

HOUSEHOLD THOUGHTS.

A HAPPY DISPOSITION.—The industrious bee does not stop to complain that there are so many poisonous flowers and thorny branches in the road, but buzzes on, selecting the honey where he can find it, and passing quietly by the places where it is not. There is enough in this world to complain about and find fault with if man had the disposition.

INDULGENCE.—The great foe of life is indulgence under one form or another. The letting down of the standard endangers the length of the course. To be safe one must be circumspect, prudent, rational, clear in judgment, firm in self-control. To the command over his appetite a man will owe length of days; and not length of days only, not mere continuity, but that which gives to continuity its significance—namely, the power to enjoy, which makes prolonged existence something worthy of being called a "lease of life," and not a stretch of drowsy stupor. As vitality comes to the system, it beats off its foes, and conquers one after the other the advancing years.

TRUE LOVELINESS.—It is not your neat dress, your expensive shawls, or your ringed fingers that attract the attention of men of sense. They look beyond these. It is your character they study. If you are trifling and fast in your conversation, no matter if you are beautiful as an angel, you have no attraction for them. It is the true loveliness of your nature that wins and continues to retain the affections of the heart. Young ladies sadly miss it who labour to improve the outward looks, while they bestow not a thought on their minds. Fools may be won by gewgaws, and the fashionable by showy dresses; but the wise and substantial are never caught by such traps. Let modesty be your dress. Use pleasant and agreeable language, and though you may not be courted by the top and the sap, the good and truly great will love to linger by your side.

PARLOR AMUSEMENTS.—Two new parlor amusements are thus described: Two players are closely blinded with a bandage made of their pocket-handkerchiefs. Each one is provided with a saucer full of cake or cracker crumbs, which is held in the left hand, and a spoon, which is held in the right hand. A sheet is spread upon the floor, upon which the players sit, and at a given signal they begin to feed each other. Their efforts to find each other's mouths with their spoons never fail to afford much sport. Another amusing experiment is to try to blow out a candle blindfolded. The candle is placed upon a table, up to which a player is first led; he then walks back six steps, turns round three times and walks forward as nearly in the direction of the candle as possible, and tries to blow it out. If he happens to wander to the wrong part of the room, the effect of the blowing is very funny.

A VEXED QUESTION.—The great problem is how to train and keep the physical system at the top of its capacity for work and enjoyment all the time. Those who do not get an abundance of outdoor exercise in their regular avocations must secure its equivalent in some other way, or suffer the consequences. The more exacting the work of the brain, the more needful is it to keep the whole system toned to the highest degree of endurance and vitality. How to do this each must settle for himself as best he can, with such professional advice as he can command; but to do it in some way is both an interest and a duty. There is a religion of the body as well as of the spirit; indeed, true religion includes both body and mind. It is not a crusade on calisthenics and the other methods of physical training that is wanted, but a wiser and more general use of them. We have mastered the art of making a perfect tree, and persuading a rose to bloom in any color we may choose; we know exactly how to rear just such a horse or dog as we desire; but who shall tell us how to develop and train the human body to perfection? When we go back and study the old Greek and Roman models, our pride oozes out, and we are inclined to question whether we have not lost in one way quite as much as we have gained in another by this intangible something we call civilization.

WHAT IS AN OLD MAID?—Never be afraid of becoming an old maid. An old maid is far more honorable than a heartless wife; and "single blessedness" is greatly superior, in point of happiness, to wedded life without love. "Fall not in love, dear girls—beware!" says the song. But we do not agree with the said song on this question. On the contrary, we hold that it is a good thing to fall in love, or get in love, if the object be a worthy one. To fall in love with an honorable man is as proper as it is for an honorable man to fall in love with a virtuous and amiable woman; and what could be a more gratifying spectacle than a sight so pure, so approaching in its devotion to the celestial? No; fall in love as soon as you like, provided it be with a suitable person. Fall in love and then marry; but never marry unless you do love. That's the great point. Never marry for a "home" or a "husband." Never degrade yourself by becoming a party to such an alliance. Never sell yourself, body and soul, on terms so contemptible. Love dignifies all things; it ennobles all conditions. With love, the marriage rite is truly a sacrament. Without it, the ceremony is a base fraud, and the act a human desecration. Marry for love, or not at all. Be "an old maid," if fortune throws not in your way the man of your heart; and, though the witless may sneer and the jester may laugh, you still have your reward in an approv-

ing conscience and a comparatively peaceful life. For well-to-do old bachelors we have no sympathy. They ought to be taxed nine-tenth of all they are worth, to support women and children.

THE GLEANER.

It is proposed to increase the salary of Marshal MacMahon from £24,000 to £30,000.

