

The Hearthstone.

GEORGE E. DESBARATS,
Publisher and Proprietor.

MONTREAL, SATURDAY, JAN. 13, 1872.

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BACK NUMBERS.

In answer to constant inquiries we would again state that every number of our paper is stereotyped and we can therefore furnish back numbers from the commencement of any story at any time. A quantity of the numbers with the early portions of Poor Miss Finch and CASTAWAY are on hand and can be forwarded at very short notice.

TRAINING CHILDREN.

Few of us understand and appreciate properly the full truth of the saying of Solomon "as the twig is bent so will the tree incline," and are too apt to pay but little attention to the early training of children, and so in after years we are grieved and shocked to find that we have unconsciously bent the twig the wrong way; and the children on whom we had depended to be the joy and comfort of our declining years, have "turned out bad" and are bringing us nothing but sorrow and trouble where we had expected peace and happiness. Many parents think that if they dress their children well, feed them plentifully, keep them clean, give them good advice when asked for it, teach them their prayers, send them to school and Sunday school and occasionally give them a good sound thrashing, they have done their whole duty and may rest with the calm consciousness that if the child follows the ways of Satan rather than the path of righteousness, it has no one to blame but itself.

How often do we hear the parent of a bad child wonder where he could have learned his wickedness and say "I am sure I did my duty to him." But are you quite sure that you did your duty, and do it properly? Are you sure you taught the child in the right way, by example as well as precept? You may have pointed out to your child the good path, but are you quite sure you were not treading the evil path yourself, and so inculcating a stronger lesson by your example than you could ever teach by your precepts?

The value of example on the minds of the young cannot be too highly estimated; there is a good story told of a little girl who asked her father for some of his beer at dinner; he thought, no doubt, that he had done his duty when he refused, and told her "it was not good for little girls; "Yes, papa," answered the little one, "but if a little is not good for a little girl, how can a great deal be good for a big man?" Parents often inculcate a bad lesson on children in a manner which few ever think of; the child is taught to say its prayers—only too often in a way which would make it almost preferable that the child did not say them—and it is taught, at Sunday school probably, if not at home, to repeat its catechism, and in that it learns that it is its duty to its neighbour, "To submit myself to all governments, teachers, spiritual pastors and masters," and the parent congratulates itself on having

done its duty. But how does the parent teach the child by example to submit itself to its "teachers, spiritual pastors and masters?" Does the parent take care to implant the lesson by doing itself what he teaches the child by precept to do? In many instances we fear not.

We do not propose to enter into the subject of submission to spiritual pastors any more than to say that in this, more than in anything else the child will follow the example of the parent more than all the precepts in the world; if the parent treats the spiritual pastor with becoming respect and submits humbly to him, the child will naturally do the same; but where the parent is lax in his religious duties, or speaks slightly or irreverently of the spiritual pastor, it will be hard to make the child submit itself to its spiritual pastor. In the matter of religious training there is a quaint old Scotch proverb which says "An ounce of mother is worth a pound of clergy," and it is very true if the mother is a good one. But it is on the matter of teachers that parent are most apt to mislead the children by their example, and it is of this that we chiefly desire to treat.

The position of a school teacher is one of the most arduous, responsible and unremunerative which any person can be called on to fill; and one of the most thankless; if the child turns out well, most of the credit is taken—sometimes very justly—by the parents; if the reverse, all the blame is thrown—often most unjustly—on the school teacher. Now parents frequently operate very materially against the usefulness of the teacher by the bad example which is set the children in their manner of treating the teacher. It is absolutely necessary that the child, in order to "submit" itself to its teacher in such a way that the training of the teacher may tend to good, should respect and be, if possible, taught to love its teacher; and not prompted by bad example to hold the teacher in light esteem and regard him or her somewhat in the light of a tyrannical despot who would utterly exterminate the child were it not for the kind and timely interference of papa and mamma.

