

HARVEST.

All day we set the sheaves in shining rows,
And capping them, hung fringes of dull gold
About their heavy brows; and at the close
Watched the wood-shadows their dark wings unfold.
Hovering them, and said: So may we rest
In covert of soft plumage, happy when
From the blue east, lit by her silvery crest,
Tender as south-winds in the blossomy glen,
Peace comes again.

But what of those slain lilies, whose best yield
Was the faint perfume clinging to our hands
As went we up and down the sun-swept field,
Twining them heedless in the wheatland bands?
Their wealth was safe in unseen garner stored;
To subtle essence changed, they gained their quest.
Said we: If immortality so sweet reward
Service of sacrifice, then are we blest
Losing life's best.

For so did reapers slay our hopes' high blooms,
Reckless of tears and pleading, till they lay
Languishing, smothered 'mong the dusty glumes.
When the swift binders blithely passed that way
And glancing on them, pitted—and so caught
Sweets that will linger with them evermore.
Thus hath experience fragrant memories brought
Into our hearts, making for us rich store
Of harvest lore.

Then homeward going by the bridge that spanned
The elmy stream, faint, after toil and heat,
The mist-wraith soothed us with her delicate hand
Cool on our brows; and dewy to our feet
The red-tops' ragged plumage lightly bent
In welcome; and robins kept the door.
We said: "They are good signs to us"—and went
In 'neath the woodbine shadowing the floor,
Happy once more.

Overland Monthly.

Fun.

See how wonderful are the ways of Nature in Illinois. A pair of boots costs just two loads of potatoes, and to raise the potatoes just wears out two pairs of boots.

The captain of an ocean steamer says that on Sundays at sea he always selects some clergyman to preach who looks as if he would get sick very easily, thus avoiding long sermons, and sparing the feelings and temper of his hearers.

When you see a man who is hastening across a street to avoid a team, step on a piece of mud, and lose his balance, and come to the earth, and tear the skin from both his wrists, and smash his head against a post, you want to shout as quickly as possible: "The more haste the less speed." Then you want to pick up your feet and get out of that neighbourhood like lightning.

If a young man cannot pay his board-bill, and has no reasonable prospect of being able to pay it, we are inclined to think it his Christian duty to abscond. He need not, however, add insult to injury, like the youth who lately left his bed and board in Rutland, Vt., without paying for either. This wretch had not been long gone when his defrauded landlady received the following exasperating billet: "Miss A.—Please do not worry about me. Again I enjoy the comfort of a home. My present hashmaker improves on you considerably." It is a nice, moral question whether a defaulter has a right to sneer at any hash, however miscellaneous, which he has not paid for."

EPITAPH.

Stranger, pause—
My tale attend,
And learn the cause
Of Hannah's end.

Across the world
The winds did blow—
She ketched a cold
What laid her low.

We shed a quart
Of tears, it's true,
But life is short—
Aged 82.

An aged couple on Wooster street, says the Danbury News, are very fond of checkers, and play quite frequently. When he beats at the game, she loses her temper, and declares she will not play again. It vexes him to have her act so, but he controls the irritation, and talks to her about it. He tells her how wrong it is for people at their age in life to be disturbed by such trifles, and shows her so clearly the folly of such a course that she becomes ashamed of her weakness, and returns to the game, and plays it so well that she beats him. Then he throws the checkers in one direction, and kicks the board in another, and says he will never play with anybody who cheats so, and stalks moodily to bed, and leaves her to pick up the things.

Among the good old things which are passing away is that dear, delightful generation of old ladies whose gospel of life was that of Fuss, and to whom innovation and novelty came as the indications of a breaking world. Yes, they are going fast, these kind old dames, who always wore low shoes, whose promenades were inseparable from a faithful "umbrell," to whom a railway journey was a thing of horror, and whose normal condition was that of worry. But we are glad to see that there is one of the ancient sort left, and herewith introduce the Model Old Lady of Middlebury, Wisconsin. A few days ago she calmly crossed over a bridge marked "dangerous," not having perceived the sign indicating that fact. On reaching the further side, some kind soul gave her that piece of information, whereupon she immediately turned in great alarm and recrossed the dreadful structure.

