

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

ATLAS OF THE DOMINION.—We have to thank the publisher for a copy of this magnificent work, which is a credit to his energy, to the science of the author, and one of the most useful educational and referendary compilations ever offered to our public. That a complete and authentic Atlas of the Dominion since Confederation was a keenly-felt desideratum no one will deny. That the present work supplies the need, a glance at its pages is sufficient to convince any one. Nothing pertaining to the physical character of the country seems to have been omitted. Its Physical Geography and Topography are described by Dr. T. Sterry Hunt; its Geology, Zoology, History, Education, Railways, Navigation, and Climatology are treated respectively by such authorities as Robert Bell, H. Alleyne Nicholson, H. H. Miles, W. H. Ellis, J. G. Hodgins, Wm. Caniff, Hugh Fletcher, M. H. Perley, C. Robb, and Lorin Blodgett. The maps themselves are divided into General Maps, Maps of the Provinces, County and District Maps, and City Maps, while the Gazetteer is very extensive, comprising lists of railroads, stations, and distances; consular agents, cities, villages, and post offices in both Ontario and Quebec. The work concludes with a copious catalogue of Business Cards of the patrons of the Atlas, which will be found very useful for reference. The Maps themselves, besides being artistically executed in deep, bold colours agreeable to the eye, are guaranteed accurate in their minutest details, the information embodied in each having been brought down to the last moment from official sources. The name of the author, Mr. Walling, is a sufficient warranty that both ability and fidelity have presided over the confection of his work. He is a civil engineer of known standing, and he has already published maps of different Canadian Provinces, and of many American States. We believe ourselves safe in commending the ATLAS OF THE DOMINION to the patronage of the public, and the consideration of our many educational establishments.

ST. NICHOLAS.—We have received direct from the publishers, the bound volume of ST. NICHOLAS for 1874. While every successive number of this charming periodical for Boys and Girls strikes the reader with admiration, it is especially when all the numbers are collected together, as a whole, that the worth of the material, the painstaking of the editors, and the wealth of the illustrations are fully appreciated. We know of no more appropriate holiday present than this beautifully bound volume; and we cannot do better than recommend its purchase to all those who wish to preserve St. Nicholas in their libraries for the perpetual delectation of the young people.

THE POPULAR SCIENCE MONTHLY.—The January number of this excellent magazine is full of the most excellent material, the object of which is to popularize science, and place it within the reach of the average intellect. There is, perhaps, no more useful periodical published in the United States. The external presentation is exceedingly attractive, while the articles themselves are from the most authoritative pens on both sides of the Atlantic. The present number contains papers by Tyndall and Herbert Spencer, and the editorial miscellany is replete with varied information. We recommend the periodical to Canadian readers, and shall have occasion to refer to it again.

RIDDLES.

FOR BOYS AND GIRLS.

Do you know why a ploughed field is like feathered game?—Because it is *partridge*.

Who is the only blaster from whom a brave man will take a blow?—The wind.

What fish is most valued by a loving wife?—Herring.

Why is an honourable man like a grand piano?—Because he is high-toned.

Why is a sermon delivered on board a ship like a necktie?—Because it's a deck-oration.

Why is smoke like a novel?—Because it goes out in volumes.

When is there no *belly* to the sails of a ship?—When they are all a-buck.

What port is sought by every living creature?—Support.

When is a tired man like a thief?—When he needs a *resting*.

Why is a bad bill like a bad swimmer?—Because it can't contend with the current.

What quadrupeds are admitted to balls, operas, and dinner parties?—White kids.

When have married people passed through the alphabet of love?—When they reach the *ba-be*.

What is that which works when it plays and plays when it works?—A fountain.

What is an appropriate tree to plant at a distance from one's house?—A fir tree.

Why is a newspaper like an apothecary's shop?—Because it contains extracts.

* Atlas of the Dominion. By H. P. Walling, C. E. Published by G. S. Tackabury, Montreal, Toronto, and London. Printed by the Burdland-Desbarats Lithographic Company, Montreal. Large 4to, pp. 238.

Why is the polka like bitter beer?—Because there are so many hops in it.

What curious animals with wings form part of a very manly exercise?—Bats.

Why is a lamplighter like a cowardly soldier?—Because he fires and then runs away.

Why is a man in a rage like a hard-baked pie?—Because he is crusty.

What town in New Hampshire is a great grain-field?—Rye.

Why is snuff like the letter S?—Because it is the beginning of sneezing.

Why is a stupid schoolboy like a town in Scotland?—Because he is a dunce (Dunseo).