"Be better far, To rule by love than fear." and parents should endeavour by every means to promote and foster a feeling of love and friendship between the teacher and the pupil. In only too many cases, however, we constantly see the parent coming between the teacher and the child; if the child is corrected the chances are very great that the parent will take part against the teacher, frequently with very little regard to the real merits of the case. Of course, we do not say that teachers are always in the right, children always in the wrong; in many instances the reverse is the case; but in most instances the teacher is right. By this habit parents gradually implant a feeling of fear and dislike in the mind of the child towards the teacher; going to school is looked on as a sort of punishment in itself, and the idea slowly but surely presents itself to the child that the teacher is a hard task-master whom it is a pleasure to annoy, and a credit to disobey and disregard as long as you don't get found out.

In social matters too, parents are apt to inculcate a feeling of disrespect towards the teacher by not showing proper respect themselves. Teachers are as a class very poorly paid, and cannot afford to live in anything like the style of their less intellectual, but richer neighbours; the old coat and dress is frequently very old and shabby before a new one can be obtained; and the old hat or bonnet is often dreadfully out of fashion and well worn before a new one can be bought; parents will unfortunately, often let fall slighting or sneering remarks before the children on these and other minor points, and the child naturally learns to disrespect the one for whom his parents show but slight esteem. How seldom too do we find the teacher regards us as an equal and friend and admitted as a welcome and honored guest at the houses of the parents whose children are under their care! The teacher is frequently looked on as sort of upper servant who is employed by the public at large, and who should be treated with little more consideration and respect than the common laborer, but scarcely with as much as the cook—if the cook happens to be a particularly good one. Is it likely the child will learn to respect or love his teacher whom the parents treat with marked discourtesy?

The subject of training or educating the young is one of vital importance to the Province of Quebec and to the whole Dominion of Canada; and we believe nothing would tend more to popularize and advance our educational interests than an improved and better social feeling between the teacher and the parents of the children. We hope to see the day when parents and teachers will work together hand and heart, body and soul, for the one great purpose, the proper training of the young; when the teacher will be the esteemed friend and companion of the children's parents and so learn to be the intimate friend, confidante and adviser of the child, as well as his instructor and preceptor.

A very wicked Connecticut man, being recently taken ill, and believing he was about to die, told a neighbor that he felt the need of preparation for the next world, and would like to see some proper person in regard to it, whereupon the feeling friend sent for an insurance agent.

EPITOME OF LATEST NEWS.

UNITED STATES.—The war cloud which has arisen between the United States and Spain on account of the alleged firing into the S. S. *Florida* by a Spanish war vessel will probably end in smoke; but meanwhile the U. S. Government is giving vent to a little bluster, and putting one or two ironclads into commission. Several members of the Chicago Corporation have been indicted under true bills of the Grand Jury of the same city in office. The celebrated "Stevens" battery, which has been nearly ten years in course of construction, is now completed as far as can be done in its present position, and will be launched in a few days; some of the wise ones say that it will be of no use when it is launched, and that the two or three millions of dollars spent on it will have been wasted. The report started as to the death of N. K. Fisk—the murderer of the Chicago Convention in jail at San Francisco—turns out to be untrue; she is alive and well, and says she "was not born to be hung." Several new iron mines of great richness are reported to have been lately discovered in the N. W. portion of Idaho. Brigham Young will not allow reporters to "interview" him. Col. James Fisk, Jr., was murdered in the Grand Central Hotel, New York, on 8th inst. in the most dastardly manner by Edward S. Stokes. This Stokes was the paramour of Mrs. Lawlor, better known as Josephine Mansfield, a woman with whom Fisk had been very intimate for some time; lately she quitted him, and formed an acquaintance with Stokes. Mansfield and Stokes endeavored to blackmail Fisk by bringing a libel suit against him, threatening to publish a list of his intimacies with reference to the Erie Railroad and "King" swindlers. This suit afforded fun for the reporters for some time, and was finally dismissed on Saturday; at the same time a true bill was returned against Stokes, and he was committed to the Grand Jury against Mansfield and Stokes. Stokes went to the Grand Central Hotel, about four o'clock, and waited about the hall and upper passages ways all half-past four, when Fisk arrived and was proceeding up the stairs, when Stokes appeared at the head of the stairs and fired three shots from a revolver at him; one had effect in the shoulder and the other two in the back. Fisk died about 11 o'clock Sunday morning. Stokes was conscious most of the time, and made a deposition against Stokes, who was arrested and committed to trial. More of the details of the case will be given as they come. Chicago opened a new theatre, capable of seating 1200 persons, on Christmas eve. It has been built since the fire, on the site of the old one, by Dr. J. N. Thacker. The cause was a fair one, eighteen, blue eyes, beautiful golden hair and a fine figure. Rothschild and other English capitalists have offered to mortgage a loan of \$1,000,000 to the United States, which will probably be accepted. A civil war on a small scale has been waged in New Orleans between the black and white portions of the State Legislature, and the police and military had to be called in at one time. They are now quiet, and meet in separate halls. Tremendous snow storms have prevailed in Utah. The snow has been from fifty to sixty feet deep, and has done much damage to the crops and inhabitants barely escaping with their lives. A Cincinnati lady married the divorced wife of her own son. On the day before New Year's Day a woman named Emma, 25 years of age, devoted atheist, white girl named Ochs, 10 years old, beyond the city limits, and there committed a gross outrage on her and attempted to kill her. The girl escaped towards the river on the morning of the 1st inst. and described her and so well that he was arrested. On 2nd inst. the popular feeling was so strong against Howard that an attempt was made to force the jail to lynch him. The Sheriff, Mr. S. H. N., was called out, and a company of 25 men fired on the rioters, killing John Elter and Henry Melow, and seriously wounding Elias Swanton, Louis Kemp and John Nolan. Howard was quickly taken to the Court Room and held on the 3rd inst. The Court being fortunately sitting, and, having confessed his guilt, was sentenced to twenty years' imprisonment, and was secretly conveyed away that night before the crowd knew anything about it.

