Haszard's Gazette.

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THE
GREAT BRITISH QUARTERLIES,
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Miscellaneous.

WONDERFUL LEAP.

From the St. Catharine's *Constitutional* of the 3rd instant, which only reached us yesterday, we copy the following extraordinary account of a leap from the Suspension Bridge into the Niagara River: "On Sunday last, at 4 P. M., we witnessed a man named J. David Coustantine, leap from off the Queenston Suspension Bridge into the Niagara River, a height of *seventy-four* feet. Constantine had advertised his intention of taking the fearful leap, but it was only looked upon as a hoax—consequently only three or four hundred persons were present. At the hour named he was observed coming on the bridge, attired in a white dress with only one attendant—when in the centre of the bridge he called for a boat, which was at once pulled to the place he directed—he then got outside the bridge and stood on one of the joists, and as a voice cried "*jump*"—with an heroic spring he was in the air—hardly had he fallen twenty feet ere a gust of wind caught him and whirled him as if he was turning a summerset and lost all control of himself, and was falling in a doubled up position—this was a moment of anxiety, he could not light on his feet, and from every lip might be heard the exclamation—"*he's a dead man.*" At length he reached the water, and truly "great was the fall thereof",—the noise as he struck might be heard for a mile, and he sank;—sank as it were to rise no more; but a few seconds brought him to the surface again, and with a strong arm he struck out to swim amid the cheers of the bystanders; he made for the boat and with a desperate effort seized the gunwale, and was taken in and safely landed on the other shore. He then walked about for some time, and then he came across the bridge to Queenston. Here we had an opportunity of examining his back—he seemed to be much hurt, the skin having been taken off in two or three places; he said he felt sore from the fall, but was satisfied he would be all right again in a couple of days. He requests us to state that he will *leap the Falls of Niagara* on *Tuesday* next, the 10th inst. Strange though this announcement may seem, still we fully believe he will try the leap. Sincerely do we hope he will not attempt to carry out his desperate resolve, but he seems determined. We must, however, discountenance such a thing, and trust his friends will advise him to the contrary as it must ultimately prove his destruction. We learn this morning, that it is the doctor's opinion that Constantine will not recover from the injuries received in his fall."

ROYAL TIGER HUNT.