A despairing son-in-law writes as follows to the Daily Graphic: I see by the Scientific American that you have a few seats in the Daily Graphic balloon to dispose of, and, fearing that my telegram and pony-express despatch may not reach you in time, I write in great haste to request you to reserve a seat for my mother-in-law. If a choice of seats is left, I should prefer to have her seat as near the edge as possible. The cost I am not particular about, but if you knew her special value for such an expedition you would give her a free pass. What I mean by her value is that, in the event of an exhaustion of gas, the Professor would only have to call her attention to the fact that the balloon was at fault, when she would give it such a "blowing up" as would astonish old Horace himself. If you will allow me to adjust the ropes on her side of the car, I will pay you double fare.

P. S.—If the seat next to her should be occupied by a member of Congress, or any other approachable person, please let me know.

N. B.—The old lady is worth \$100,000, all of which I should touch if anything should happen to her, and I would cheerfully divide, &c., &c.

S. J. Foss & Co., Sherbrooke, Proprietors Colby's Pills.

Chess.

Solutions to problems sent in by Correspondents will be duly acknowledged.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. H. G., St. John, N.B.—Problems received and under examination. The "double" in one variation of No. 89 was overlooked.

ALPHA, Whitby, Ont.—Your first "four-move" Problem is marked for insertion; the solution to your last is not complete. You have correctly solved Nos. 89 and 90.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS RECEIVED.

Bos, Evergreen, Ala.—Problems Nos. 88 and 89. G. E. C., Montreal, No. 89; J. H., St. Liboire, Nos. 90 and 91.

CHESS IN COBBOURG.

In the following brief *partie* our correspondent gives the odds of Q. Kt. to another Cobourg player.

(Remove White's Q. Kt.)

McDonnell's double Gambit.

White—Mr. R. H. Ramsey.

1. P. to K. 4th
2. B. to B. 4th
3. P. to Q. Kt. 4th
4. P. to K. B. 4th
5. Kt. to K. B. 3rd
6. P. to B. 3rd
7. P. to Q. 4th
8. Castles.
9. Q. B. takes P.
10. B. to B. sq. (b)
11. Q. to Kt. 3rd
12. B. takes Kt.
13. R. takes B.
14. Q. R. to K. B. sq.
15. R. takes K. B. P.
16. R. takes R.
17. R. to K. 7th dis. ch.

Black—Amateur.

- P. to K. 4th
- B. to B. 4th
- B. takes P.
- P. to Q. 3rd
- B. takes P. (a)
- B. to B. 4th
- B. to Kt. 3rd
- Kt. to K. R. 3rd
- Castles.
- B. to K. Kt. 5th
- B. takes Kt.
- P. takes B. (c)
- Q. to K. 2nd
- Kt. to Q. 2nd
- R. takes R.
- Q. to K. 4th
- Resigns.

- (a) This leaves White an opportunity to develop his attack rapidly.
- (b) Intending, apparently, to play B. to Q. R. 3rd or B. to Q. Kt. 2nd presently, as opportunity offered.
- (c) Black should rather have played B. to K. R. 4th. White, now wins by force.

A lively specimen of the "Petroff" defence, played recently in Montreal.

White.

1. P. to K. 4th
2. K. Kt. to B. 3rd
3. Kt. takes P.
4. P. takes P.
5. K. Kt. to B. 3rd
6. Q. Kt. to B. 3rd
7. B. to K. 2nd (a)
8. P. to Q. 4th
9. K. Kt. to Q. 2nd
10. K. Kt. to Q. B. 4th
11. K. B. to Q. 3rd
12. Q. to K. 2nd
13. Kt. takes B. ch.
14. Q. takes Q. ch.
15. Q. B. to K. 5th
16. B. to K. 4th
17. B. takes Kt. ch.
18. P. takes Kt.
19. K. to Q. 2nd
20. P. to Q. R. 3rd
21. K. R. to K.
22. R. takes R.
23. K. to Q. Kt.
24. B. to B. 4th
25. B. to Kt. 3rd
26. R. to Kt. 4th
27. P. to Q. B. 4th
28. P. to Q. B. 5th
29. P. takes P. ch.
30. R. ch. and wins.

Black.