CANADA.—Notice is given in the *Canada Gazette* that application will be made at the next session for an act to incorporate the Intercolonial Railway of Canada for the construction of a railway from a point on the St. Lawrence River, near the mouth of the Saguenay, and proceed westward to Fort Garry and Vancouver's Island, with branch lines to Lake of the Woods and Pembina. Twenty-three vessels with a total tonnage of 25,000 were wrecked in the St. John's, N.B., last year. Angus Nicholson of Toronto will shortly leave for the Highlands of Scotland as special Emigration Agent. The Kingston Police have been ordered to keep a close watch on the streets of the city, and to be on hand in case of any rioting. The trade societies of Halifax are agitating the establishment of a Mechanics' Hall and Institute. Mrs. Countess of Turn's Bay, N.S., counted away a quartette of three boys and one girl on New Year's Day. Notice is given in the *Canada Gazette* of application to next Parliament for a bill to incorporate the "Northwest Submarine Cable and Telegraph Company," to run a line of wires from Georgian Bay or Lake Huron to Fort Garry. The ice-bridge formed at Quebec on 7th inst.

ENGLAND.—The health of the Prince of Wales continues to improve steadily. A tremendous thunderstorm visited Portsmouth on 6th inst. Nearly all the exposed windows were broken by hailstones, and the British Sovereignty has been formally declared over the diamond fields of South Africa lately annexed. The ex-Empress Napoleon came to some of his callers at Chislehurst on New Year's Day that he was President Thiers less than six months to occupy his present office. It is reported that the Internationalists have bought large quantities of the arms captured by the Germans from the French during the late war. A large demonstration in favour of Home Rule for Ireland was made in Liverpool on 3rd inst. It was very enthusiastic, but quite orderly. Eighty-nine people died of small-pox last year in England. The Queen has written a letter expressing her grateful thanks to the people for the universal sympathy shown during the illness of the Prince of Wales of the same feeling and affection which she expressed for her and the Princess of Wales during their severe trial. It finishes with thanks and gratitude to Divine Providence for the morales accorded to them in the Prince's recovery. Joseph Giffitt, the inventor of steel pens, died at Birmingham on 6th inst. The London Estate of the Marquis of Waterford were lately sold for £234,322. A large portion was bought by tenants. The Colosseum at Rome is to be turned into a complete and airy bath of all kinds. The surplus space of the plot of grounds in which it stands is to be laid out as a winter garden, and the block of buildings facing the Colosseum is to be converted into a club and into Club Chambers. The supporters of Sir Charles Dilke are preparing a grand demonstration in his honour, which is to take place before the assembly of the Liberal Unionists in Dublin on the 10th inst. The name of the demonstration is "The Prince of Wales."