"I had hunted the lion and the jaguar or tiger-cat of America. I had equally chased the African lion, and I would, for once at least, find myself in the presence of the tiger of Hindostan. Our party consisted of five Europeans—three Englishmen, one Irishman and myself (French—besides four Malays, two sepoys, and eight dogs, of which they spoke wonders. The heat was scorching, without a breath of air. In India, when once you have made preparation for a perilous expedition, you can no longer be interested in 'smaller game.' Good bullets, sharp harpoons, spears, the best of tempered sabres, would be of very little use to you against the bengalees and the joyous clouds of birds of the most varied and brilliant plumage which vocalise in the air; you leave them at liberty, respect them even in their sleep; and that is the reason, probably, which makes them so familiar and tame in their incessant evolutions. A powerful motive, however, compels you to respect them, above all, when you are at some distance from a town or plantation. The report of your gun would not alone awaken these vast and imposing multitudes; but under the bushes in the vicinity, near to the muddy marshes aud swamps, reposes the lion, sleeps the tiger; and for such visitors your arms should ever be in a state of readiness. At mid-day we came to a halt at the delightful residence of Dr. Macquarrie, whom we found low-spirited, but who nevertheless, gave us a warm reception. The previous evening a panther had leapt the wall enclosing his lodge, and carried off and devoured the son of a Malay (his servant), while sleeping in his cot. The wall was 13 English feet in height, and the leap of the furious animal must have been confined and difficult still more by a ditch on the other side.' (Here a sudden tornado, peculiar to the East, overtakes the party, and compels them to remain over night.) 'On the following morning, before the break of day, we were on the march, reinforced by the brother and sister of the devoured Malay, who would be revenged of the panther or the tiger. The dogs in front kept close to us, as if fearful of approaching danger. By the advice of our guides, we quickly passed through a thick wood, and arriving at a clear and extensive plain, seated ourselves to take breakfast. The tiger did not leave us much leisure. On its first and awful roar, the dogs, which they had told us were so courageous, slunk behind us, their tails between their legs, and, looking here and there, with the most stupid fright expressed in their faces, neither whip, nor blows with the gun, nor menaces, nor caresses, could conquer them, so we resolved to pass them by. A second roar, shorter and louder, told us the tiger was approaching. We looked at our priming, and awaited him in order of battle; the Malay three paces in advance, his sister by his side, both armed with a pistol and an iron hand-harpoon. Behold him in our presence! More beautifully striped than the zebra, snorting, astonished much more than frightened at our presence—immovable at first, putting forth deafening and profound roars, raising his furry eyelids, licking his half opened lips with a rough and red tongue. He was magnificent to behold. We advanced towards him some steps, he made some towards us; and all at once, as if they were ashamed of their pusillanimity, the dogs without being set on, came and placed themselves in our front, close together, impatient, but silent. At sight of the dogs the tiger became furious; he no longer regarded us, his first victims were to be the dogs, who dared to brave and await him. They advanced together at first, then divided and attacked the ferocious beast in front, behind, and on the flanks. The tiger fixed his eye on the most bold among them; he gave a spring, and in an instant he had one enemy the less, the dog's entrails were strewed on the ground by a single pressure of the beast's jaw. We wished to assist the others, who had run back some steps, but the Malay, by a sign of the hand, intimated that it was not time to act yet; he wished us all to return home in safety. His sister showed admirable *sang froid* and intrepidity; in her vigorous hands she held the sharp-pointed harpoon, and I remarked that her yellow complexion gradually assumed a red or bright copper tint. The field of battle now became more confined, not exceeding fifty paces at most; our enemy was surrounded by twenty with this space. At a signal from the Malay the dogs flew on all at on once; the tiger roared and bounded like the boaconstrictor, and crushed one dog after another, and although bleeding in every part, was still as furious and menacing as ever. All the dogs were put *hors de combat*, the only three alive still seemed to implore the Malay, who advanced, and we followed—a bullet is discharged, the tiger roars, attempts to spring, but falls to the ground like an aerolite; the young girl advances and lances her harpoon, which penetrates his body; he attempts to retreat, but the more he moves, the more the deadly weapon enters his flesh. A general discharge of our rifles brought his end to a dead certainty.' We had returned half way home, when two Malays, who preceded us, uttered a loud shriek. We hastened our steps, and soon found these two unfortunates stretched on the ground, and kissing with transport, part of a human body. It was a portion of the head and throat of their younger brother, which they recognized from a slight scar on the forehead.—*Arago.*

REMARKABLE VOYAGE.—The ship *Onward*, Capt. George Welsh, of this port, left Liverpool with a full complement of emigrants for New York, on the 17th May; after landing the emigrants all well, she proceeded to Quebec, there loaded a full cargo of about 1300 loads of wood, and arrived in the Mersey on Sunday the 8th instant—thus completing the voyage in *eighty-three days*—the quickest on record. This fine ship was built by James Smith, Esq., of St. John, New-Brunswick.—*Liv Courier.*

A CORSICAN HUSBAND.

An arrival from Corsica (every body is arriving thence, just now, for that little island has become quite the fashion) has filled the salons of Paris with fresh interest; the more so as it is understood that this coming man is any thing but welcome in high quarters. A few years ago, Count A——— was in possession of the three things most dear to the heart of man in every clime under the sun, namely, great consideration, a magnificent estate, and a lovely wife. Of all these, the estate alone remains; and it is evidently to reacquire the other two that he has made the journey to Paris, in search of the *prefecture* in Corsica. The story is so peculiarly Corsican, that it is really worth relating. The Count married in 1846, not only one of the richest heiresses, but, moreover, the greatest beauty in the island. For two years the 'happy couple' seemed to live in the enjoyment of every species of bliss which matrimony never fails to promise its victims before surrender. The Count was all tenderness and attention; the Countess all devotion and confidence. Nothing occurred to mar their happiness, save now and then some slight difference of opinion, which would arise, always upon trifling subjects, though, between the Count and his younger brother, an officer of dragoons, who had taken up his quarters at the Chateau d'A——— during his six months' leave of absence from his regiment.