When is the weather most like a crockery shop?—When it is nuggy.

What part of the earth is most favoured by women?—The *after-most*.

Why is the air of Germany bad for consumptives?—Because it is *ton tonic*.

What is the most musical county in Scotland?—The county of Fife.

Why is a windy orator like a whale?—Because he often rises to spout.

When is a man out of date?—When he's a weak-back.

Why is Berlin the most dissipated city in Europe?—Because it is always on the spree.

When is a man least likely to pursue a straight course?—When he forsakes the line of duty to follow the bent of his own fancy.

Why are persons who are abrupt in speech not so sharp as they should be?—Because they are blunt.

Why is the cook at the palace like a man sitting on the top of St. Paul's?—Both are in a high cool-and-airy (*calmar*) situation.

Why is a vain young lady like a confirmed drunkard?—Because neither of them is satisfied with a moderate use of the glass.

On what ground may confectioners be deemed very mercenary lovers?—Because they sell their "kisses."

What is the difference between a church organist and the influenza?—One stops the nose, and the other knows the stops.

If an empty purse could speak, what love-like speech would it make?—"You'll find no change in me."

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ANCIENT COSTUMES.

A correspondent of the *Cleveland Leader* speaking of the Centennial tea-party at the Capitol says: "There was a pretty brunette who wore a dress 140 years old; it was an heirloom in her family and had been preserved with great care, having been worn by her great-grandmother at the first reception given at Mount Vernon. The petticoat was of pale-blue silk, very pale indeed, with age; and the over-skirt, which was turned back down the front, showing the petticoat, was a creamy white with great bouquets in raised brocade strewn over it; an old-fashioned cape of rare lace covered the shoulders and deep frills of the same fell from the elbow sleeves; a pair of long white silk mitts reached to the elbows; and the hair was done in puffs and crowned with a high comb. The wearer of this costume frankly remarked that it was complete as her great-grandmother is supposed to have worn it, with the exception of the shoes, which were too small for her. There were two or three of those hideous gowns displayed which our foremothers used to delight in. One of them was of canary-colored satin, made, I should judge, all in one piece, and that a very small piece, with no waist to speak of, and the skirt measuring about a yard and a half in width. A turban of lace and feathers was the head-gear, and the young lady who wore this costume displayed an amount of heroism that would be remarkable in a greater cause. All of the costumes were not of course historical nor ancient. One could easily see how we are continually reviving old styles of dress in some form or other, and the broadened overskirts white handkerchiefs, and powdered hair did not seem unfamiliar."

HUMOUROUS.

The first thing a young man does when he sees a friend with a new hat on, says an American paper, is to take it off and serenely try it on his own head. When a young lady sees one of her acquaintances with a new bonnet, she just lifts up her nose, and serenely wonders "where that thing got that fright!"

A GENTLEMAN took the following telegram to the telegraph office: "Mrs. Brown, Liverpool street. I announce with grief the death of Uncle James. Come quickly to read will. I believe we are his heirs. John Black." The clerk having counted the words said: "There are two words too many, sir." "All right, cut out 'with grief,' " was the reply."

A MAN who had not much talent for conundrums, in attempting to get off one at a tea party at his own house the other evening, got exceedingly mixed. He intended to ask the old question, "Why is a woman like ivy?" the familiar but gallant answer to which is, "Because the greater the vine the closer she clings." But he put it, "Why is ivy like a woman?" which none of the ladies could tell, and so the unfortunate man himself told them it was, "Because the closer it clings the greater the ruin."

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

JAN. 6.—The Beecher-Tilton case was up before the Brooklyn City Court yesterday, but up to the hour of adjournment only three jurors had been empanelled.

Rumours are afloat in Paris of another message from President MacMahon to the National Assembly, urging the passage of the Constitutional Bills.

Mr. Scott, of Pennsylvania, presented to the U. S. Senate yesterday resolutions from the Iron and Steel Association, protesting against the Fish-Brown Reciprocity Treaty.

The funeral of M. Ledru-Rollin took place at Paris yesterday, unattended by any religious ceremony. Upwards of 100,000 people are said to have been present on the occasion.

Mr. Walkem, Premier of British Columbia, has secured a grant of £50,000 from the Imperial Government for the Esquimaux gravestone.

The new Opera House was opened in Paris last night, at which a brilliant assemblage were gathered. Christine Nilsson, who was engaged for the occasion, was prevented from appearing on account of illness.

JAN. 7.—An indignation meeting is to be held in New York to protest against General Sheridan's course in Louisiana affairs.