- P. to K. 4th
- K. Kt. to B. 3rd
- P. to Q. 4th
- Q. takes P.
- B. to Q. 3rd
- Q. to Q. R. 4th
- P. to K. Kt. 4th
- P. to Kt. 5th
- P. to K. R. 4th
- Q. to K. B. 4th
- Q. to K. 3rd ch.
- Q. Kt. to B. 3rd
- P. takes Kt.
- B. takes Q.
- K. Kt. to Q. 4th
- P. takes Kt.
- B. to B. 5th
- K. to Q. 2nd
- K. R. to K.
- R. to K. 3rd
- P. takes R.
- K. to B. 2nd
- R. to K. B.
- K. to B. 4th
- B. to Q. 4th (b)
- B. takes P.
- P. to K. R. 5th
- K. to Q. 2nd

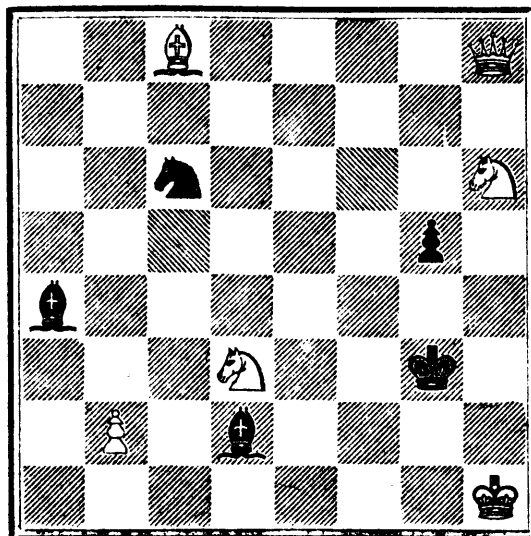
- (a) B. to Q. B. 4th seems the correct move.
- (b) B. to B. 8th, or B. to R. 3rd, would have been better: this loses off hand.

PROBLEM No. 93.

The following is the "four-move" Problem, in the set which carried off the first prize, in the "Mail" Tourney for 1872:

By Mr. J. Henderson, St. Liboire, P. Q.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in four moves.

The following appeared some time ago in the Mail, Toronto. It strikes us as a clever imitation of the well-known "Indian" problem.

ENIGMA No. 29.

By Mr. R. H. Ramsey.

- White.—K. at Q. B. 2nd. R. at Q. R. sq., B. at K. Kt. sq., and Q. R. 8th sq. Ps. at Q. 3rd, K. 5th and Q. 6th.
- Black.—K. at Q. Kt. 5th. Ps. at Q. Kt. 4th, Q. 2nd, K. 3rd, and K. R. 5th.

White to play and mate in four moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 91.

White.

1. Kt. to B. 3rd
2. B. to K. 3rd
3. B. to K. B. 2nd
4. P. to Kt. 4th mate.

Black.

- Either P. moves
- P. moves.
- P. takes B.

Music and the Drama.

Mlle. Irma di Murska is to appear at the Italiens, if a previous engagement at Florence, made unknown to her, through an agent, can be disposed of.

Miss Carlotta Leclercq will act throughout the country, next season, in "The New Magdalen."

A new comedy, by Sardou, entitled "Les Merveilleuses," is to be produced at the Variétés, Paris, next season.

It is now rumoured that Sothorn will open the regular season of 1873-4 at Wallack's Theatre early this autumn.

Niblo's Garden, New York, opens on the 13th inst. with "The Black Crooke, reconstructed and newly embellished.

Mr. Jefferson is expected to arrive home from England about the 20th of August, and play at Booth's Theatre in September. He will probably return to England later in the autumn, and reappear on the London stage.

Mr. Barrett appears in this city on the 24th inst.

Aimée returns from Europe on the 19th inst.

Mr. Edmund Falconer has produced another successful Irish drama, called "Killarney."

Twenty-two theatres and two first-class opera houses will be running in New York during the coming season.

The "Belle Hélène" was performed recently at the Theater an der Wien, Vienna, for the benefit of Offenbach, who himself conducted.

A Committee of the Municipal Council of Paris has been appointed to report upon the petition of the directors of all the theatres in the capital for the suppression or the reduction of the "Droit des Pauvres," that is, the heavy percentage taken from the gross receipts each night for poor rates. The memorial is accompanied by a return of the amounts for which managers have become bankrupt and the sums extracted by the municipality. The total for the failures is £153,809, and £175,545 has gone to the hospitals and charities.

