

BY THE STREAM.

Sweet is the babbling water
Under my feet;
And dark are the boughs, and darker
Where shadows meet.
The birds in the shade are singing
As sang they in spring;
Their flight in rapture winging
While glad notes ring.

Brooklet and brown sweet water
Laughing in play;
Leadlets over leadlets hanging,
Sunbeams that stray;
Flower-bells on moss that sparkle
Sweet as the spray;
Rocks where the waters darkle,
Eddy, and play.

What need the green trees waving,
Shadows sweet;
What need the waters laving
Rocks at my feet;
What need the birds' sweet singing,
Note upon note;
What need the echoes thrilling,
Far as they float?

Only a kind echo,
Sweeter than they;
Only a voice to answer
My voice today;
Only the eyes of a lover
To gaze in mine,
Here where the shadows hover,
In shade divine.

Think it is spring-time, dearest,
Just once again;
Think I am still the nearest
Your heart in name;
Think we are still together
As we have been,
And this is not autumn weather,
And I—your queen.

RITA.

MANITOBA WHEAT FIELDS.

THE GRAIN-PRODUCING PRAIRIES OF THE BRITISH NORTH-WEST.

Other papers may amuse themselves by pegging away at this country, but our mission is to crack it up, as we have done all along, and hence to-day we take pride in republishing the following article from the *Philadelphia Press*:

The greatest wheat-growing region in the world is now being opened to settlement. The largest and most productive portion lies within the British Province of Manitoba in North America. It is sufficiently prolific when fairly cultivated to make England independent of the United States for breadstuffs and to create a powerful rivalry with us elsewhere. On both banks of the Red River of the North, from its source to its entrance into Lake Winnipeg, and on both sides of the international boundary between Canada and the United States exists this territory. Thence the fertile belt, of which it is the western extremity, sweeps in a north-western direction some 300 miles along the course of the two Saskatchewan rivers and forward to the Rocky Mountains of the West, embracing an area, says a writer in the *Nineteenth Century*, of at least 200,000,000 acres, nearly the whole of which is to-day untouched prairie of the richest description. Since the construction of the Northern Pacific Railway has been resumed, this region has been made accessible by the trunk line and lateral roads to immigrants. Within a few years the city of Winnipeg, at the junction of the Red River and the Assiniboine, has sprung up from an Indian post of the Hudson's Bay Company to be a well-built town of 8,000 inhabitants; steamers have been introduced into the two rivers that unite at her wharves, and a continuous railway, 460 miles long, connects this Canadian city with St. Paul, the capital of Minnesota. In seven months, ending March 31, 1878, there were sold by the United States government and the railways in Minnesota and Northern Dakota 2,550,000 acres for actual and immediate settlement. In Manitoba and the Saskatchewan district, across the Canadian boundary, 3,000,000 acres of wheat land were allotted last year to actual settlers in this Province alone.

The settlers in the Red River region are of the most substantial character—well-to-do farmers from the older States, from Iowa, Wisconsin, from Canada, and especially from the best parts of Ontario. The dominant nationalities settling on the Minnesota farms are Americans, Scandinavians and Canadians in about equal proportions. They have been attracted to this remote part of the Northwest by the peculiar advantages of its soil for wheat growing. Thirty bushels to the acre is the average, while it often yields forty or fifty bushels. Thirty bushels to the acre of the first crop clears all outlay up to that time, returns the capital invested and leaves a first-rate fenced farm in a high state of cultivation for succeeding agricultural employment. "Where else," says the writer to whom we have referred, "is there a business that in twelve months repays all advances of its purchase and establishment, and leaves as a profit a money return and plant worth four times the original outlay? It is this enormous profit that is bringing so many heavy capitalists into the ranks of this novel immigration, and inducing men who have already worked themselves into good position to abandon for a time the amenities of a settled life and embark once more in pioneer farming." A Mr. Dalrymple, in 1877, had 8,000 acres under cultivation. They yielded him twenty-five bushels to the acre, or over 200,000 bushels. His total outlay for seed, cultivation, harvesting and threshing was under \$10 per acre, leaving him a margin of \$15, or \$120,000 on his 8,000 acres. This was in Min-