FRANCE.—The Committee of the Assembly on the Military service propose five years of active service, and a like term on the army reserve. Outrages on the German soldiers by the peasants continue to be reported. Victor Hugo is a candidate for the Assembly; he has accepted a platform which embraces abolition of capital punishment, raising the state of general amnesty, the disposition of the seat of government to Paris. It is announced that the Duke d'Aumale intends making, at an early day, a political tour through the central and western departments of France. The execution of the murderers of General Leconte and Thomas will soon take place. A very exciting scene took place in the Assembly on 8th inst. when petitions were read praying for the restoration of the monarchy. Some of the petitions wanted Count de Chambord, and others Count de Paris, for King.

BELGIUM.—Despatches from Vunser report that the workmen of Solangeux and Vasin have struck work for higher wages and reduction of the hours of the day. There has been much turbulence and disorder since the strike commenced. General Armes have been stoned, and some of them seriously injured. The civil authorities are sending troops. Similar labor troubles are imminent at Charleroi, and as a precautionary measure, companies of cavalry will be despatched thither forthwith.

SPAIN.—Memorial funeral services in honor of Marshal Prim were held in Madrid on 5th inst. The Cortes will meet on 22nd inst. It is expected that peace will soon be permanently established between Spain and the South American Republics.

ITALY.—A grand banquet was given by Cyprius W. in Rome on New Year's night. Representatives of 21 nations representing 600 millions of people were present. It was proposed to hold a grand telegraphic conference at St. Petersburg in 1876. King Victor Emmanuel sent a special ambassador to the Pope on New Year's Day to tender his congratulations, but he was politely received by Cardinal Antonelli, who said the Pope was indisposed and unable to receive visits.

PRUSSIA.—Advices from Ispahan show that the famine in Persia continues, and the suffering and distress are undiminished. There entire districts of the country have been depopulated, and the distress is

tho' it is pitiable. The Shah of Persia is very unpopular. On a recent return from a hunting expedition thousands of people, covered with dust and ashes, received him with seditious cries.

GERMANY.—A subscription has been commenced for the erection of a monument to General Von Moltke in his birth place. The Emperor has ordered the trial of the hostages who have been seized in the French cities upon the charge of murder, as if they had been the perpetrators.

TURKEY.—In Constantinople the new Tram-way Company have obtained a portion of every omnibus for the exclusive use of women.

FIJI ISLANDS.—A party of fifty men, kidnapped from the Salomon Islands by the Fijian planters, have been all killed and their bodies chopped in pieces. Two men belonging to the bark *Compani* have been killed by the Salomon Islanders whilst attempting to steal laborers from their villages.

ALGERIA.—It is reported that the French troops have won brilliant successes over the rebels in Oran. Two rebel chieftains and 150 horsemen were killed.

RUSSIA.—The Russian steamer *Killing*, on the Caspian Sea, foundered in a terrible gale on 9th ult. All on board—officers, crew, and passengers—were drowned. The steamer had 100,000 roubles in treasure on board, which is a loss.

MEXICO.—Juarez, backed by the United States, seems to be gaining ground against the insurgents. He is now approaching San Fernando de Amparo, the stronghold of the rebels and if he succeeds in capturing the cause of the insurgents may be considered as hopeless. One thousand American troops have been sent to the Rio Grande by the U. S. Government, and ordered to pass into Mexico to support Juan N. Alvarez. A military will take place immediately, and will be followed by an attack upon San Luis Potosi.

(For the *Hearthstone*.)

THE PILBURY PORTFOLIO.

OR,

THOUGHTS UPON MEN AND THINGS,

IN PROSE AND VERSE.

By REV. H. F. DARNELL.

PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS.