The crisis in the French Assembly is regarded as serious. It is rumoured that the Ministry have tendered their resignation.

McEnery will submit to arrest if based on civil authority, but if it is attempted on General Sheridan's sole authority, he will resist to the last.

Marshal MacMahon has sent a message, urging on the assembly, the necessity of creating a second chamber and of immediately considering the constitutional bills.

JAN. 8.—President MacMahon declines to accept the resignation of the French Cabinet until he can form a Ministry from the new majority in the Assembly.

Castelar is preparing to clear from Spain before the new King's arrival. Alfonso has confirmed the Ministerial Appointments and trusts that an era of real liberty, peace and forgetfulness of past discords will be inaugurated under his rule.

Correspondence is being carried on between the Imperial and United States Governments in relation to some territory in British North America, which, though it has never been formally annexed, is claimed by England.

Governor Kellogg imagines he has discovered a deep laid plot, the details of which he related to the Congressional Committee, to assassinate the President. The head centre of the conspirators is supposed to be at Baltimore, and Kellogg entirely exonerates the White League from any participation whatever in the movement.

President Grant has issued instructions to Secretary Belknap and the Attorney General to gather in form for laying before Congress, a mass of documentary information having reference to the unsettled condition of affairs in the South. These documents the President is satisfied contain sufficient evidence of the revolutionary and incendiary objects of the White League.

JAN. 9.—A Paris despatch says the basis of the new Cabinet has been settled and numbers the Ducs de Broglie and Decazes among the members.

The Pope has sent his Apostolic Benediction to King Alfonso, and prays for happiness for him in the difficult task which he has undertaken.

It is understood that the Canadian House of Commons will be summoned for despatch of business about the 10th of February.

The Bank Commission of Germany have passed resolutions with regard to the price of gold ingots brought by the Imperial Bank, having for their object successful competition with the United States and the attraction of gold to Germany.

The excessive drought last fall in the vicinity of Quebec had the effect of drying up all the wells in the elevated country round the city, so that the farmers are compelled to melt snow to obtain a sufficient supply of water for their cattle.

In reference to the succession in Brunswick, Berlin despatches to the London Times say that the Prussian dynasty will consent to waive all claim to the succession provided the Crown Prince of Hanover will agree to recognize the present German Constitution.

JAN. 11.—King Alfonso XII landed at Barcelona on Saturday.

Irwin, of Pacific Mail notoriety, has been sent to the district jail.

President Grant has received four letters threatening him with assassination unless he removes the military force from New Orleans.

At the opening of the Louisiana Legislature on Friday, the Democrats, though in the minority, seized the House by a clever *coup d'état*.

The Duc de Broglie has intimated to President MacMahon his inability to form a Cabinet until the assembly shall have come to some definite conclusion with regard to the Constitutional Bills. The Ministry have therefore acceded to the President's request, and will retain their portfolios for the present.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

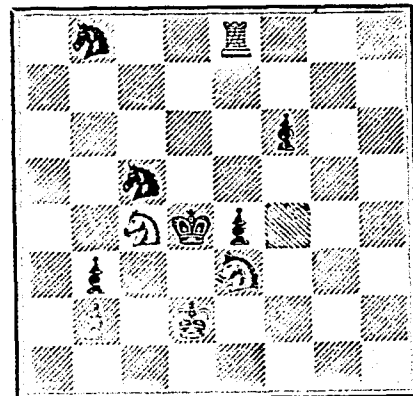
We are sorry that the Problem No. 1, in the last number, was wrongly printed. The Black Rook, instead of being on Q R's 4th, should be on Q R's 5th. Mistakes of this nature shall be prevented in future.

We are pleased to find that several games of chess are being played in Canada by correspondence. We shall endeavour to obtain more information on the subject, and make the results available for our chess column.

PROBLEM NO. 2.

By Herr Kling.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to Checkmate in three moves.

Game between Calvi and Kieseritzky.

(King's Knight's opening.)

WHITE.—Mr. Calvi. BLACK.—Mr. Kieseritzky.

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

(a) A very weak move. Throwing away the game at once.

(b) If the B takes P, the K attacks the Rook, &c.

Game between Devine and Kieseritzky.

(King's Gambit.)

WHITE.—Devine. BLACK.—Kieseritzky.

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

(a) Circumstances here are hardly favourable for this sacrifice.

(b) Pretty move.

(c) Very bad play.

(d) We will leave our young players to find out a shorter way to victory than by this move. Great players sometimes make oversights.