This slight tendency to disagreement was, however, always soothed with so much grace and tenderness by the Countess, that the harmony of the *menage* could scarcely be said to be disturbed by these accidental false notes, and every thing went on as smoothly as ever, after the departure of the young dragoon had left the husband and wife to their solitude once more. Shortly, however, a motion of anxiety manifested itself in the declining health of the young wife. Without apparent cause her eyes grew dim, her cheeks grew pale, her hands shook as though she had been struck with palsy, and a short, dry cough filled the anxious husband with alarm. His attention, however, redoubled; he never left the patient's side; and when at length, after every trial had been made to restore her to health, she found herself on a sick bed, the Count stirred not from her pillow, administered every potion with his own hand, and by soothing discourse and kind words, exerted himself to smooth the dark passage to the next world, which the doctor said must, in spite of all efforts of skill, be made ere long. The dreadful moment at length arrived, the priest had performed the last offices for the peace of the departing soul, and then the lovely young Countess begged to speak to her husband alone.

He approached the bed-side overcome with grief. She had wished to thank him, before she left him forever, for all his kindness and unfailing confidence in her, and to confess, with the deepest regret and humiliation, notwithstanding all his indulgent love, that she had been the most miserable of sinners. 'Oh, forgive me,' exclaimed she, 'I have been unfaithful to my vows, I have deserved this early death.' She looked in his face and awaited his answer; it rang in her failing ear, and accompanied her spirit in its flight.

'I thought so, love. I was sure it was the case, and angel of my soul, that it just why I poisoned you!' The nurse, who had been listening without, hurried at once to the authorities, and gave her deposition. The count was immediately arrested. He remained for more than a year in prison; but the cause was never brought to trial, owing to the powerful interest of the great families of the island, to every one of whom he is some way related. The only punishment he has received for his crime is the expulsion from all society wherein the 'new notions,' as they are called in Corsica, and the civilized principles are adopted. It is to regain his position that he now condescends to sue for a place.—*French Paper.*

A BROKEN HEART.

The interesting case of a literally broken heart we subjoin, was related by Dr. J. K. Mitchell, of Jefferson College, Philadelphia, to his class last winter, while lecturing upon diseases of the heart. It will be seen on perusing it, that the expression 'broken hearted,' is not merely figurative.

In the early part of his medical career, Dr. M. accompanied as surgeon a packet that sailed between Liverpool and one of our southern ports. On the return voyage, soon after leaving Liverpool, while the doctor and captain of the vessel, a weather-beaten son of Neptune, but possessed of uncommon fine feelings and strong impulses, were conversing in the latter's state-room, the captain opened a large chest, and carefully took out a number of articles of various descriptions, which he arranged upon a table. Dr. Mitchell, surprised at the array of costly jewels ornaments, dresses, and all the varied paraphernalia of which ladies are naturally fond, inquired of the captain his object in having so many valuable purchases. The sailor in reply, said, that for seven or eight years he had been devotedly attached to a lady, to whom he had several times made proposals of marriage, but was as often rejected; that her refusal to wed him, however, had only stimulated his love to greater exertion; and that finally, upon renewing his offer, declaring in the ardency of his passion that without her society, life was not worth living, she consented to become his bride upon his return from his next voyage. He was so overjoyed at the prospect of a marriage, from which, in the warmth of his feelings, he probably expected more happiness than is generally allotted to mortals, that he spent all his ready money while in London for bridal gifts. After gazing at them fondly for some time, and remarking on them in turn, 'I am sure this will please Annie,' and 'I am sure she will like that,' he replaced them with the greatest care. This ceremony he repeated every day during the voyage; and the doctor often observed a tear glistening in his eye, as he spoke of the pleasure he would have in presenting them to his affianced wife. On reaching his destination, the captain arrayed himself with more than usual precision, and disembarked as soon as possible, to hasten to his love. As he was about to step into the carriage awaiting him, he was called aside by two gentlemen, who desired to make a communication, the purport of which was, that the lady had proved unfaithful to the trust reposed in her, and married another, with whom she had decamped shortly before. Instantly the captain was observed to clasp his hand to his breast, and fall heavily to the ground. He was taken up and conveyed to his room in the vessel. Dr. Mitchell was immediately summoned; but, before he reached the poor captain, he was dead. A *post mortem* examination revealed the cause of his unfortunate decease. His heart was found literally torn in twain! The tremendous propulsion of the blood, consequent upon such a violent nervous shock, forced the powerful muscular tissues assunder, and life was at an end. The heart was broken.—*To-day.*

THE STEAM POWER OF ENGLAND.

