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Vol. I.—No 5.

MONTREAL, 11th DECEMBER, 1868:

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THE INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY GUIDE for this month, just out. For sale at the News Depot, Bonaventure Station, and by Booksellers. Price Ten Cents.

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For further information and time of arrival and departure of all Trains at Terminal and Way Stations, apply at the Ticket Office, Bonaventure Station.

C. J. BRYDGES, Managing Director. Montreal, 5th Oct., 1868.

BROCKVILLE & OTTAWA RAILWAY.

Trains leave Brockville at 7.15 A.M., and 3.15 P.M., arriving at Sand Point at 12.40 P.M. and 9.00 P.M. Trains leave Sand Point at 5.15 A.M. and 1.30 P.M., arriving at Brockville at 11.30 A.M. and 7.45 P.M. All Trains on Main Line connect at Smith's Falls with Trains to and from Perth. The 7.15 A.M. Train from Brockville, connects with U. F. Company's Steamers for Ottawa, Portage du Fort, Pembroke, &c., &c., and the 1.15 P.M. Train from Sand Point leaves after those steamers are due from East and West.

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THE BRAINLESS FOOTMAN;

NOT

By the Author of the "Headless Horseman."

CHAPTER I.—ALPHONSE *Sans Cerebration.*

ONE sultry evening about noon, in the commencement of December, when the summer sun was beginning to tinge with a cerulean hue, the withered and verdant surface of a street not a thousand miles from the capital of Canada, a mud-spattered and highly varnished carriage, which rivalled in its brilliancy the dazzling tints of the canary's wing, might have been seen rolling along the dusty but well-trodden track.

Two daintily caparisoned steeds, perfect in all their parts, and whose hides surpassed in smoothness the sand-paper at the bottom of Eddy's telegraph match-boxes, pawed the ground. A sable coachman, with a leery eye, and who as a casual observer must have seen at a glance, came from the wilds of Circassia, sat on the box. He was a man of Herculean strength and gigantic stature, and from between his puny fingers might be seen issuing those reins of tawny buffalo-hide which restrained the impetuous fury of the matchless Pegasus-s-s-s-s-s-s-ses.

By his side, lounging in an upright and recumbent posture, stood the hero of this o'ertrue tale. He was a man of some 23 Summers, 18 Winters, numerous Falls, and more Springs than the carriage on which he rode.

As Alphonse, the footman, will engross the attention of all readers of this thrilling and overpowering romance, it is desirable that an accurate description of him should be given: 5 feet 6 inches and $\frac{1}{2}$ in height, and measuring from the centre of his back to the nail on his dexter hand 11 feet 13 inches, by which he was enabled to remove at pleasure the snapping mosquito, or whistling gnat from the horse's left auricular, he looked the very essence of an *enfant du sol*. His ample *Culottes* proved that he came from a *Bully* family, and the fiery and proud look in his weather-stained eye-ball, showed a defiant and indomitable air not to be *Cowed* by any adverse stroke of fortune; his thin and wiry lips extending for several inches across his countenance, gave evidence of a stern and flexible will; his aquiline nose tending slightly to a *retroussé*, stood out prominently like a *basso-relievo* against the murky atmosphere; while his ears seemed to rival in their unwonted dimensions, the twin paddles on either side of the Great Eastern steamship; and to make the idiosyncrasy more apparent, his tall beaver hat formed of the finest tissue of silk from the looms of Lyons resembled the funnels of that most successful example of naval architecture.

To attempt to describe his brow would be impossible, since it did not exist; for nature in her beneficence, had entirely overlooked the cerebral development of this extraordinary man. Such was the Brainless Footman.

CHAPTER II.—BLANDINA B. JONES.

Reclining at length on cushions stuffed with the downy plumes of the Canadian goose, (*Anser Hochelagius*), the fairest of the daughters of Griffintown lay extended; her right hand caressed with affectionate fervour the silken tresses of a brindled English Bulldog; whilst the other restrained the impetuosity of a Maltese Lapdog, fit for the possession of an Arab Shiek.