A sensational play has been produced at the Ambigu, in Paris. In one scene a man and his wife, who are murderers, are overwhelmed with remorse; the husband drinks of the poison which he was about to pour out to his wife, and falls dead on the ground, while Thérèse, taking the phial, empties the rest, and dies in her turn.

At the Royal Italian Opera, on the 18th, "L'Etoile du Nord" was given for the first time this season, with all the splendour and completeness of past occasions, and with a similar cast, including Mme. Patti as Caterina, and M. Faure as Pietro. On Monday, the 21st, "Les Huguenots" was performed; on Tuesday, "Un Ballo in Maschera" (for the debut of Mlle. Pezzotta); on Wednesday there was a miscellaneous evening concert; on Thursday "Il Barbiere" for the benefit of Mme. Adeline Patti; Friday, "Lucia di Lammermoor," benefit of Mlle. Albani; Saturday, the 26th, was the last night of the season, when "L'Etoile" was given for a second time.

The following is the latest dramatic intelligence from England.—The Lyceum Theatre, London, closed on the 26th. It will reopen next season with Bulwer's "Richelieu." The company has begun a provincial tour in Manchester.—At the Princess's a piece entitled "Mariée depuis Midi," written expressly for Mlle. Judic, has been produced.—The Haymarket company have commenced their provincial tour at Liverpool where they have been performing "Pygmalion and Galatea," the "School for Scandal," "The Rivals," and "She Stoops to Conquer."—At Leeds, and at one of the Manchester theatres, a new play by Mr. Tom Taylor, entitled "Arkwright's Wife; a Story of Lancashire Industry," has been produced. It deals with incidents in the history of the celebrated inventor.

The season at the Drury Lane Theatre opens on the 20th of September with "Antony and Cleopatra" in an abridged form as a grand spectacular play. The scenes will comprise a view of ancient Rome, with a grand celebration in honour of Antony and Octavia; the naval battle of Actium between the Roman and Egyptian "galleys;" the Temple of Isis; and a realization of the spectacle of Cleopatra in her barge.

During the season just over in London Mme Patti received two hundred guineas per night at Covent Garden, and Mme. Nilsson £200 at Drury Lane.

Lillie Eldridge will begin her starring tour of next season at Montreal, in September.

Plotow is to write a new opera for the Paris Grand Opera House.

A novel sensational effect, unknown in this country, is said to be introduced in one of the plays just brought from Europe by Mr. and Mrs. Barney Williams.

The St. John, N.B., Dramatic Lyceum closed on the 7th inst. Grace Egerton appeared during the week at the Academy of Music.

Mr. Ward and Miss Winnetta Montague appeared last week at the Theatre Royal, Montreal, in "The Winning Hand," "Cuba," "The Peep-o'-Day," and "The Irish Emigrant." On Monday Miss Marion Mordaunt opened with "Darling."

The Lindley Combination Troupe have been playing in Hamilton and London, Ont.

Mr. Wm. Nannery opened at Halifax on Monday last. Among the *artistes* in his troupe are Miss Minnie Conway from the Brooklyn Theatre; Miss Ida Savery, and Mr. Walter Lennox from the Walnut Street Theatre.

Miss Anna Dickinson is to make her *début* at the new Boston Globe Theatre, under Cheney's management.

Hyron's "Maufred," with a ballet and spectacular effects, is to be brought out at the Princess's Theatre, London.

Mr. R. A. Proctor, the astronomer, will visit this continent in the fall.

The second volume of Mr. Beecher's "Life of Christ" is in an advanced stage.

Mr. J. Kingston Oliphant is about to publish, through Messrs. Macmillan, a book called "On the Origin of Standard English."

MM. Erckmann-Chatrian are now writing for Cassell's Magazine a serial story, founded on a quartermaster's narrative of personal adventures experienced during a recent campaign in Kabylia.

The minor works of the late Mr. Grote, including several unpublished pieces, are soon to be printed; and Mr. Murray promises "A Brief Memoir of the Princess Charlotte of Wales," by the Lady Rose Weigall.

Mr. George Smith has, it is announced, returned to London from his successful labours in Assyria, in excellent health.

Lord Ravensworth, who, along with Mr. Richards, recently translated Virgil's "Æneid" into blank verse, is, says the Athenæum, about to publish an estimate of the lapse of time necessary for the action and events of the last six books of the "Æneid."