nesota, but north of the Canadian line they get a much larger yield than this, and in twenty-seven miles along the Assiniboine river in 1877 over 400,000 bushels were harvested that averaged considerably over thirty bushels to the acre. In the Northwestern provinces of Canada wheat often produces forty and fifty bushels to the acre, while in South Minnesota twenty bushels is the average crop, in Wisconsin only fourteen, in Pennsylvania and Ohio fifteen. Cultivated plants yield the greatest products near the northernmost limits at which they grow. In Prince Albert and other new settlements on the Saskatchewan forty bushels of spring wheat, averaging sixty-three pounds to the bushel, have been raised. In the Southern latitudes the warm spring develops the juices of the plant too rapidly. They run into stalk and leaf, to the detriment of the seed. The extent of this enormous and rich British territory is comparatively unknown in the United States. It is estimated at 2,284,000 square miles, whilst the whole of the United States south of the international boundary contains 2,933,000 square miles. In its centre is Lake Winnipeg, three hundred miles long, fifty to sixty miles wide—the future Black Sea of Canada. At three of its four corners it receives the waters of a large river, the main trunk of a hundred smaller ones; at the remaining north-east angle a fourth and larger river, the Dardanelles of the system, conveys the accumulated waters of nearly a million square miles into Hudson's Bay. This Lake Winnipeg receives the drainage of the future wheat field of the world. The Saskatchewan from its debouchure into the lake eastward from the Rocky Mountains by one branch runs over a course of 1,054 miles and by the other 1,092. One of the branches has been navigated by steam over 1,000 miles, and the other nearly the same distance. The two Saskatchewan rivers drain what is especially known as the "fertile belt," containing not less than 80,000,000 acres of us fine wheat land as can be found in any country. Through their whole length they run through prairie land. The united length of the three main rivers, with their most important affluents that pour their accumulated waters into Lake Winnipeg is not less than 10,000 miles. The outlet of this magnificent water system is the large river Nelson, which discharges the surplus waters of the lake into Hudson's Bay, and which can be rendered navigable for steamers to Port Nelson, a point eighty miles nearer to Liverpool than New York is. All this magnificent region of prairie, river and lake is British territory. Within five years it is calculated that 4,000,000 acres of this fertile prairie land will be under wheat cultivation. This means an addition to the wheat products of the world of 100,000,000 bushels. The exports of all America to the United Kingdom from the 11th of September, 1877, to May 11, 1878,—the eight shipping months—was about 100,000,000 bushels. This amount, large as it is, is not more than may be expected within the next few years to be the annual production of this new wheat field of the Winnipeg water-shed. The influences of the opening up of this new district cannot but have a most important effect on the supply of the English market. "It will make the mother country entirely independent of foreign supply." It is evident that our superiority as a grain-growing country is likely to be seriously threatened by the rich prairie wheat lands in North-western British America.

BRELOQUES POUR DAMES.

IMPORTANT if true—a wife.

THE most welcome breakfast bell is a punctual wife.

THERE is no need of skirmishing around a bookstore in search of a present for your wife. A bank book will always be acceptable.

THE difference between a self-made man and a self-made woman is ten old papers, four hair switches, ninety-eight hair-pins and a pretty little box labelled face powder.

WHEN the old gentleman comes home and finds his daughters have got his slippers and the easy chair and the evening papers ready for him, he realizes that it is the season for a fall opening of his pocket-book.

"MOTHER (very sweetly) to children who have just had a distribution of candy: "What do children say when they get candy?" Chorus: "More!"

A PETRIFIED woman has just been discovered near Halifax. It is supposed that her husband gave her \$10 without asking to get a new fall bonnet, and she was petrified with astonishment.

SOME women are very absent-minded, and frequently forget where they left the dish-pan after using it, but the world hasn't yet produced a woman who ever forgot where she hung her false hair before arriving.

JOHNIE'S view: Father, addressing his little boy, who has brought home a bad mark from school, "Now, Johnnie, what shall I do with this stick?" "Why, go for a walk, papa!"

A LITTLE fellow, on going for the first time to church where the pews were very high, was asked on coming out what he did in the church, when he replied: "I went into a cupboard and took a seat on a shelf."

A YOUNG couple in humble life were going through the usual civil matrimonial forms a few days ago before the mayor of one of the arrondissements of Paris. "The woman is everywhere to follow her husband," said the functionary, reciting the usual formula. "I decline to promise that," said the bride, with great decision. "What do you mean?" inquired the mayor. "My husband, sir, is letter-carrier in the suburbs," replied the cautious creature in a mincing tone.

SHE sat pensively by the window. The rustling of the falling leaves, the golden tints of autumn breathed no poetic sentiment to which her heart could respond. The picture in her mind was of somber hue. She had passed through a trial which had stretched her heart-strings to the point of snapping. She had bid farewell to Algernon for ever. Her hopes of future happiness were stranded, and the agony of the moment was eating up her soul. It was a long dream of love, but it was only a dream. She had known him a whole week.