Her translucent digits gleamed with gems from the mines of Golconda, whilst her finger-nails proved her to be an heiress already in possession of not a little landed property.

The alabaster whiteness of her skin, surpassing the powers of idyllic verse, may be likened to the parchment upon which the wills of our ancestral forefathers used to be engrossed. Her teeth, few and far between,—those which cream-candy had yet spared to her,—can be better imagined than described. By the side of her raven tresses the raven itself would appear less ravenous, and compared to them the sablest Indian pigment, imported direct from the Continent of Borneo, would have appeared as white as the driven and newly-fallen snow. Her nose was of that type called by discerning tho' partial critics, the Roman straight,—very far removed from the Grecian Bend.—Could any one be fairer? Compared to her, the Venus, de Medici, de Milo, de Canova, were vulgar cooks, whilst the Apollo Belvidere was only fit to be classed among the five-cent shoeblacks.

Her right orb was gazing with characteristic fondness on the back-hair parting of the Brainless Footman, whilst her left optic scanned the horizon through the window at the back of the travelling carriage. Her heathen nostril, dilated and quivering, denoted fear lest the author of her being should be a—

(To be continued.)

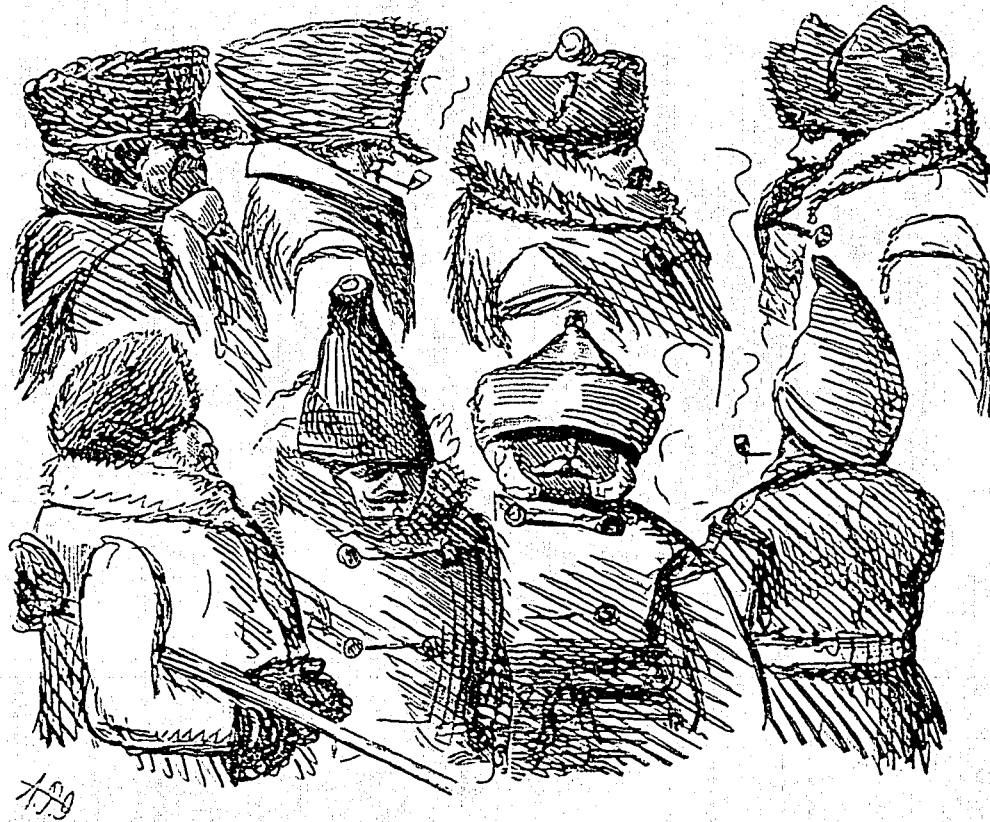
WANTED—FOR AN OLD CURIOSITY SHOP.