My friend, the late Paul Pilbury, Esq., gentleman and scholar, was one for whose powers of observation and sound judgment I had long entertained the utmost respect. Living as he did a somewhat studious and retired life, he yet, up to the time of his decease at the advanced period of sixty-five years of age, continued to manifest a lively and unimpaired interest in the world in which he moved and its various concerns. As an Englishman, he loved and was loyal to his country, ever confessing himself a sincere admirer of her constitution and the elements of national greatness shrouded in the large heart of her people. At the same time he could not blind himself to the blemishes observable in her administration, or the faults and failings of his countrymen; as well as to the many social anomalies in the midst of which his lot was cast. He had never been able to acquire that Chinese habit of thought which seems inherent in certain Englishmen, and which is based upon the axiom, "a country is as good as dead, if it is not governed by Great Britain." He was a man of wide intellect, whilst all beyond its limits is ignorance and barbarism. Hence from those insular prejudices which have marked so many even of our contemporary thinkers and writers, and so impaired or nullified their judgments, he was happily free; nor with those who regarded everything foreign as if distorted or obscured by the sea mist which enshrouds the white cliffs of their own land, had he any sympathy. Gifted with a quick perception and keen penetration, few things escaped his notice. Those that attracted his observation he was in the habit of quietly scanning over, and then forming his own opinion upon them without passion or prejudice. The social and political aspect of his country ever engaged his thoughtful attention. He could touch upon the one with a playfulness oftentimes far more effective than the most bitter denunciations, or a stilted censoriousness; he could discourse upon the other with soberness and wisdom. Possessed of lively instincts and warm feelings, he was as capable of discerning and appreciating the true and noble, as he was of detecting the false and injurious. He loved virtue for its own sake, not for the garb of decency and respectability with which it invested the wearer; nor could the hand of fashion or Royalty itself, impress a stamp upon vice which would make it pass with him as current coin. He looked at things as they really were, and spoke of men as he found them; yet were even his severest judgments tempered by that charity which sees in every man a brother.

Endowed with intellectual gifts of no mean order, and naturally inclined to the serious and the sedate, men of learning and thoughtfulness were pleased to regard him as a friend; whilst the happy geniality of his disposition never failed to give him the cheerful companionship of the young. Himself a man of refined and cultivated tastes, he could appreciate the fact that true refinement was not a matter merely of external position or circumstance, and could detect at once, and as by instinct, the gentleman or the lady as well in twined or calico as when habited in broadcloth or velvet. In his eyes the value of the gem consisted not in the costly character of its setting, but in the purity of his water.

In the matter of morals he was neither puritanical in his notions, nor unduly censorious in his judgments; yet was he over the unfailing his pure and unerring standard at all times that pure and unerring standard of life regarded as essential to the character of a gentleman as it was, inseparable from that of a Christian.

Such was my friend Pilbury. Those of my readers who may have conceived a desire to become better acquainted with him may do so by perusing the papers prefaced by these few introductory paragraphs. Probably for the purpose of giving shape and coherence to his thoughts respecting the different subjects which attracted his personal observation or were engrossing general consideration, it seems to have been his practice to write down from time to time the conclusions at which he had arrived, as well as the various processes by which he had attained to them. These writings were discovered in the shape of a series of papers, in a small leather portfolio which had been bequeathed to me, together with sundry books and other literary valuables, as a memorial of our long and intimate friendship. As I humbly conceive them to be of some practical worth, I have ventured to send a selection from among them to the press; bespeaking for them that kind and impartial consideration which my friend himself was ever willing to extend to the productions of others. I simply offer them as the views and opinions of an honest and genial man, who always kept his eyes open, looked things fairly in the face, and "were no spectacles."

H. F. D.

P.S.—I had some thoughts as to the propriety of styling these valuable and interesting papers "Pilbury's Remains," but my friend had frequently expressed a decided antipathy to the title. He considered it had an earthly savour, and that it suggested a certain dryness in the subject matter. His own experience, he further observed, had too often taught him the correctness of the idea suggested. In this matter it is only right that his wish should be my law. I am content that it should be so.