A FRENCH loan for £48,000,000 is announced. Great even in borrowing!

ROSENTHAL recently played at Paris twenty-seven games blindfolded. He won twenty-three three were drawn, and lost one to Herr Radowski. He was allowed a minute for each move.

LORD Hartington has done his part of "leader" with much fact during the spring event, displaying it rather in reticence than in oratory, but we trust he will speak a little more on the next merry meeting, and not be known as the *Lieder ohne Worte*.

PRINCE Bismarck, in a recent speech, gave the following peculiar bit of advice to an antagonist, which is not often heard, we are thankful to say, issuing from the mouth of any man:—"He had better take to heart the following rule—not to serve God more than man."

The co-operative reporter is the name assigned now to the individual who helps the lame orator over the style. Recently, an M.P. sent a hundred words to such a person, who reported him in a speech of 1,200 words, well spiced with poetical quotations, "hear, hear," "tremendous applause," &c.,

A VERY delicate question is hinted at between Marshal de MacMahon and the Duke d'Audiffret-Pasquier. It is one of precedence, and the point is to determine which is the highest officer, the President of the Republic, or the President of the Chamber. The same question is said to have been debated between M. Grévy and M. Thiers, and amicably arranged.

Mr. Heyl, engineer of one of the German railways, in a recent report upon the special section under his charge, calls attention to the development of magnetism in the rails. He says:—"I have observed that all the rails are transformed at their extremities, after they have been placed in position a few days, into powerful magnets, capable of attracting and of retaining a key or even a heavier piece of metallic iron."

A descendant of Handel has petitioned the German Emperor to permit one of the streets of the capital to receive the name of the great composer of oratorios. The Emperor has stated, in reply to this request, that a new quarter is about to be added to the capital, whose streets will all be named after Germany's most eminent musical celebrities, and that of Handel will certainly not be forgotten. This quarter will be a fitting supplement to the one in which the streets have been distinguished by the names of great painters.

AN interesting numismatic discovery was made the other day at Bourbonne-les-Bains, in the department of Haute-Marne. In making excavations for the public baths and reservoirs, now in course of construction, the workmen came upon a large number of Roman coins and medals, respectively of bronze, silver, and gold. Between 4,000 and 5,000 pieces in all have been already removed to the museum—namely, 4,000 bronze, 300 silver, and a few gold coins; the latter are in size equal to French pieces of forty francs, and bear the portraits of Nero, Hadrian, Honorius, and Faustina (Senior, wife of Antoninus Pius). More treasures are looked for, as the work of excavation is still going on.

CONSECRATION OF AN ACTOR.

When Melingue, the great French actor, just dead, was thirteen years old—it was at Caen—he was loafing around La Place de la Comedie, sauntering back and forth in a muddy alley which led to the theatre entrance for artists. The boy had never been inside a theatre, and he had the most exalted idea of it and of the supreme happiness of the lucky mortals who played. So he found delight in rubbing himself against the stones that were privileged to listen—if stones have ears—until he finally ventured up a step or two of a pair of stairs, and then a few more—the way all the time growing darker until he came to a door which opened into the theatre. Here it was pitch dark, and he continued to grope his way along in the obscurity and solitude, when, *tout a coup*, came a great hand on his shoulder and a voice to match thundered out: "What are you doing here?"

"Only looking," tremblingly replied the boy. "Are you interested in seeing the theatre?" continued the terrible unknown.

"Very much, sir; I have long had this wish." "Would you like to become a comedian?" "Indeed I would," responded the child enthusiastically.

"Very well—kneel," commanded the voice.

"Why?" asks the child.

"Get down on your knees, I say!" and the boy obeys, and feels his head bathed with some infected oil that a lamplighter has just furnished to the god-father of the new neophyte.

"In the name of Talma I baptize you comedian," says the protector, with gravity. "Thou shalt become an actor, or thou shalt answer to me for it!"—and then disappeared, leaving the child, as he felt, both baptized and consecrated to art.

BRELOQUES POUR DAMES

The Parisienne is a slave on a throne.

The widow's cap is worn one year and a day.

A gentleman should always place a lady on his right hand.

A dear wife's suggestion how to treat a wife.—Treat her to a new dress.

For men, love is a story; for women it is a history.

The love of certain women is deadly—but some men get used to it as Mithridates to poisons.

Mirabeau said: Modesty has its sins and a kiss its innocence.

Napoleon said: Kings and husbands betrayed are the last to know it.

Love's masque has caught more women than love itself.

The fair sex in England and Wales outnumber the male element by over half-a-million.

A young mother says that you may always know a bachelor by the fact of his always speaking of a darling baby as "it."