IN shoes for ladies the broad English soled walking boot, laced over the instep, is worn for the street. Slippers with high heels and straps on are worn with evening toilettes, and small bouquets of flowers, or buckles encrusted with gems, fasten the straps together upon the instep. Rhine pebbles are used for the same purpose. Cloth shoes with kid tips are becoming fashionable. In full dress the shoe or slipper is made of the same material as the costume. On such occasions silken hose, with lace insertion up the front, are worn.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S. Montreal.—Papers and letter to hand. Thanks.

B. Montreal.—Letter containing problems received. Many thanks. They are very acceptable.

T. S. St. Andrew's, Manitoba.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 241 also correct solution of Problem for Young Players No. 240.

R. F. M. Sherbrooke.—Correct solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 244.

We have just received a copy of the notice issued by the Committee of Management of the Fifth American Chess Congress, from which we learn that the Manhattan Chess Club, of the City of New York, having taken measures some few weeks ago to ascertain the feeling of American players with reference to a general assemblage of those interested in the game of chess, have determined, with the co-operation of several important associations, to inaugurate such a meeting, and are now anxious to obtain the active support of chessplayers in all parts of the American continent.

It mentions the names of some of the most celebrated players of the United States, who have given assurance of interest in the matter.

It is also stated that the Managing Committee have secured the privilege of opening the lists of the Tournament to any foreign players of eminence who may be desirous of taking part in the contest.

It is not intended by the Committee to publish, at the present time, a detailed programme, but they propose to inaugurate the following:

1st. A Grand Tournament of first-class players, open to all, to begin on Tuesday, 6th January 1880; the prize to be as large as the fund will allow—the first prize will probably be not less than \$200.

2nd. A Minor Tournament for players receiving odds from first-class players; this not to be decided unless the amount of the fund warrants it, of which early notice will be given.

3rd. A Problem Tourney.

4th. A Congress composed of delegates from various places to meet two days before the time fixed for the close of the Grand Tournament, to take action upon a new chess code and to transact other important business.

5th. A Book of the Congress, to contain all the games played and problems, and other interesting and valuable chess matter.

Contributions of five dollars and upwards are solicited, which will entitle the sender to a copy of the Book of the Congress.

Contributions to be sent to Chas. A. Gilbert, Treasurer, P. O. Box 23-5, New York. Other communications to be addressed to F. M. Teed, Secretary, No. 62 Liberty street, N.Y.

The notice is signed by Frederick Perrin, President of Managing Committee.

We see it stated in *Turf, Field and Farm* that Dame Rumor at Montreal says that Mr. J. H. Blackburne is about to visit the United States. We have heard nothing of this that we can rely upon, but hope that there is some foundation for the statement, and that the great player in his journey to our neighbors across the line, may be induced to pass through Montreal, and thus give our Canadian amateurs an opportunity of confronting another of the giants of the chess board. Who in Montreal will enlighten us on this subject?

The ninth game in the Delmar-Barnes match was won by Mr. Barnes, on Tuesday.

The tenth game, on Wednesday, was postponed.

The score is—
Delmar, 4; Barnes, 4; Drawn, 2.

M. Delannoy, who is well known as a contributor to *La Stratégie*, *Westminster Papers*, and other chess periodicals, is about to publish a volume containing a selection of his essays upon the subjects of chess, to be published in London and Paris simultaneously. The London edition will be translated into English by the author, and will be issued to subscribers only. M. Delannoy was a popular writer in the palmy days of *La Palamède*, and his reminiscences of chess and chessplayers extend over the past fifty years. Intending subscribers should communicate with the author, addressed to 42 Leicester square, London.—*Illustrated London News*.

The delay in the completion of the arrangements for the match between Mr. Hosmer and Captain Mackenzie is satisfactorily explained by the misarrangement of a letter; such gentleman has been waiting for the other to write. Now that they are once more in communication, the question of time will be very readily settled.—*Turf, Field and Farm*.

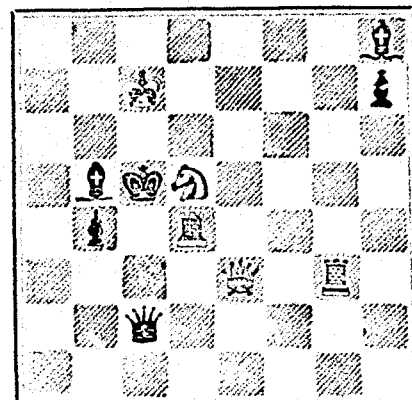
Damiano, the Portuguese writer on chess, was an apothecary; Ray Lopez, the Spaniard, Orrera, the Sicilian, Vida, the Lombard and Koob, the German, were priests; Salvio of Naples, Del Rio of Modena, Placenza of Turin, and Azzio of Fossombrone, were lawyers; Pontiani of Modena was both a priest and a lawyer; Algaier of Austria, Biguer of Prussia, and Bertio of England, were soldiers.