There is a most lamentable general ignorance of the power of England, both among the people there and our people here. This we judge from the statistical facts respecting her steam navy and mercantile steam marine. Her steam navy is really terrific—being no less than 147 vessels, besides three new 80 gun propellers ready to be launched. One of these only is in commission; but then she has 75 steam vessels ready for war at any moment, the average tonnage of which is 800 tons each. Some of them are very small, and some very large, but the very smallest is fit to cross the Atlantic. The commercial steam marine of Britain, numbers 1184 steam ships and steamboats.—The city of London alone, has 333 steam-vessels, with a tonnage of 102,000 tons. The city of Glasgow has 88 steam ships, all fitted for sea, with a tonage of 34,000 tons In Liverpool, there are 99 steam vessels, with an average tonage of 21,059 tons. Thus in three ports, there is a tonage of steam vessels amounting to 157,059 tons. It is right that we should be well informed about the power of foreign countries. It is our opinion that the policy of England always has been to hide her strength. It may be wise policy, and it may not—we have no occasion to discuss that point now—we only wish to present facts for true information to our people. We have presented the tonage of the steam vessels of three British cities, and have rather underrated it. If we allow an average tonnage of 200 tons to all the mercantile marine there, it amount to 237,400 tons. We have seen a statement in the *Cincinnati Gazette*, about so many English steam boats being below a hundred tons burthen, and that we had no such class here. This is true; but every one of them is underrated; and for all, the very smallest is fit for sea. One single Glasgow Company (the Cunard) has seven Atlantic steam-ships with a tonage of 13,100 tons, and this force is to be increased about 6000 tons. There are at least 100 steam-ships of 1000 tons burthen, each of which, upon an emergency, could be drafted into the British navy, and, in a few days armed and equipped not for defence but offensive operations. The statement that England may be invaded from France is all spongecake and Cologne water. Whenever her dockyards are active, all the European powers shake; they are vulnerable to her. She is able in two weeks to blockade all the ports in Europe and defend her own at the same time.—*Scientific American.*

BEGIN RIGHT.—The foundation stone of an edifice, which is to constitute the foundation of the whole, should be well laid, or the building cannot be sustained, and in the formation of character, it is equally essential that the first principles instilled into the mind, should comport with truth and right. An error in the beginning may lead to hundreds of others, as one lie requires an after-series to sustain it. The first step in any enterprise is always an important one; and if it be taken wrong, no after toil and perseverance may be able to correct the evil. The entire labour may be lost, and after long struggling, he who has started wrong may be obliged to go back and begin again.

A young man when setting out in life, needs to be careful that he begins right. An error committed then may blast his cha racter through a long life. It is harder work to undo evil than it would be to avoid it in the beginning. He who would build, should first sit down and count the cost. And he who would accomplish any important undertaking, should make his arrangements with care at first, and it will be comparatively easy afterwards. Success will be likely to follow a good beginning. But a bad commencement will always make up hill work. Let all take care to *begin right.*

TAKE THE FIRST STEP.—If you are ever to be anything, you must make a beginning; and you must make it yourself. The world is getting too practical to help drones, and push them along, when there is a busy hive of workers, who if any thing, live too fast. You must lift up your own feet, and if you have a pair of clogs on, which clatter about your heels, they will soon be worn off and left behind on the dusty path-way. Mark out the line which you prefer; let truth be the object-glass—honesty the surveying chain—and eminence the level with which you lay out your field; and thus prepared, with prudence on one arm and perseverance on the other, you need fear no obstacle. Do not be afraid to take the first step. Boldness will beget assurance, and the first step will bring you so much nearer the second. But if your first step should break down try again. It will be surer and safer by the trial. Besides, if you never move, you will never know your own power. A man standing still and declaring his inability to walk, without making the effort, would be a general laughing-stock; and so morally, is the man in our opinion, who will not test his own moral and intellectual power. and then bravely assure us, that he has 'no genius,' or 'no capacity.' A man with seeing eyes, keeping them shut and complaining that he cannot see! The trumpeter of his own imbecility!

