITERARY ITEMS.

The November number of Old and New contains much live writing referring to subjects of present interest. Mr. Hale in the Introduction boldly defends as a magazine his right and duty to discuss politics, very much as the ministers used to do in the Kansas times.

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

CHARLES MATTHEWS, the comedian, being greatly pestered with applications for assistance from virtue in distress, is out in the English papers with a characteristic card.

I HAVE NO CHANCE.

A pewter plate founded the Peel family. Robert, in the poor country about Blackburn, seeing a large family growing up about him, felt that some source of income must be added to the meagre products of the little farm.

Lanashire, and Robert Peel to this day is called in the neighborhood of Blackburn, "Parley Peel."

Richard Arkwright, the thirteenth child in a brood, with no knowledge of letters—an underground barber, with a vixen for a wife, who smashed up his models and threw them out—gave his successful spinning models to the world, and put a sceptre in England's right hand such as no sovereign ever wielded.

The jumping ten-kettle lid is said to have put the steam into the boy's head who gave us the great glut of modern industry. A kite and a key in Franklin's hands, were the grandparents of our telegraphs, and all the blessings of modern inventions applying to electricity.

Don't say you have no chance! You have the same chance, and better than the world's greatest and best men have enjoyed. Men unfortunately overrate riches, and undervalue their own strength; the former will do far less than we suppose, and the latter far more.

The following is an article from the pen of Fanny Fern, written when she was so ill that she could not use her right hand, and consequently had to write it with her left hand:

THE SINS OF CHRISTIANS.

Most people suppose that as soon as a person joins the church, perfection in thought, word and deed is to be demanded of him. They forget that, like other soldiers who have enlisted, the most loyal and true-hearted have moments when the weary body succumbs to torpor; or the stunted vision, through the dust and smoke of battle, loses sight of the heights to be attained; or the benumbed ear listens feebly for the rallying cry.

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THE FARM AND FRESIDE JOURNAL.

This journal is a marked exception to all low-priced periodicals, from the fact that it is a model of typographical elegance, and is printed on beautiful, toned paper. The contents are not only popular and interesting, but highly instructive and thoroughly accurate, and the whole appearance of the journal is calculated to promote the desire for knowledge as well as to aid in furnishing information.

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In the year 1788 composed a Te Deum to be performed in St. Petersburg in celebration of the capture of Fort Czarkow by Potemkin; besides enormous vocal and instrumental masses, Sarti had a number of cannon placed in the courtyard to deepen the bass at given times. His experiment was successful and Catherine II. ennobled him for it.

ELECTRICITY AND LOVE.—A lover in Arkansas, falling to make a favorable impression on the heart of the girl whom he loved, went to a fortune-teller for advice. The fortune-teller advised him to try electricity on the obturate fair one. Thereupon the lover procured an electrical battery, and after a deal of manœuvring succeeded in connecting it with a seat which the young lady was occupying.

MR. FRANK BUCKLAND, Editor of Land and Water, and a very agreeable writer upon natural history, makes a very sensible suggestion which may have some bearing on the question of the high price of meat in England, if carried out.

THE LARGEST ROSE-TREE in the world is said to flourish in Ceylon. It is stated to be 80 feet in circumference, 150 feet high, and is at the present time bearing upwards of 2,000 roses.

PARIS has had another small sensation. For some time past some of the best fashion articles have been those of the "Vicomtesse de Bury," and now it is generally known that the "Vicomtesse de Bury" is M. M. Recette, chief clerk in the office of the Superintendent of Police.

THE LAST LIVINGSTONE story is as follows:—Doctor Livingstone tells of grass in Africa which is over half an inch in diameter in the stalk, and from ten to twelve feet high. He says that only elephants can walk through it.

STANLEY is coming. Look out for a new discovery. Unless he discovers the City of Hattin, or the Sea Serpent, or that Horace Greeley has been elected President, or something else during his trip across the Atlantic, he is expected to lecture in New York, next month, about the way he discovered Livingstone.

IN ARKANSAS a man was sentenced to be hanged, but all the carpenters in the neighborhood refused to build the scaffold. As the condemned man was himself a carpenter by trade, the sheriff tried to get him to put up the gallows, but he steadfastly declared he'd be hanged if he did.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC clergy of Dublin have paid Mile. Tietjens a very just tribute to her services by singing in St. Patrick's Cathedral, by presenting her with an address written on vellum and illuminated in the highest style of art.

READY colored macassar pipes should be purchased with caution. It appears that noxious pigments are frequently employed to give the clay the desired hue. From these arise various stomachic and other complaints.

THE CROWD who went out from San Francisco with baskets and shovels to scoop up diamonds and rubies in Arizona are rapidly returning, and their profane adjectives can be distinctly heard a considerable distance.

POOR MISS AB-SIN—If there ever was or should be such a lady in China—could never become Mrs. Ab-Sin, for persons bearing the same surname are not permitted to marry each other in that country.

A CALIFORNIA paper says that during a recent earthquake in that State, a man made an involuntary exchange of his farm for a fishpond.

SAPPHIRE is the stone most used for betrothal rings in Eastern countries. Its color being emblematic of faithfulness.

A WOMAN in Jersey County, Ill., challenges any man in the country to a ploughing match with her for \$100 a side.

ROSA BONHEUR thinks of visiting the United States within a year.