A feather from the left wing of the 78th High-Flyers.
Some phosphorus from a La Crosse match.
One of the rockers from the Cradle of the Deep.
The key of the "Larboard-Watch."
One of the steps of "A Flight of Fancy."
The eye-glass of an Organ Swell.
Some butter from a Toast at a Public Meeting.
A splinter from St. James' Club.
And, a sheet of paper from a Church Quire.

ESSAYS ON SOCIAL SUBJECTS.

No. 4.—"WHISKY."

WHISKY is a social subject—who says taint?—Whisky is socialest conjoined with sugar, lemons, and bilin water. Whisky is good medsin, took internal. Whisky is of varis kinds, Scotch, Irish, Bourbon, Rye, etseterer, and is somtimes made into cok tales. The French calles them "coos de coq." "Coquin" is French for "come and have a cok tale." Try it sum day and see if it goes down. Whisky makes people tight if took in sufficient quantity arter dinner. First have a good *blow out* and then its no wunder if you get *tight*. Whisky is made in stills.—"Thy memory haunts me, still," as the Irishman said to the gager, who got him fined £100. Take your whisky by degrees—but keep at it. Some peepke calls whisky-flasks pocket pistols—I callis 'em 48 pounders, cos they brings you down with a *long shot*. Watch whisky well, and mind your r(e)ye. Animus tuus ego (Latin). They ex-ryal families of France, Spain, and Naples, got kaved in cos they was addicted to a Bourbon policy. N.B.—The Prince of Wales don't drink whisky.



SKETCHES IN THE STREETS.—No. II.
OUR WINTER HEAD-GEAR.

JUSTICE.

Must Justice be restrained by Fear?
Must righteous Judgment fail?
Must Truth, with Falschood weighed, appear
A Feather in the Scale?
Yes! urge each Quibble, Plea and Doubt,
Make every word a Flaw,
Turn each expression inside out
By subtleties of Law.
What matter though a villain 'scapes
Stern Retribution's sword?
Though Crime unsullied Virtue apes,
And baffles Law's Award?
Tear, Justice, tear from off thy face,
That bandage that we see;
An Ass's head and Fool's grimace
Are best befitting thee.

A MILD CLASSICAL PUN.

The following rhymes from a well known New York journal were recently republished in the *Gazette*:

"There was an old railway called Erie,
Of which we are all doosid weary—
We've been jolly well fooled
Both by Fisk and by Gould,
And we'll dabble no longer in Erie!"

COMMENT BY "DIOGENES."

The *New York Democrat*, from which the above lines were taken, like Horace, is evidently longing for something *vere perennius*.

A FACT.

DIOGENES is much amused to find that one of his very worst jokes has been unscrupulously stolen by a London Comic Journal, viz., *Fun*, of 28 November, 1868. It is as follows:—

"A Cannibal Country—*Man-chu-ria*."

DIOGENES thinks he has a right to sue the "Atlantic Telegraph Company" for aiding and abetting this act of piracy.

DEFINITIONS.

A Bar-gain.—The profits on "drinks" at a hotel.
Grecian-bend.—"She stoops to conquer." (Goldsmith.)
Sheer Cruelty.—Cropping a terrier's ears.
Skating.—An ice amusement.
A Rich Fool.—Dollars without sense.
A Heavy Charger.—Any fashionable tailor.

PRIZE CONUNDRUM FOR ST. ANDREW'S DAY.

THE calumnious statement that "it requires a surgical operation to get a joke into a Scotchman's head" is generally attributed to Sydney Smith. Charles Lamb is well known to have entertained the same heretical belief. But DIOGENES knows better. It is only stupid English jokes that a Scotchman fails to appreciate. Englishmen, in like manner, are completely non-plussed by a Scotch joke. Thus, the following Caledonian conundrum will, of course, be *caviare* to John Bull:

Why was Robert Burns' Adieu to his Highland Mary like a succulent young shell-fish?