A chess-book once sold for six hundred and fifty dollars. It was published by Caxton, and was the first book printed from type in the English language.

PROBLEM No. 245.

(By Dr. Gold.)

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME 394th.

(From Land and Water.)

One of ten blindfold games played by Mr. Blackburne at Huntingdon Eng., on the 15th ult.

(Evan's Gambit.)

WHITE.—(Mr. Blackburne) BLACK.—(Mr. Smith.)

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. P to K4 | 1. P to K4 |
| 2. Kt to KB3 | 2. Kt to KB3 |
| 3. B to B4 | 3. B to B4 |
| 4. P to QKt4 | 4. B takes P |
| 5. P to B2 | 5. B to H4 |
| 6. Castles | 6. P to Q3 |
| 7. P to Q4 | 7. P takes P |
| 8. P takes P | 8. B to Kt3 |
| 9. Kt to B3 | 9. Kt to B3 (a) |
| 10. P to K5 | 10. P takes P |
| 11. B to R3 | 11. Kt to K2 |
| 12. R to K sq | 12. B to K3 (b) |
| 13. R takes P | 13. P to H3 |
| 14. B takes B | 14. P takes B |
| 15. R takes P | 15. Castles (c) |
| 16. R takes Q Kt | 16. R to H2 |
| 17. Q to Kt3 | 17. Kt to Q4 |
| 18. Q R to K sq | 18. R takes R |
| 19. R takes R | 19. P to Kt3 |
| 20. Kt takes Kt | 20. Q takes Kt |
| 21. Q to K3 | 21. Q takes R P |
| 22. P to Kt4 | 22. Q to Kt6 (ch) |
| 23. K to Kt2 | 23. Q to Kt3 |
| 24. Kt to K5 | 24. Q to H3 |
| 25. Q to Kt3 (ch) | 25. K to R2 |
| 26. R to K B7 | 26. Q to Kt4 |
| 27. P to R4 (d) | 27. Q to Q7 |

White mates in four moves.

NOTES.

(a) An inferior continuation. He should play either Kt to R4 or B to Kt5.

(b) Very Weak. Castling is his best.

(c) Abandoning the piece too precipitately. K Kt to Kt sq. if far from satisfactory, is at any rate preferable.

(d) More useful, because decisive. Wherever the Queen goes White wins offhand.

GAME 395th.

Played in England some years ago between Messrs. Horwitz and Popert.

(King's Bishop's Opening.)

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|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| WHITE.—(Mr. Horwitz.) | BLACK.—(Mr. Popert.) |
| 1. P to K4 | 1. P to K4 |
| 2. B to Q B4 | 2. Kt to f6 KB3 |
| 3. Q to K2 | 3. Kt to Q B3 |
| 4. P to KB4 | 4. P takes P (a) |
| 5. Kt to KB3 | 5. P to KB3 |
| 6. P to Q4 | 6. P to KB4 |
| 7. Kt to QB3 | 7. P to Q3 |
| 8. Castles | 8. P to KB3 |
| 9. B to Q2 | 9. P to QKt4 |
| 10. B to Kt3 | 10. B to QKt2 |
| 11. P to KR4 | 11. Kt to KR4 |
| 12. Kt to K5 | 12. Kt takes Kt |
| 13. Q takes Kt | 13. Kt to K Kt2 |
| 14. Q B takes P (b) | 14. P takes B |
| 15. R takes P | 15. R to KR2 |
| 16. B takes P (ch) | 16. R takes R |
| 17. Q takes Kt | 17. Q to K2 |
| 18. Q R to KB sq. and wins. | |

NOTES.

(a) A bold move.

(b) A very neat termination.

SOLUTIONS.

Solutions of Problem No. 246.

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|-------------------|--------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1. Kt to Q3 | 1. P to Q5 |
| 2. Q to KR sq | 2. Anything. |
| 3. Q to K sq mate | |

There are other defences.

Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 244.

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| White. | Black. |
| 1. B to Q B8 | 1. P to KB4 |
| 2. Kt to Q5 | 2. P moves |
| 3. Kt mate | |

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS, No. 245.

- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| K to K3 | K to Q R sq |
| Q to K4 | R to Q R2 |
| R to K R8 | R to Q Kt sq |
| R to Q R sq | Pawn at Q Kt2 |

White to play and mate in two moves.