

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A lecturer on spiritualism, addressing an audience recently somewhere in Ontario—it was in Toronto, if we remember right—said that "believers in his system had been called infidels; but this was an old form of reproach. The Romanists had called Luther an infidel; the Lutherans or Episcopalians had called the Wesleyans infidels; and now even the Universalists, putting on airs, called the Spiritualists infidels." It certainly was very wrong of the Universalists to "put on airs" over such a matter, but they were far more wrong in calling the Spiritualists infidels. Such a reproach is most undeserved by the disciples of Home. They, of all men, one would imagine, would be the last to be taxed with want of belief.

Some of the Ottawa papers express astonishment and incredulity at the report that His Excellency the Governor-General intends spending a portion of the year in Quebec, Montreal, and Toronto. We confess that we fail to see anything extraordinary in His Excellency's determination. As Her Majesty's representative, Lord Dufferin can hardly be blamed for following the precedent laid down by the Sovereign, who certainly does not spend one half the year in London. Besides, nothing is so natural than that His Excellency, on arriving in the country, should desire to become personally acquainted with the principal cities and places of interest. For our part, we trust Halifax and St. John will not be forgotten in the round of his lordship's visits.

Cases of poisoning by hydrate of chloral are, we believe, extremely rare in this country, and it is with much regret that we notice the death, caused by taking an overdose of this powerful narcotic, of a man in London, Ont. The deceased was, it appears, at one time much addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors, for which he subsequently substituted chloral. The result was as stated. The jury empanelled at the inquest returned a unanimous verdict to the effect that the deceased came to his death from an overdose of hydrate of chloral, administered by his own hand, coupled with a recommendation to druggists to place hydrate of chloral among the list of poisons, and subject the sale of it to the same restrictions. It will be worth while noting the effect of this recommendation. Unless some restriction is shortly put upon the sale of this drug we shall soon find it causing as much trouble amongst us as it has already done in England.

There is one disgrace that three of the largest cities of Canada share alike—the insecurity of their outskirts. It is hard to say which is the worst, the bush on the left bank of the Don, the Mountain in this city, or the Plains of Abraham. At all events Montreal has the dishonour of the latest outrage. On Monday afternoon a young girl who in quest of flowers had strayed away from her party in the neighbourhood of the Mount Royal Cemetery was confronted by a rough who threatened to take her life if she did not give up the jewellery she wore. The girl, scared almost out of her wits, did as desired, and was suffered to go. On reaching her friends she gave way and became delirious. She now lies ill at home, her system having received so severe a shock that it is hard to say what the consequences may be. The rowdy has the jewellery in his possession, and it is to be sincerely hoped that it may be the means of introducing him to the flogging-post and lash.

An exchange says:—"A medical impostor recently fined before a London court for calling himself M.D., has appealed to the Court of Queen's Bench on the plea that he possessed a diploma from the 'Metropolitan College of New York.' The settlement of the question whether the possession of a 'foreign degree' entitles a man to style himself a physician in England, may be facilitated in this particular case by knowledge of the fact that no such college exists in New York. Fictitious degrees—and in nearly all cases those who own them—may be ranked among the worst nuisances of the day. It has already been more than once suggested that in every case where the titular initials are used, the name of the University conferring the degree should be appended. The suggestion is a good one, and is only open to the objection that the title would be inconveniently long. The same objection applies—though it is seldom advanced—in cases where more than one title is used. At any rate the result would be a satisfactory one. Few people would care to entrust their lives to an M.D., Met. Coll., N. Y.

A year ago it was Simpson, and now it is Jonathan that is destroying the health of people in England. The first of these names, the reader will remember, was applied by the English milk vendors to the quantum of water put into the milk they sold, in order to reduce it to the desired degree of weakness. The part Jonathan plays in the business of adulteration will be explained by the following account of a trial which recently took place at the police court, at Guysborough, in the north of England. "A miller was summoned by the Local Board of Health for having in his possession thirty-three sacks of an article supposed to be sawdust for the adulteration of meal—contrary to a statute in that case made and provided," and so forth. An analytical chemist testified that the article—technically known as "Jonathan"—contained about one-half part in a thousand parts of nutriment. The article, he said, was not meal, but he could not swear that it was wood. The trial ended in a conviction, but as the case was the first of its kind that had been heard, a mitigated penalty, with the forfeiture of the article, was imposed. It is stated that "Jonathan" had been in use for fifteen years, and was very extensively sold. Simpson was bad enough, but at all events it was innocuous, which is more than can be said of its twin brother, Jonathan. It is to be hoped that enterprising millers will take warning by the fate of their Guysborough brother, and refrain from putting sawdust into their meal.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE DOMINION.

The 12th of July was celebrated as usual throughout Ontario.

Work has begun on the tower of the Parliament buildings, which is to be raised some three feet in height.

The volunteers who have been encamped at Kingston, Prescott, St. Andrews, and Lewis returned home at the latter end of last week.

The *Official Gazette* publishes a complimentary despatch from Lord Kimberley relative to the passage of the Washington Treaty Bill.