Because it was "*a tender partin*."



JUSTICE.

New Design for a Statue, by DIAGENES.

NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN.

DIOGENES, to whom the Wandering Jew and Parr of the Pills are but as creations of yesterday, having entered on his 417th lustrum, has necessarily seen much of men and manners in his time, and has moralized deeply thereon. Among the many failings to which poor, weak, human flesh is heir,—in all ages, climes, countries, and circumstances,—none has been more common or preposterous than an innate vanity, exhibiting itself in singularity of costume and affectedness of gait. The Prophet Isaiah meted out to the daughters of Zion well-merited rebuke, in that “they minced as they went and made a tinkling with their feet,” whilst the sages of Greece and Rome had bitter occasion to ridicule the follies of their age; and since the days of DEMOCRITUS, and the youth of DIOGENES, fashions have only changed to recur in a slightly modified form.

Some 250 years ago the light of DIOGENES' lantern was thrown on one honest man styling himself ‘Democritus Junior’,—a man who stood boldly forth, armed with the sword of his wit and the buckler of his logic, to do battle with the Dragon-deformity of distorted Fashion, and the Cynic trusts that the words of this man may once more be repeated with effect.

Anent the girls of his period, saith he, “Not that comeliness of clothes is therefore to be condemned, and those usual ornaments: there is a decency and decorum in this as well as in other things, fit to be used, becoming several persons, and befitting their estates; he is only fantastical that is not in fashion, and like an old image in arras hangings, when a manner of attire is generally received; but when they are so new-fangled, so unstaid, so prodigious in their attires, beyond their means and fortunes, unbecomg their age, place, quality, condition, what should we otherwise think of them? Why do they adorn themselves with so many colours of herbs, fictitious flowers, curious needle work, quaint devices, sweet-smelling odours, with those inestimable riches of pearls, precious stones, rubies, diamonds, emeralds, &c.? Why do they crown themselves with gold and silver, use coronets and ties of several fashions, deck themselves with pendants, bracelets, earrings, chains, girdles, rings, pins, spangles, embroideries, shadows, rebatoes, versicolour ribbons? Why do they make such glorious shows with their scarfs, feathers, fans, masks, furs, laces, tiffanies, ruffs, falls, calls, damasks, velvets, tinsels, cloth of gold, silver tissue? With colours of heavens, stars, planets: the strength of metals, stones, odours, flowers, birds, beasts, fishes, and whatsoever Africa, Asia, America, sea, land, art and industry of man can afford?”

So much ‘de luxu vestium.’

Will an honest man of the present day stand forth and answer the question—“Are times so vastly altered since the days of Robert Burton?” Quoth Petronius,—“To what end are those crisped, false hairs and painted faces?” To what end were chignons invented, and how did Madame Rachel make sure of dupes? “All is vanity,” saith the Preacher. Follow not the multitude, saith DIOGENES,—*judicium vulgi est fallax.*—Without commenting further on the above, which speaks for itself (and while signifying his intention of being down on male monstrosities also), DIOGENES, in conclusion, quotes the treatment recommended for the Girls of the Period, 1620:—“They had more need, some of them, to be tied in bedlam with iron chains, have a whip for a fan, and hair-cloth next their skin; and, instead of carmine, have their cheeks stigmatized with a hot iron; I say, some of our Jezebels, instead of painting, were well served so.”—*Ponder.*

THE Right Man to sell Books,—Booker.

“PERSONAL.”

