

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters addressed for the Editor should be addressed "Editor of Saturday Reader, Drawer 401," and communications on business to "R. Worthington, publisher."

J. BANTER.—Lugi Galvani was born at Bologna in 1737. At an early age he evinced a strong inclination to devote himself to a monastic life; but, swayed by the persuasion of his friends, he relinquished his intention of entering the Church, and determined to follow the profession of medicine. In 1762 he was elected professor of anatomy in the institute of his native city, where his lectures enjoyed much popularity for their accuracy and comprehensiveness. To a purely casual discovery, however, Galvani owes the celebrity attached to his name. Many versions of this circumstance have been published, but the simple fact appears to be that Galvani's wife happened one day to witness the convulsive muscular movements produced in a skinned frog, by its inanimate body having been accidentally brought into contact with a scalpel which lay on the table, and had become charged by contact with an adjoining electrical machine. She hastened to communicate the fact to her husband, who at once instituted a prolonged series of experiments, and published the results of his researches in 1791.

W. C.—The term "Gentoo" was applied by old English writers to the natives of Hindustan, it is now entirely obsolete, the word "Hindoo" having been substituted.

M. HARRIS.—There is one instance on record of the office of sheriff in England having been held by a female; this was in the case of Anne, Countess of Pembroke. On the death of her father, the Earl of Cumberland, without male issue, in 1643, she succeeded to the hereditary office of Sheriff of Westmoreland, and in that character attended the judges of assize, and sat with them on the bench.

A. S. R.—Take of quick-lime 4 oz.; pearl ash ½ oz.; lac sulphur ½ oz.; reduce to a fine powder, and keep in a close bottle. Mix a little of the powder with water to the consistency of cream, and apply it to the skin; scrape off in two or three minutes with a wooden or bone knife. The above depilatory may, we are assured, be used without injury to the skin.

CEPHAS.—Thanks! We will give our views on the subject in our next issue.

SECRESY.—We cannot, even to oblige a disconsolate one, consent to publish the verses.

J. H., MONTREAL.—Many thanks! Shall be happy to hear from you again.

KENNY.—Although not, as a whole, up to publication standard, we feel warranted in saying that indications of the success of future efforts are not wanting.

•••—Respectfully declined.

V.—We think not at present. The article "On Words" will probably appear in our next.

SUSSEX STREET.—First attempts are generally unsuccessful—yours certainly is not an exception to the rule.

SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

THE Americans have introduced a new article of bedding, consisting of sponge cut into minute particles and treated with glycerine, which are said to subserve an excellent purpose for beds, instead of feathers or hair.

TO MAKE A CAST-IRON MAGNET.—Take a smooth bar of cast iron, place the middle of it to the north pole of a magnet and draw it to the end, repeating the stroke always from the middle to the end, and rubbing in the same way each time. Then place the middle of the bar to the south pole of the magnet, and rub towards the opposite end of the bar, repeating as before. Magnets can be made in this way of steel as well as of cast iron, and may be in the form of a horse shoe or star as well as a straight bar.

A NEW ANÆSTHETIC.—M. Preterre the well-known dentist of Paris, states that after a considerable experience of the protoxide of nitrogen

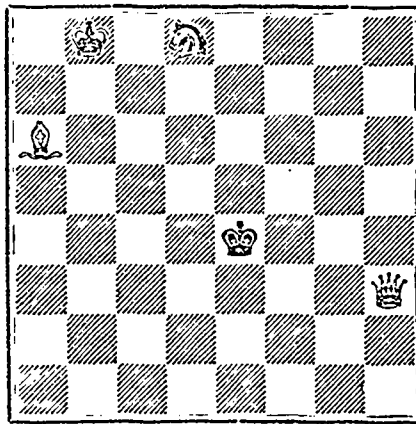
as an anæsthetic, he considers it a most precious agent. In one or two minutes, at most, sufficient sleep is obtained to extract a tooth or to perform an operation of short duration. After awaking, the nausea, the loss of appetite, the helplessness, and the fatigue which ordinarily follow an anæsthetic obtained by chloroform or ether, never occur.