Most of the writs for the elections were issued on Monday. They are made returnable within 50 days for all places excepting Gaspe, Saguenay, and Chicoutimi, and the Provinces of British Columbia and Manitoba.

The bye-law in favour of the Northern Colonization Railway has been voted with the greatest enthusiasm by the County of Ottawa in Hull, Aylmer, Papineauville, the village of Buckingham, and Montebello. The bye-law was carried by acclamation in the other parishes.

Sir John A. Macdonald left Hamilton on Monday for Glenora, Harrisburg, Woodstock, and several other Western towns, Toronto being his headquarters during the campaign. The presentation of the Workmen's Testimonial to Lady Macdonald took place on Thursday of last week.

The Digby Races were a great success, some four thousand people being present. The four-oared race was won on Thursday the 11th, by the Digby crew; the St. John second, and Halifax third. The scull race came off on the following day, and was won by Brown, who came in four lengths ahead of Fulton. About \$15,000 is said to have changed hands on the contest. Brown was enthusiastically received on his return to Halifax.

His Excellency the Governor-General and Lady Dufferin started on the 8th inst. for River du Loup. After spending a few days with his family at the seat of Thomas Reynolds, Esq., at that place, the Governor will leave in his yacht, the "Dauntless," which he yesterday purchased from Mr. Dobell, on a cruise in the Gulf and the Saguenay. On his return, His Excellency will make Quebec his residence for a few months, and will afterwards proceed westward, remaining a while in Montreal and Toronto, so as to obtain a close acquaintance with the leading cities of the Dominion.

The second inquest on the Shannonville disaster terminated on Friday last. After five hours deliberation the following verdict was brought in, signed by thirteen out of the eighteen jurors:—"The Jury of our Sovereign Lady the Queen, to inquire into the cause of the death of Joseph Berthelme of the Province of Quebec, after a severe and exhaustive inquest, agree that the said Joseph Berthelme, a passenger on the train, came by his death by scalding on the morning of the 22nd of June, 1872, by the engine running off the rails, about 1,000 yards east of Shannonville station, said accident being occasioned by the fracture of the flange of the right forward wheel of the truck of the engine, and from the conflicting evidence adduced, the jury cannot arrive at a definite conclusion as to the cause of said fracture."

UNITED STATES.

The jury in the Stokes case were discharged on Monday, as they were unable to agree. They were locked up for nearly forty-eight hours. The jury stood eight for murder in the first degree, to four for manslaughter in the third degree. Stokes was remanded to jail, without bail.

Mr. H. P. Watson, Assistant Secretary of War during the war, has been elected President of Erie. Mr. Watson is connected with railroad interests in Ohio, and was recommended by Vanderbilt as a suitable man for the position. The Erie Company is about to commence a suit against Jay Gould for the recovery of a large amount of real estate.

The Baltimore Democratic Convention assembled on the 16th at Ford's Opera House. Beverly Johnson, among other distinguished men, on the platform. The following day the Convention met at ten o'clock, and after a short debate the resolutions adopted by the Cincinnati Convention were endorsed—yeas, 537; nays, 175. Greeley and Brown were then unanimously nominated on the first ballot.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Heavy storms prevailed throughout England on Friday, causing much damage to the crops.

Sir Alexander Cockburn, arbitrator on the part of England on the Geneva Tribunal, is to be created an Earl in recognition of his services.

In consequence of an arrangement concluded with the master-builders, the journeymen in London have resumed work, and it is expected that the other trades will follow their example.

The resignation of Captain-General Valmaseda having been accepted, he left for Spain on the 15th instant. It is reported that the intendente of the Island of Cuba has been removed.

The last Berlin *Official Gazette* promulgates the law providing for the banishment of Jesuits from Germany. All establishments now under their control must be completely broken up in six months.

A Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* says that the increasing tide of emigration from Germany to America causes considerable uneasiness to the Imperial Government, and preventative measures are seriously contemplated.

A Madrid special to New York says Dr. Howard has been set free. An order from Madrid offered his release as an act of pardon, to which Dr. Howard demurred, as his acceptance of it might appear an acknowledgment of guilt, and a waiver of his right to compensation. He was then turned or forced out.

The London *Echo* publishes a private letter said to have been written by a person high in authority at the Vatican, stating that the Pope on the 1st of November last, All Saints Day, bestowed Cardinals' hats upon the Archbishop of Westminster, the Archbishop of Paris, and the Most Rev. Martin John Spalding, now deceased, who was then Archbishop of Baltimore.

The Geneva Board of Arbitrators met on Monday last. It is believed that the session of the Board will last from six weeks to two months. There will be four sittings each week. The English agents will make a strong contest against the American direct claims, but the prevailing impression is that the award in favour of the United States will be a large one. The efforts of the newspaper correspondents have not availed to remove the seal of secrecy from the proceedings of the Board. The first subject of discussion will be the principles enunciated by the Treaty of Washington.

A despatch from London, dated July 8, says: The House of Lords was crowded to-night. The Ballot bill was to come up again. It had been passed with amendments which the House of Commons refused to accept, and had been returned to the Upper Chamber for final action; so a contest between the two houses was expected. Amid unwonted excitement their lordships voted 157 to 138 not to insist on the amendment making the use of secret ballot optional, but by a vote of 117 to 57 they adhered to the amendment making the bill provisional. Other important amendments were abandoned. The concessions will probably satisfy the Commons and secure the passage of the bill.

