

matt, Chamounix, Grindelwald, and those that sweep around the base of the Eggishorn, are surpassed by this pure-white glacier in the far North. We were rowed back to the steamer after two hours upon land, and as we sailed away we watched, until the last moment the wonderful Svartisen, which was one of the most beautiful sights of the whole trip.—From *Midnight Sunbeams* by Edwin Coolidge Kemball.

ROYAL TRAINS.

"THE Queen's Train," it may be remarked, is a misnomer, to start with. There is no such train. Two saloons there are, close-coupled and connected by a gangway, that are reserved for Her Majesty's exclusive and personal use, which never leave Wolverton except to carry her to or from Balmoral; but that is all. The rest of the Royal train is made up with such saloons or other vehicles of the company's ordinary rolling stock as may on any particular occasion be required. Nor are the Royal saloons themselves in any way very remarkable. One thing to be noticed is that they are entered by a folding carriage-step—a survival, doubtless, from the days when platforms were not yet of a uniform and sufficient height. The floors are deeply carpeted, and the sides and roof thickly padded with quilted silk, to deaden the noise and vibration of the train, from which, as is well known, Her Majesty suffers. To reduce this to a minimum, she, by her own desire, travels to and from Scotland at a speed markedly below that which the meanest of her subjects can command any evening in the week for the modest payment of a good deal less than one penny per mile. One of the saloons is fitted as a bedroom, and between the two is a lavatory, whose basins and fittings in metal, chased and gilt, deserve to be mentioned as a real work of art. These saloons are, it should be added, now more than twenty years old. Since they were built the art of railway carriage construction has advanced with rapid strides, and the North-Western authorities would willingly, if permitted, replace them with new ones.—*The Railways of England*, by W. M. Acworth.

A YOUNG AMAZON.

ON January 1, 1854, he was still on the river, but getting beyond Sekeletu's territory and allies to a region of dense forest, in the open glades of which dwelt the Balonda, a powerful tribe, whose relations with the Makololo were precarious. Each was inclined to raid on the other since the Mambari and Portuguese half-casts had appeared with Manchester goods. These excited the intense wonder and cupidity of both nations. They listened to the story of cotton-mills as fairy dreams, exclaiming, "How can iron spin, weave, and print? Truly ye are gods!" and were already inclined to steal their neighbour's children—those of their own tribe they never sold at this time—to obtain these wonders out of the sea. Happily, Livingstone had brought back with him several Balonda children who had been carried off by the Makololo. This, and his speeches to Manenko, the chieftainess of the district, and niece of Shinte, the head chief of the Balonda, gained them a welcome. This Amazon was a strapping young woman of twenty, who led their party through the forest at a pace which tried the best walkers. She seems to have been the only native whose will ever prevailed against Livingstone's. He intended to proceed up to her uncle Shinte's town in canoes; she insisted that they should march by land, and ordered her people to shoulder his baggage in spite of him. "My men succumbed, and left me powerless. I was moving off in high dudgeon to the canoes, when she kindly placed her hand on my shoulder, and, with a motherly look, said, "Now, my little man, just do as the rest have done." My feeling of annoyance, of course, vanished, and I went out to try for some meat. My men, in admiration of her pedestrian powers, kept remarking, "Manenko is a soldier," and we were all glad when she proposed a halt for the night.—*From Life of David Livingstone*, by Thomas Hughes.

AN important question upon which Stanley's journey, according to his recent letter, may throw light, is the doubtful connection of the Mootan Nziye with the Aruvimi or with the Albert Nyanza. From a passing mention of this question in the letter, it would appear that Stanley inclines to the opinion that the lake belongs to the Kongo system. He states that it is far smaller than the Albert Nyanza, and this statement necessitates an important change in the maps of Central Africa. Mr. Wauters, of Brussels, whose opinions regarding the hydrography of the Kongo Basin deserve special consideration, has long maintained that the lake must belong to the Aruvimi system, as it would be impossible to account for the enormous amount of water carried by that river if it had its source west of the lake. Other geographers, among them A. Kirchhoff, have maintained the existence of a connection between the southern lake and the Albert Nyanza. In this case the lake would belong to the Nile system. Undoubtedly Stanley's explorations will materially add to the solution of this interesting problem. His whole route led to entirely unknown territory, and will disclose another section of the western slope of the great East African highlands. Among the ethnographical notes contained in his letter, the discovery of a new tribe of dwarfs, called Wambutti, is noteworthy, as they add one more to the great number of these widely scattered dwarfish people which have become known recently.