ARTIFICIAL AGATE.—There are now made in Albany beautiful door knobs of common clay and some other mixtures. Mr. Pepper, of Albany, we believe, is the inventor, and it is not an imitation of agate merely, but is as real agate, as that formed in nature's own laboratory. From this by a process of remelting and careful but expeditious moulding and baking, in ovens similar in appearance to these used in cracker bakeries, Mr. Pepper manufactures door knobs and other articles of household ornament of rare durability and beauty. These door knobs are of the highest polish and are blended with a variety of colours, and are strong and beautiful. Set in silver or bronze, the konbs are sold at a rate which already commands the market. It is, perhaps, not generally known, that the common clay fused in a crucible runs like water, and makes a beautiful stone. The door knobs in the Albany Argillo Works are fused, and then put into annealing ovens. After the knobs come out of this, they have no appearance of agate until they are ground and polished, which is done by cast-iron grindstones, on which a stream of wet sand continually flows. The method of grinding is not ingenious, all being done by hand. It is not possible to conceive to what perfection the manufacture of glass and earthenware may be brought, and to what purposes the article may yet be applied. The balance-spring of a chronometer is now made of glass, as a substitute for steel, and possesses a greater degree of elasticity and a greater power of resisting the alternations of heat and cold. One of these chronometers with a glass balance-spring, has been exposed to competition with nine other chronometers on a long voyage, and the result was in favour of the glass spring one.

STEAM-BOAT PROPELLERS.—There have been brought to light this week, two new inventions, the one adapted to give increased speed to screw, the other to paddle navigation. Mr. G. Bovill's screw propeller, described in the Mining Journal, is an entirely novel affair. Its central portion is fitted up with a hollow sphere, occupying one-third of the entire diameter of the propeller, and the blades are made narrower at the outer extremity than at the base. The blades are also made to revolve, so as to admit of the pitch being altered to meet the various circumstance of speed and power. From a table of the comparative result of trials on three different boats, it appeared that important advantages have been obtained from the new propeller. The paddle invention is that of a Liverpool shipwright, named Hampson, and was tried a few days ago in the Brunswick Dock. A piece of wood, perhaps about a foot square, and connected to a frame-work, so as to be capable of being moved to and fro, was fixed to the stern of the boat; the paddle, so to speak, being covered by the water, and assuming a slightly diagonal position. By moving two handles rapidly with his hands in the direction of his body from the stern, the inventor brought the paddle into rapid motion, the action resembling that of the fin of a fish, and the result being to propel the boat with great speed through the water. Mr. Hampson contends, that by this simple appliance alone, he can propel row-boats at much more than their ordinary speed, and with infinitely less manual labour; but his grand object is, to apply it to sea-going vessels, by means of steam machinery.

THE BENEFIT OF AN APPRENTICESHIP.

There is an important feature in the regulations of a master mechanic, which is frightful to some kind parent's heart, and that is, the five to seven years' apprenticeship the boy who learns a trade must submit to. But it is an excellent discipline. It takes the lad at a critical period of life—when he has a a disposition perhaps averse to steady employment—when he is inclined to roam at large, amid the contaminating influences about him—and puts him to a steady round of duties—severe at first, but soon becoming from habit agreeable, and when his minority expires, his steady habits and industry are established, and he becomes a man, the master of a trade, of fixed principles, and good habits, a blessing to himself and the community or at least this ought to be the result of an apprenticeship where both master and apprentice mutually discharge their duty to each other.

If parents would only look at it aright, they would declare that, had they many sons, they should learn trades. Contrast the youth just alluded to, with him who, having a horror of an apprenticeship, is allowed to run at large. At the most critical period of life for forming habits, he is forming these that are the reverse of industry. He is not fitting himself to be a man, but wearing away his boy-hood in idleness. The partial parent sees this, yet has not fortitude to avert it. At twenty-one years of age, when the first named lad comes out a good mechanic, it is wonderful, if the other has not habits fastened upon him which will be his ruin, if not ruined already. More than one excellent man in our community can say with thankfulness, that it turned out so that, to his half dozen years' apprenticeship, he is indebted for the habits of industry and sobriety he has obtained. That, when he was on a pivot, as it were, had it not been for the firmness of his parents he likely would have been a ruined lad, ere his minority expired. This was the turning point.