

RENAN'S REMINISCENCES

M. Renan tells us that it was not until late in life that he began to have any reminiscences. His early years were so completely engrossed with the solution of the highest problems of religion and philosophy...

Of all parts of France, Brittany has, perhaps, the most poetic charm and the most distinctive character. and in the hands of such a master of the picturesque as M. Renan it is not likely to lose any romantic features. Though France does not extend from extreme north to south over more than eight degrees of latitude...

and tales, and funny stories, he knew were beyond belief. He was followed about from place to place, and was the life, and soul, and delight, of everybody. He had some education, and had read a great deal, and he made a real literary revolution. Before his time, they only knew the "Four Sons of Aymon" and "Renard de Montauban"...

This was the paternal ancestry. On the mother's side, there was a strain of cheerful Gascon blood to modify the dreamy Breton type. Madame Renan seems to have been worthy of her son, and of the loving, reverent affection he bestowed on her all through her life.

Tréguier was the birth-place of Renan, a quiet, little town of North Brittany that was completely overpowered by the imposing mass of its great cathedral, a beautiful specimen of the poetic architecture of the thirteenth century.

Renan was a premature child, and so frail that for two months his life was despaired of. So many of the lights that have burned the most brightly, have been very feeble and unsteady flames at first.

In this quiet spot, entirely shielded from the disintegrating influences of the modern world, Renan's childhood was passed. These early surroundings, he says, gave a "pit" to his character which was never effaced.

country was dotted all over with rude little chapels, perched among the bare rocks, or standing alone on the desolate, wind-swept heath, each containing an image of some local saint, carved with that mixture of realism and imagination with which the ideas of a primitive people express themselves before art has become more than a symbol.

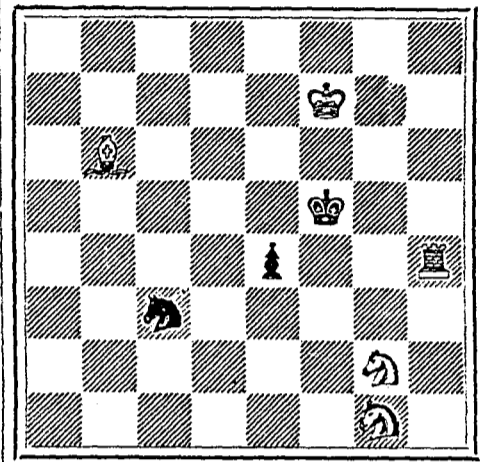
Renan's early education was, of course, conducted by the clergy of the place; and of these, his first masters, he speaks with the deepest reverence and affection. They seem to have been truly excellent men, narrow and limited, but entirely pure and good.

But memories like these are brief and scattered. M. Renan is far more interested in tracing the influences that were at work in moulding his character, and analyzing the inherited ingredients of his nature, than in recalling the events of his boyhood. It is curious to observe how this preoccupied him.

CHess WITH LIVING PIECES. The Prince and Princess of Wales and their children, the Duchess of Edinburgh and the Duke and Duchess of Teck on Monday afternoon attended the grand military chess tournament, which was opened at the Cirque, Argyle street, Regent street, in aid of the funds of the Royal Hospital for Children and Women, Waterloo Bridge road, London, and the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, Welbeck street, London.

PROBLEM No. 437.

By F. E. Lamb.



BLACK.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 435.

Table showing chess moves for White and Black. White moves: 1 Kt to B4, 2 Q to B3, 3 Q mates. Black moves: 1 K takes P, 2 K moves, 1 K to K3, 2 K moves, 1 K to K5 or Q5, 2 R moves.

GAME 563RD.

THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS.

The following game was played in the seventh round.

(Two Knights Opening.)

Chess game notation between Mr. Blackburne (White) and Mr. Steinitz (Black). Moves include P to K4, Kt to B3, Q to Q4, etc.

NOTES.

- (a) The kind of defence which Mr. Steinitz would derive were it any one's favorite game but his own. We pronounced against it years ago, and we reiterate our declaration of last week that the same yielded is lost on theory. (b) No improvement upon R to K sq. as adopted by him against Zukertort. (c) He rejects, and as we think rightly rejects, the possibility of soon pushing on the K B P. (d) A favorite line with Mr. Blackburne in games having King's Fianchetto characteristics. (e) A move indicative of early distress, though containing ameliorative possibilities in default of expeditious skill on the other side. As against vigorous play, P to K B 4 affords the only chance, though certainly a very poor one. (f) The intended continuation, so no use talking of it being a bad look-out. (g) Practically a winning move. (h) Our own choice, would be R to B 3, which prevents Q to Kt 5, and in other respects allows of something of a struggle. (i) Equivalent to surrendering. The game is however lost any way, for if 23 P to K R 3, then 24 Q to B 6 ch, R to R 2, 25 Kt to K 4 winning. A better move after 24 Q to B 6 ch, is R to Kt sq, but then 25 Q to R 4, or 25 Q R to B 3, and Black's prospects are hopeless. (j) There is nothing surprising in such a move. Skill is often wanting where it would avail nothing. If 24 R to K 2, 25 Q to R 6 ch, K to R 6, 26 Kt to K 4 winning; while if 24, K to R sq, 25 Q to R 6 winning. Mr. Blackburne's play throughout this game is deserving of much admiration.—Land and Water.

ANSWER THIS

Can you find a case of Bright's Disease of the Kidneys, Diabetes, Urinary or Liver Complaints that is curable, that Hop Bitters has not or cannot cure? Ask your neighbors if they can.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

All communications intended for this Column should be addressed to the Chess Editor, CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, Montreal.

The excitement caused in England by the contests of the International Tourney, and the recent visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales and their children to the grand military Chess Tournament in London, an account of which will be found annexed, are plain evidences of the fact that the noble game is obtaining much more of the attention of the public than it did years ago.