It will not surprise some of the readers of DIOGENES to be told that he has, already, been asked to give active or passive support to more than one candidate for civic honors in March next. The Cynic, though taking a deep interest in the Municipal Government, has felt compelled to decline committing himself. He expects, under the present management, to attain a circulation of, at least, 6,000 copies by February; and he is so conscious of the power he is destined to wield, that he unhesitatingly declares to all the world—expectant City Councillors included—that he is NOT FOR SALE. Though his present *bona fide* circulation is barely one-third of that number—yet, with a due regard to the importance of keeping his paper-maker in good humor, and obtaining a character for enterprise and liberality, he has determined on striking off not fewer than 500 copies of each impression for gratuitous distribution to people who won't subscribe at present, but must feel bound to do so by and bye. In the meantime there seems a chance of his advertising keeping up to the original standard. He has just received a dead-head from Quebec and a promise of two more from Ottawa and Kingston. Under these circumstances, and as he considers he has established peculiar claims on the gratitude of the Dominion as well as of the Local Government, DIOGENES exultantly declines to sell himself, *at present.*

AN ELEGANT EXTRACT.

This magnificent enterprise (the projected submarine tunnel between Dover and Calais) is certainly one which is well qualified to astonish *not only our ancestors, but the people of the present generation, accustomed as they are to gigantic undertakings.* Possibly, when it is completed, we shall see others on a still larger scale commenced. Who shall say that before the present century is ended a submarine railroad *will* run from Montreal to England *may not be possible!* We presume that a number of hotels would be erected at different points, so that passengers might obtain rest and refreshment when required.—*Montreal Daily News, Dec. 5th.*

DIOGENES has a sneaking regard for the *Daily News*, but he cannot suffer his personal predilections to prevent his expressing the mortification with which he read the above fearful paragraph in its editorial columns on Tuesday. Had it been modestly hidden away among the News Items, nobody would have thought it displayed more than bad taste in selection, but as it appeared in all the glory of editorial type, it must be supposed to be an emanation from editorial brains. As such, DIOGENES protests against it as brainless twaddle, unworthy of a newspaper claiming to be above mediocrity. There are many sensible articles in the *News*, a fact which leads DIOGENES to express a hope that the estimable gentleman who writes the sense, will, in future, condescend to look after the self-approving individual who does the nonsense. The Cynic thinks Society will be benefitted, and the present management of the *News* considerably improved.

“HOPE TOLD A FLATTERING TALE.”

It is said that no one is a *prophet* in his own country. DIOGENES, not being a native of Canada, hopes to be a *profit* in Montreal—to the Company with which he is associated.

A TERRIFIC TRIPLET.

Which was the most temperate of all the animals in Noah's Ark?

The rhinoceros—because he had but one *horn* the whole time.

In what Italian city is soup always found?
In Turin, to be sure!

Of what cloth are the Artillery uniforms made?
Gunny cloth, of course.

“THOU ART GONE FROM MY GAZE.”

DIOGENES regrets, unfeignedly, that Crinoline has gone out of fashion; for it made the figure of even an ungraceful woman resemble that of a *bell.*

VERSES FOR A LADY'S ALBUM.

Rich is the hue of the red, red rose,
As it blooms in a maiden's bower ;
Grateful its scent to the red, red nose,—
Ah me ! 'tis an exquisite flower !

And sweet is the violet, dainty and blue,
As it blossoms in meadow or plain ;
In beauty and purity like unto you,
My own, my adorable—Elizabeth,
(Or, Jane ; if you prefer rhyme to truth.)—

And fair as the violet, fresh as the rose,
And sweet as the honey-comb, quite,
Art thou, dearest girl. (but you must n't suppose
I'm in earnest in all that I write !)

For, in point of fact, I have composed this little poem wholly and solely for the benefit of the numerous readers of DIOGENES, who may occasionally be called upon to contribute to a Lady's Album. How far superior in every way is what I have now embalmed in imperishable verse to the antique lay that furnished me with a hint !

" The rose is red,
" The violet's blue,
" Honey's sweet,
" And so are you !"

The author may be induced to continue this theme in some future number of DIOGENES.

SOMETHING WORTH KNOWING.