A wise young man says that whether woman is equal to man or not depends on who the man is and who the women is.

Blonde hair jewellery is becoming quite common in Paris, the fashion having been started by a popular actress. It is very peculiar looking and not remarkably elegant.

It is a very true saying that "clothes do not make the man," but an ungallant age awards them considerable success in making the woman.

The last way of enamelling ladies is by hypodermic injections of arsenic dissolved in rose-water. It causes paralysis; but no matter, it does the business.

There is a widower who declares that nothing reminds him of his poor dear wife so much as to live within earshot of a saw-mill during a busy season.

The engaged ring should be worn on the third finger of the left hand, the wedding ring finger, and should not be removed until the wedding day. After marriage the engaged ring very frequently forms the guard to the wedding ring.

"Home without children is like heaven without angels," said a mild young curate. A married gentleman hearing him, responded, "Ah, sir, you never had to get out of bed four times a night to keep baby's legs covered up in his cot."

THE NEWLY MARRIED.

A writer says: "Too often the young and inexperienced woman begins married life with the idea that having servants and a house of her own means simply doing just what she likes. She probably commences with a protracted fit of three-volume novels, the first fruits of her emancipation from mother and school-mistress. She reads them reclining on her sofa, and often hurts her health by alternately spending all the day in a close atmosphere and taking long walks on damp afternoons to look in at shop-windows—another pleasure hitherto forbidden. She is addicted to wearing tight stays and high-heeled boots, and eat chocolate between her meals. She rises so late that breakfast is always a scramble, and, as she has not remembered to order it the night before, her husband is often obliged to be off before the eggs and the ham have been procured. If he is at all demonstrative, the chances are that he goes to his day's work leaving the wife of his bosom in tears, and there are men so weak that a scene in the morning and a bad breakfast will unhinge them for the day. But such feelings become blunted before long, and the husband who does not die of having to work almost fasting survives to make his wife wonder how she could have married him."

LITERARY.

THE author of "Auld Robin Gray" has been left £1,000 by an admirer of the novel. A hint.

THE French prize for poetry for 1875, the subject of which was "Livingstone," has been gained by M. Galliard, nephew of M. Emile Augier.

COUNT DE JARNAC, late French Ambassador at London, was the author of the novels "Rockingham," "Electra," and "Love and Ambition," written in English.

MR. GEORGE MACDONALD is coming out in a new line as an historical novelist. He will contribute a paper to the *Graphic*, which will deal with the Civil War and Lord Herbert.

THE printers to the Queen, are about to publish the "Accented Bible," an edition of the authorized version of the Scriptures, with all proper names accented, as a guide to the correct pronunciation of such words, in the Old and New Testaments.

ANOTHER newspaper, published every Saturday, and printed both in the English and French languages, has just been started in Paris. *Le Journal des Etrangers* is the name of the new journal, and it appeals to the support of the English and French-speaking tourists in Europe.

THE "Heathen Chinee" is to have another historian—and a more serious one than Mr. Bret Harte—in the person of Mr. Charles Leland, the author of "Hans Breitmann" and one or two works on the Romance dialects. His work relates to the legend of the Chinese discovery of America in the fifth century, and will be entitled "Fu-Sang."

It is probable that a new book illustrating the career of Lord Byron in Italy, and his relations with the Countess Guiccioli, may be published at no very distant date. It takes the form of a narrative, written by a lady, of a visit which she paid not long ago to Ravenna, and to the Guiccioli Palace there, and of her inter-

views with the secretary of the Guiccioli family, who produced to her several very curious and often amusing documents bearing upon the loves of Byron and the fair Italian Countess.

ALL readers of *Ashantee Literature* are aware that two Basle missionaries, Mr. Kühne and Mr. Ramseyer, with Mrs. Ramseyer, were captured at one of their out-stations by an Ashantee army in 1860, and were not given up till Sir Garnet Wolseley was known to be advancing on Coochassie. The diaries of Messrs. Kühne and Ramseyer have been edited and published in Germany, and a translation of the work will shortly be published in London. The missionaries could only keep up the record by scoring an old tin of preserved milk with a pair of scissors.

THE total number of books, including original works and new editions, printed throughout the whole of France during the year 1874 was 11,917, besides periodicals of all kinds. There were also 2,196 engravings, prints, and maps, and 3,841 numbers of vocal and instrumental music, raising the total number of publications to 17,954. These results are the more satisfactory, as, in the highly prosperous year 1869, only 17,394 publications were registered; in 1870, 8,831; in 1872, 10,569; in 1873, 11,530. The average for the last twenty years has been about 15,000, of which 10,000 are printed works, 3,000 engravings, maps, plans, photographs, &c., and the remaining 2,000 musical publications.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

O. Trempe, Montreal.—Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 13, correct. Try the Problems.

The third annual Inter-University Chess Match took place at the Guildhall Tavern, London, England, on Friday the 19th of March last.