EPILOGUE OF LATEST NEWS.

UNITED STATES.—The Presidential election on 5th inst. resulted in an overwhelming majority for Grant, who is therefore, elected for another term of four years. The Mercury says that Mayor Hall has charges prepared to commence suit against the proprietor and editor of the Times and Harper Bros.

noted trotting horse, died from the horse disease in Boston.—On Friday night two freight trains collided on the Huntington and Broad Top Railroad. Conductor Bonser and three others were instantly killed, and another mortally injured.

CANADA.—A powerful steam whaler has just been put in operation in St. Paul's Island, Gulf of St. Lawrence.—The section of the Quebec Colony Railway between River du Loup and the bridge of Trois Pistoles will be opened for traffic on the 15th inst.—On 4th inst. the Hon. Wm. Molson, M.P., will shortly re-enter the administration.—Mr. Stanislas Drapau, of the Bureau of Agriculture, has issued the prospectus of a work which will prove a most important contribution to the history of the country.

IRELAND.—John Francis Maguire, the well-known Irish member of Parliament for Cork city, and promoter of the Cork Branch of the Fenian Society, died on 2nd inst. He was in the 57th year of his age. The Court were being held on 2nd inst. in Dims, a parish in the County Cork, near Bantry, Ireland, the roof of the room gave way and precipitated two hundred persons a distance of four feet, the result of which was the death of one and the injury of some of whom may die.—London files report that Messrs. Gwynne and Hamilton propose raising the money to meet the American claims by the issue of a cheque or bonds will be issued as a compensation for part of the fifteen millions, so as to spread the payment over a considerable period.

FRANCE.—The preliminary examination of the case of Marshal Bazaine, who is to be tried by the Court Martial for surrendering the fortifications and city of Metz during the late war, has been resumed.—The German Government will re-establish next year the Republic of Alsace-Lorraine, in the form in which they existed under the Empire.—The evacuation of the Department of the Upper Marne by the German troops, has been completed. The Department of Marne is slowly proceeding.—The President of France has declared that Prince Napoleon cannot legally bring a suit in the Courts against the Minister of the Interior, in connection with the expulsion from France was ordered by the Government over which the Prince alone has jurisdiction. Prince Napoleon writes that he intends to persist in the prosecution of the case, notwithstanding the opinion of the Procureur General, who has advised that there was great probability over the evacuation of that city by the German troops. The buildings were decorated with French colors and flowers, and at night there was a general illumination. The theatre was opened for the first time since the occupation of the city, and a performance was performed by the orchestra in response to the calls from the audience.—France will continue to make similar insurances at the end of the year, so that on the 1st January only two milliards of the war indemnity will remain unpaid.

SPAIN.—Senor Balaguer, Minister of Finance in Sagasta's Cabinet, demands a prompt meeting of the special committee of the Cortes on attachment and the special trial of the charges against him and his colleagues.—The Republicans and advanced Radicals in the Cortes have resolved to push forward the impeachment proceedings notwithstanding Senor Zorilla's advice to the contrary.—The Queen of Spain is expected to visit the Cortes.—The financial committee of the Lower House has approved of the mortgage and bank bills.

GERMANY.—A pamphlet entitled "Away with the House of Peers" has appeared. Karl Blind is the author. Its publication and sale have in no way been interfered with by the authorities. A Provincial Correspondent intimates that Government will maintain the basis of the Country Reform Bill, will ask the Lower House to agree to partial modifications. In the mean time, a measure will be taken to insure the adoption of the bill. The golden wedding of the King and Queen of Saxony was celebrated at Dresden on 4th inst. with imposing ceremonies. The occasion was remarkable by the presence of the Emperor, Empress and Prince of Germany, who thus gave proof of the complete restoration of good feeling between the German and Saxon Courts.

DEMOCRATS.—Accounts from Democrats say that the result in the election on the part of the coolies, resulted in the death of five of their number, and the wounding of six. The disturbance originated in the vonshiro estate on the difficulty about wages. One coolie was arrested, and when about to be tried his associates arrived with cartridges and revolvers, took possession of the estate, drove off blankets, and endeavored to kill the overcooler. When the police arrived the coolies became very defiant, and finally attacked the officers, who fired upon them with the result that a detachment of troops was sent to the scene, but the coolies had returned to work and all was quiet.

ITALY.—The inundations along the banks of the Po continue. Mantua, which was threatened, has so far escaped. The town of Palazzano, situated near the city of Brescia, in the Province of the latter name, was visited by a terrible deluge on 4th inst. One-half of the buildings in the town were demolished, and 22 persons killed by falling walls and timbers. One thousand families were made homeless.

BRITAIN.—On the 8th inst. a mine at Mauburg, near Charlton, the lowering machinery gave way and a gang of miners were descending to work. Twenty-one men and boys were precipitated several hundred feet to the bottom of the shaft, and all killed.

AMERICA.—Mr. Post, American Consul, has received under his protection 25 Jewish families, who fled from persecution in Wallachia. A petition has been opened at the Consulate to enable them to emigrate to the United States.

CHINA.—A despatch from Peking announces that the Emperor of China was married on the 15th of October. There was no outside celebration, a procession, which escorted the bride from her residence to the Imperial Palace.

BOLIVIA.—The railroad which is to open up Bolivia, South America, in communication with the other world by way of the Madesa river, is being rapidly pushed forward.