THE Cynic has lately been the recipient of a good many enquiries as to the best means of securing sufficient influence to obtain public employment in this country. Of course much depends upon the nature of the appointment sought ; but the following hints, taken at random from a number of others, will be found serviceable to many aspiring "briefless" or otherwise shiftless young men :

Take every opportunity of making yourself conspicuous on the popular side in Parliamentary and Municipal elections ; study oratory and go in extensively for clap-trap, being always careful to emphasize the latter, because the crowd always applaud the speaker who does so, whether he makes a point or not. Get hold of a big looking-glass and study attitude and gesticulation for at least an hour before you address an audience. You will find this attended with immense advantage. Be particular to keep on good terms with the newspaper people, otherwise they may maul your speeches shockingly. The best plan is to correct your own proofs at the offices. You will thus save reporters and others a great deal of trouble, and besides have an opportunity of interpolating passages, rounding phrases, and declaring there was "loud applause" where only two or three people manifested approval, or the reverse. Be particular on all occasions to see that your name is included among the notables "on the platform." The public mind will thus gradually become saturated with the idea that you are one of the lights of society, and that you are bound to occupy at some date an important position. Whenever a good thing looms up, you may consider that you have legitimate claims on the support of the political or civic magnates whom you have helped or tried to help into office. Get them to recommend you strongly in the papers, and have the fact editorially noticed, before you transmit your application. (You will find little or no difficulty in this regard—for any mountebank who vouchsafes a 50-cent advertisement generally has the same favour accorded him.) By carefully attending to the above instructions you may depend on obtaining a public appointment sooner or later.

HANDBOOK for STRANGERS VISITING MONTREAL.

NO. 4.—THE FOUNTAINS OF THE CITY.

THESE beautiful ornaments to the public thoroughfares may be described as consisting of two varieties,—the Dish kind, and the Dish, Sugar-Bowl and Slop-Basin combination. Of the first *genus*, that in the Victoria Square is the most important specimen. At the time of H. R. H. the Prince of Wales' visit, this fountain suddenly effervesced in most violent paroxysms. There was a little squirt in the middle and a variety of still smaller hydraulic creations all round. Owing to the non-completion of the Water Works' Engine these aquatic eccentricities have ceased playing. The fountain has since remained a mere dish of water in summer, and of snow in winter. The whole design is remarkable for its severe simplicity.

The Place d'Armes contains an elegant example of the Sugar-Bowl fountain. The attention of the stranger is especially directed to four cat-fish in bronze which surround the rim. These are decorated with a tin drinking-mug, gracefully suspended round their necks. This artful method of taming cat-fish is the one usually adopted in this part of the Dominion.

But, by far, the most noteworthy specimen of this kind of street ornamentation is that cunningly-devised composition adjoining the Court House. Instead of cat-fish, the Dish is adorned with four Celery Dishes in stone. The Slop-Bowl is comparatively plain, but all the rhetorical ability of DIOGENES would fail to describe the exquisite loveliness of the Sugar Basin. It is surmounted by a colossal statue of Neptune, (about 2 feet high,) who presents arms, *i. e.*, his trident, to the Nelson Column. This trident is a most original work of art, each of its prongs being tipped with a small stream of water. The sculpture round the base is fantastic and unique. Four White Porpoises stand eternally on their heads, with elaborate tails elevated high in air. Astride, on the heads of these unfortunate monstrosities, are four Little Boys, the deficiency of whose clothing is a subject well worthy of the attention of the neighboring Police Court. The constant and sole occupation of these inhuman Boys is to pick out the eyes of the Porpoises with little forks. When covered with snow this group bears a close resemblance to a Twelfth-Cake ornament. In order to render this fountain still more consistent and appropriate, DIOGENES would suggest to the Water Committee that if Neptune could be made to squirt salt water instead of fresh the allegory would be more completely carried out.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

In all its pristine elegance
Revealing as it goes
A truth which you may p'raps enhance
By battling with its foes.

Our godfather.
Two-thirds of a bond.
A character in Hamlet.
A masculine exercise.
An ancient matron.
An inconsolable mother.
All things have one, a rope has two.
Unravel these and you've attained this last.

Solutions of this acrostic to be addressed "Acrostic," DIOGENES, Post Office, Montreal.

A notification of the correct answers will be given in an early number.