In the contest Cambridge scored nine games, Oxford five, and two games were drawn. Out of the matches now played, three in number, Cambridge has won two.

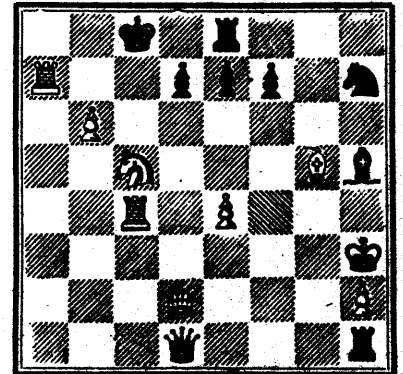
This year Oxford wins the boat race, and Cambridge the Chess match: who shall decide as to which of the great schools, in this consideration obtains the greater glory!

The following problem appeared many years ago in the *Saturday Magazine*. It is not difficult of solution, and is merely inserted as a curiosity in Chess.

PROBLEM No. 16.

By Jules Mendheim, of Berlin.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White, allowed to move no other piece, Checkmates with the Knight in seven moves.

SOLUTIONS.

Solution of Problem No. 14.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1. Q to Q R 6th | 1. R to Q Kt sq |
| 2. B to Q B 6th | 2. Q to Q B sq |
| 3. Q takes Q R P (ch) | 3. K takes Q |
| 4. R to Q R sq Mate | |

Solution of Problem for Young Players, No. 13.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1. Kt to Q Kt 5th | 1. K to Q R 4th |
| 2. Kt to B 3rd | 2. P to Q Kt 4th |
| 3. P to Q R 3rd | 3. P to Q Kt 5th |
| 4. P takes P Checkmate | |

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS.—No. 14.

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| K at K B 6th | K at Q 3rd |
| R at K 7th | R at K Kt sq |
| R at Q B sq | R at K Kt 7th |
| B at Q Kt 2nd | B at K B 4th |
| Kt at K 3rd | Kt at K Kt 3rd |
| Pawns at K R 2nd | Kt at Q 5th |
| Q 5th and Q Kt 4th | Pawns at K 5th. |
| | K R 2nd, and Q Kt 3rd |

White, playing first, gives mate in six moves.

GAME 21st.

Played recently between two members of the Montreal Chess Club.

WHITE.—(Mr. H.—)

1. P to K 4

2. K B to Q B 4

3. Q Kt to B 3rd

4. P to Q 3

5. K Kt to B 3rd

6. Q B to K Kt 5th

7. B takes Kt

8. K Kt to K R 4

9. P takes P

10. Q to Q 2

11. B to Q Kt 3rd

12. Q Kt to R 4

13. P to Q R 3rd

14. Q Kt to Q B 3rd

15. Q Kt to K 2nd

16. Q Kt to K Kt 3rd

17. Castles Q R

18. B to Q R 2nd

19. P to Q B 4th

20. P takes Kt P

21. B takes Q P

22. K to Q Kt sq

23. B to Q R 2nd

24. Q Kt to K 4

25. P takes Kt

26. K to Q R sq

27. Q to K 3 (ch)

28. Q takes Q B

29. R takes R

30. Q to K 2nd

31. P to K B 4th

32. Q R P takes P

33. K Q Kt sq

34. R to Q B sq

35. R to Q R 4

36. R to Q B 6th (ch)

37. Q to Q B 4th (ch)

38. Q to K 6th (ch)

39. Q to Q Kt 3rd [oh]

40. Q to Q sq

BLACK.—(Dr. H.—)

P to K 4

P to K B 4

K Kt to B 3rd

K B to Q B 4

P to Q 3rd

P to K R 3rd

Kt takes B

P to K R 4

P to Q B 3rd

P to Q 4th

P to Q R 4

P to Q Kt 4th

Q B to Q 3

Q to Q B sq

K to Q sq

P to Q R 5th

K to Q B 2nd

Kt to Q R 3rd

P takes P

Kt to Q B 4th

B to Q B 3rd

K to Q Kt 3rd

K takes Kt

B takes P [oh]

K R to Q B 4th

R to Q 5th

B takes R

Q to Q B 4

P to Q Kt 5th

Q takes P

P to Q R 6th

R takes P

Q to Q R 4

K takes R

Q to Q B 4th

K to Q Kt 4th

R to Q R 4th

K to Q B sq

and White resigned.