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CONTENTS:

MONTREAL NOTES.
TORONTO AND ABOUT.
TRADE, FINANCE, STATISTICS.
CANT—POLITICAL, SOCIAL, &c.
BOYS—AN ADAPTATION.
ATHEISM AND THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.
TRUE MODESTY.

MARRIAGE.
THE EDUCATION OF OUR DAUGHTERS.
HOW I BECAME A MURDERER.
POETRY.
CURRENT LITERATURE.
CHESS.
&c. &c. &c.

GENERAL NOTES.

We hear that the Indian reserve at Caughnawaga is to be surveyed, and that the Government have selected Messrs. Bulman and Walbank, of this city, as surveyors, to establish the boundaries of the reserve. The duties and work have fallen into good hands, and will, no doubt, be well performed. The survey, it is believed, will be commenced at once, and will occupy some little time. It would be desirable if the agricultural resources of the reserve attracted more attention from the Indians.

The Citizens' Association of the Dominion Exhibition are actively engaged in advancing their plans; judging from the announcements, we will have a grand display, and large numbers of people will doubtless be attracted to the city. There is one thing to which we feel obliged to draw attention, namely, what preparations are being made for the conveyance of the public to the grounds; in nearly every case the cabs are with the greatest difficulty secured, and only at very exorbitant rates, while the City Passenger Railway has been in the past notoriously unequal to any emergency. It would be advisable to have a regular line of 'busses leaving certain points at certain hours, and carrying a specified number of passengers, so that visitors might reach the Exhibition grounds with some comfort.

We happened to drop in at the Art Craio rooms at 53 Bleury street, and were very much pleased with the drawings exhibited. There is one in particular which attracted our attention, and is well worth a visit, entitled "Pharaoh's Horses," beautifully executed, and the lines as sharply defined as in the best of steel engravings. We also saw some drawings drawn by pupils after taking *one* lesson, and they seemed to us to be fully equal in artistic merit to those done after a year's study of the old methods. We would advise any persons desirous of learning to inspect these drawings.

The Porte has refused to comply with the conditions agreed upon by the Powers at the Berlin Conference, and has sent a defiant answer in reply to their note. The Sultan will not admit the right of the Powers to settle the Grecian boundaries, and there is danger of war. A naval demonstration is to be made in order to awaken Turkey to a sense of its duties, though France will probably not take any part in it. The result will be that Turkey will have to submit to the arbitration, or else be parcelled out to different Powers. The Eastern question is to a great extent affected by the jealousies of the six governments, and this jealousy exhibited itself in such a way at the Berlin Conference as to prevent the dismemberment of Turkey in Europe. If another European war arises, Turkey will be wiped off the map of Europe, and a good riddance it would be. Greece has been encouraged by France and England in her demands for more territory, and it is now a question whether the Porte will grant the land demanded, or whether it will be taken forcibly. We must look to Bismarck for the solution; he is master of the situation, and most probably will decide

in favour of Greece. It is certain that if the question were left to the Turks and Greeks to decide for themselves, the Greeks would undoubtedly lose, as in the Turkish army there are quite a number of veterans.

The recent terrible reverse in Afghanistan has brought grief to many homes—and it is probable that before retribution is meted out, many more lives will be sacrificed. That the honour of the British flag must be kept unstained cannot be disputed, but the pity is that the Afghans should find themselves between two jealous powers,—a position from which they cannot escape, and the result of which will be annexation to one power or the other. The unfortunate Major Cavagnari, in March, 1879, informed the Viceroy of India that "all hope of a peaceful arrangement with Yakoob Khan must be abandoned," and his statement has been grievously verified by recent events. The "scientific frontier," or as the *Times* has put it, "invulnerable frontier," is in the opinion of many a necessity for the preservation of India. This is to be had by fortifying the Passes; but to speak of subduing the Afghans by a war is chimerical, and though the Afghans cannot fight us, they can survive us, and they will. It is indisputable that the hill-tribes have to be quieted, and the quartering of soldiers in Cabul will not have this effect, but rather the opposite. Besides, in order to maintain communications with Cabul it will be necessary to have ten thousand men on duty. There is no doubt that the Afghans will have to be punished, but what then?—the British troops retire, and soldiers' bones are left to bleach upon the mountains' sides. The Afghans will be quiet for a time until Russian intrigue has again excited them into aggression, and the wheel will make another revolution—the end we cannot see.

Vanity Fair publishes the following:—

"A most disgraceful scene took place last week at Newmarket. A number of ladies of high position and rank, and well known in society, assembled after dinner at the house of one of their number to play baccarat. The hostess took the bank, together with a gentleman of the party; but at her first deal an objection was made to her manner of dealing. She dealt again, when another point was raised, and thereupon ensued the most discreditable 'row' that probably ever took place between ladies. Smoking and swearing, the heroines of the affair hurled every kind of uncomplimentary remark to each other for the space of something like half-an-hour, to the great fright of such of them as still retained the ordinary timidity of womanhood. At length the 'row' ended, but so great an effect was produced by it that it was thought necessary by the hostess to ask an exalted personage to come down and play the next night at the house in order to rehabilitate it and her—which the personage was good-naturedly pleased to do. It is right to add that the hostess herself is said to have acted properly throughout. But the point is that it is a simple disgrace that ladies should gamble at all in this business-like and professional manner; that it is doubly disgraceful that they should gamble as they do with mere paper; and that it is trebly disgraceful for them to adopt the manners of scullerymaids and the language of coal-heavers.

"While this scene was taking place inside, the crowd were engaged in killing a policeman outside, while the doors were not even shut. It reminds one of the preliminary scenes of the French Revolution."

Truth says:—

"The most fashionable jerseys are transparent. These are worn in the day-time. I saw two or three in the Park the other morning."

And speaking of English girls it remarks:—

"As to laughing, how seldom, except on the stage, do we hear a really musical laugh. Some girls make dreadful grimaces when they laugh. A little education in the art would not make their laughter artificial, and they would surely enjoy it all the more if they could realize that they might indulge in mirth without making themselves look so very ugly, as is occasionally the case."