The Wambutti occupy an intermediate location between the Akka of the Welle, and Batwa of the southern Kongo affluents. The natives, among whom these dwarfs live, are described as "strong, brown-bodied, with terribly sharp spears,"—a description which shows that they belong to a group of the peoples inhabiting the watershed between the Welle and Nile, and not to the Bantu.

VERY CANDID TESTIMONY.

(From the Toronto Mail).

To the Editor of The Mail: As a constant reader of your paper I will thank you to insert the following:

Having read so many valuable testimonials as to the value of Warner's Safe Cure, I think it my duty to contribute one, and I speak from actual knowledge.

In 1883 my wife took pains across the kidneys, and from there to her shoulders and to the pit of the stomach. The skin came off her finger ends and also off her lips, and turned purple red. She was under a doctor's care for about three years, and took different medicines, but no relief came. I got disheartened, and said one day, "Will we try some patent medicine?" She said: "Jack, let me die; I have taken medicine enough." I went down to W. Clark's drug store and procured two bottles of Safe Cure, and one of pills. I continued on until she had taken eleven bottles, when she said: "I need no more; I have no pain anywhere, and I feel quite myself again." My wife has never since suffered from the dreadful pains which she had before taking Warner's Safe Cure. I am sorry that in justice to the purveyors of that invaluable medicine I have not reported on it before, but nevertheless I recommend it to every human being suffering with the same affliction.

Yours, etc., J. COOPER,

April 22. Lightkeeper, Port Arthur.

[The foregoing letter comes to us direct from Mr. Cooper, without the knowledge of the purveyors of the medicine, unsolicited, and may therefore be considered as conscientious testimony. We publish it at the request of the writer, and it is not an advertisement.—ED. THE MAIL.]

AN English correspondent of the *American Field* writes that a new gunpowder, the invention of Mr. Hengst, has recently been tested at the Royal Gunpowder Factory, Waltham Abbey, England, and the results point to it as a promising substitute for black powder for military and sporting purposes. The new powder is prepared from straw, which is pulverized, chemically treated, and finished in granular form for use. It is claimed for this powder that it is smokeless, flameless, practically non-fouling and non-heating, and that both the recoil and the report are less than those of black powder, with superior penetrative power. From the powerful character of this explosive, which, weight for weight, is 150 per cent. stronger than gunpowder, and is not explodable by concussion, it is probable that in a compressed form it will be found to be applicable to blasting-purposes.

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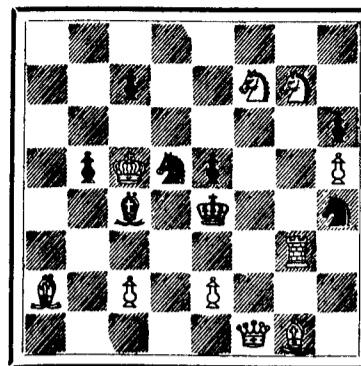
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CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 357.

By C. L. DESANGES.

BLACK.



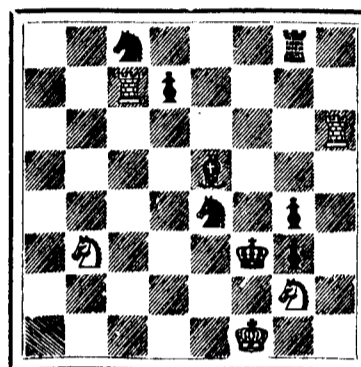
WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

PROBLEM No. 358.

By DR. S. GOLD.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

Table with 4 columns: No. 351, White, Black, No. 352, White, Black. It lists chess moves and solutions for two problems.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. E. L., Hamilton.—Thanks for game which we give to-day. Glad to hear from you again, either with games or problems.

TOURNAMENT GAME PLAYED AT THE HAMILTON CHESS CLUB, APRIL 25TH, 1889.

Between MR. H. E. LESTER AND MR. ———.

RUZ LOPEZ.

Table showing chess moves for Mr. Lester (White) and Mr. — (Black) in a tournament game.

NOTES.

- (a) Good; threatens to play 20. Kt x R P.
(b) Bad; P-B 3 followed by Q-B 2 appears to be his best move

THE U. S. CHESS CONGRESS.

NEW YORK, May 13th.—At the chess tournament to-day Gunsberg won from MacLeod, Tschigorin from Bird, Blackburne from J. W. Baird, Lipschutz from Delwar, D. G. Baird from Burn, Hanham from Showalter, Gossip from Pollock. The games between Martinez and Weiss, and Taubenhaus and Mason were draws.

RECORD TO DATE.

Table with 4 columns: Players, Won, Lost, Players, Won, Lost. It lists the performance of various chess players in the U.S. Chess Congress.