CHESS.

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

ERRATUM.—In solution to Problem No. 53, published last week, instead of "Q. to K. 3rd," read "Q. mates."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ALLGAIER.—The book can be had from Messrs. Dawson Bros. Price \$1.75. English Edition.
R. M. B. Toronto.—Solution to Problem No. 54, received, correct.

A well contested game between two members of the Montreal Chess Club.

SWEDISH CENTRE GAMBIT.

- | White. | Black. |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. P. to K. 4th | P. to K. 4th |
| 2. P. to Q. 4th | P. takes P. |
| 3. P. to Q. B. 3rd (a) | P. takes P. |
| 4. K. B. to Q. B. 4th | P. to Q. 4th |
| 5. P. takes P. | K. B. to Q. B. 4th |
| 6. K. Kt. to K. 2nd | B. takes P. ch. (b) |
| 7. K. takes B. | Q. to R. ch. ch. |
| 8. Kt. to Kt. 3rd | Q. takes B. |
| 9. R. to K. sq. ch | Kt. to K. 2nd |
| 10. Q. Kt. takes P. | Castles. (c) |
| 11. R. to K. 4th | Q. to R. 4th. ch. |
| 12. B. to K. 2nd | Q. to Q. 3rd |
| 13. K. to Kt. sq. | P. to Q. 3rd |
| 14. Q. to K. R. 5th (d) | Q. Kt. to Q. 2nd |
| 15. B. to Q. 4th | Q. Kt. to K. B. 3rd |
| 16. B. takes Kt. | Q. takes B. |
| 17. Q. R. to K. B. sq. | Q. to Q. Kt. 3rd. ch |
| 18. K. to R. sq. | Kt. to Kt. 3rd |
| 19. K. R. to K. 2nd | P. to K. B. 4th (e) |
| 20. K. R. to B. 2nd | B. to Q. 2nd |
| 21. Kt. takes P. | B. takes Kt. |
| 22. R. takes B. | R. takes R. |
| 23. Q. takes R. | R. to K. B. sq. |
| 24. Q. to Q. Kt. sq. | R. takes R. ch. |
| 25. Q. takes R. | Q. to Q. 3rd (f) |
| 26. Q. to K. sq. | Q. to K. 4th |
| 27. Q. takes Q. (g) | Kt. takes Q. |
| 28. K. to Kt. sq. | K. to B. 2nd |
| 29. K. to B. sq. | Kt. to Q. 6th |
| 30. P. to Q. Kt. 3rd | K. to K. 2nd |
| 31. Kt. to K. 4th | P. to Q. Kt. 3rd |
| 32. P. to Kt. Kt. 3rd | Kt. to Q. Kt. 5th |
| 33. Kt. to Q. B. 3rd | K. to Q. 3rd (h) |
| 34. K. to K. 2nd | R. takes Q. P. |
| 35. Kt. takes Kt. | R. takes Kt. |
| 36. K. to Q. 3rd | P. to Q. B. 4th. wins. |

(a) This opening always gives a formidable attack, requiring great correctness on the part of the defending players.

(b) Hazardous for, although winning a pawn, it develops the attack.

(c) It is obvious that the Kt. cannot be taken on account of the check in reserve.

(d) White has now a fine position; it seems almost impossible for Black to make a successful defence.

(e) By this offered sacrifice, apparently the best move. Black liberates his game considerably.

(f) Taking the pawn would have been injudicious.

(g) This exchange is favourable for Black, on account of the weakness of White's Q. P.

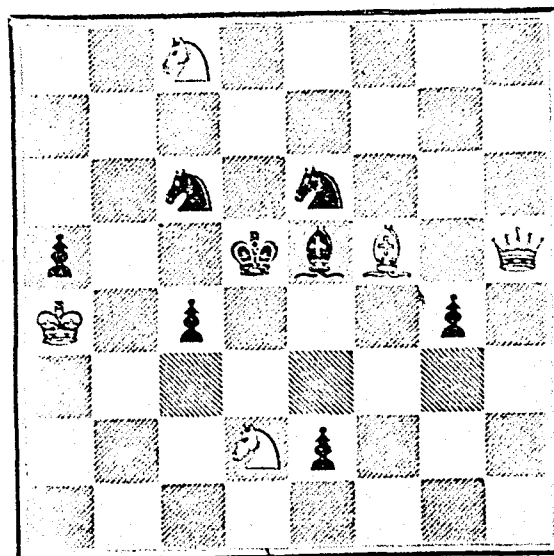
(h) The winning move.

PROBLEM No. 55.

By Conrad Bayer.

From "Land and Water."

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in five moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 54.

- | White. | Black. |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| 1. Q. to K. 5th. check. | K. takes Q. |
| 2. P. takes R. | K. moves. |
| 3. R. to K. Kt. 3rd | K. moves. |
| 4. R. to K. Kt. 5th. mate. | |