CHEAP AND HEALTHY BED COVERINGS.—Some years ago reports were published in the technological journals of Austria concerning the manufacture of wool from pine-trees. The acicular foliage, if such it may be called, of those trees was, by a certain treatment, brought into a state of fibre, which could be woven into a cloth resembling coarse flannel. Great expectations were entertained of beneficial results to follow, but the matter appears to have been forgotten until revived last year by Mr. Pannowitz, of Breslau. And now bed-coverings, woven from pine-fibre, are in use in hospitals, prisons, and barracks, in Silesia and Austria; and in the unwoven state it is used for the stuffing of mattresses, cushions, chair-seats, and other articles. The cost is said to be but one-third that of horsehair, and there is the further advantage that, owing to its aromatic properties, the pine-fibre repels the insects that too frequently lodge in woollen textures.

TO MEND BROKEN GLASS.—A much better process for mending broken glass, china, and earthenware with shellac than heating them, is to dissolve it in alcohol to about the consistency of glue or molasses, and with a thin splinter of wood or pencil brush touch the edges of the broken ware. In a short time it sets without any heating, which is often an inconvenient process. It will stand every contingency, but a heat equal to boiling water.

CHESS.

PROBLEM, No. 70.
By T. P. BULL, SEAFORTH, C. W.
BLACK. •



WHITE.
White to play and Mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM, No. 68.

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| WHITS. | BLACK. |
| 1 K to Kt 2 | B takes Kt or (a b c d.) |
| 2 Kt takes B (dis ch.) | P to K 4. |
| 3 Kt to B 5 Mate. | |
| (a) 1 ————— | B to B 3 (ch.) |
| 2 Kt takes B (dis ch.) | K to K 5. |
| 3 Kt takes P Mate. | |
| (b) 1 ————— | P takes Kt. |
| 2 Q takes P, ch.) | K to Kt 5. |
| B Kt to B 6 Mate. | |
| (c) 1 ————— | B to R 5. |
| 2 K takes Kt. | P takes Kt. |
| 3 Kt takes P Mate. | |
| (If Black plays 2. B takes Kt, White mates by 3. Q to Kt 4, If, 2. K to K 6, White replies with 3. Q to B 3 Mate.) | |
| (d) 1 ————— | K to K 5 |
| 2 Kt takes K B 1st P. | P to K 4. |
| 3 Kt takes P Mate. | |
- (Should Black play 2. K to Q 4, mate is given by 3. B to Kt 7, If, 2. K to B 4, White replies with 3. Kt to Q 6 Mate, and, finally, should he play 2. Kt to B 8, mate is effected by 3. Q to B 3.

NEW AXIOM.—A thorn in the bush is worth two in the hand.

WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

"PARDON my warmth," as the red-hot poker said to the clown, when he inadvertently put it in his pocket.

NEW WAY OF LEARNING LANGUAGES.—A well-known optician says that when at sea you can, with his glass, at a point most remote from the shore, easily make out the tongue of any foreign land.

STAMMERING.—The reason women never stammer is because they talk so fast, a stammer has no chance to get in. People stutter because they hesitate. But who ever knew a woman to hesitate about anything?

A lady meeting a girl who had lately left her service, inquired, "Well, Mary, where do you live now?"—"Please, ma'am, I don't live nowhere now," rejoined the girl, "I'm married."

What vender of condiments is sure to be a welcome guest at every dinner-table?—A salt-seller.

A schoolmaster was about to flog a pupil for having said he was a fool, when the boy cried out, "Oh, don't! don't! I won't call you so any more! I'll never say what I think again all the days of my life."

A tradesman recently told a youth in his shop to write in large letters on a sheet of paper, "Wanted, a stout lad as light porter." The young scapegrace, either from ignorance or design, wrote, "Wanted, a stout lad as likes porter."

No wonder the squirrel is accused of chattering; he is certainly a great tail-bearer.

An inveterate old bachelor says that ships are called "she" because they always keep a man on the look out.

ONE man asked another why his beard was brown and his hair white? "Because," he said, "one is twenty years younger than the other."

A MAN OF METAL.—A knight in armour.

WANTED.—A feather from the dovetail of a carpenter.

A FACE WITHOUT A BLEMISH.—The face of Nature.

SOMETHING ODD.—That hens should always sit when they lay.

WILL IT WASH?—Why is a laundress like an insult?—Because she gets up your collar.

JUST LIKE HIM.—Old Singleton says that he only knows of one thing better than a Wedding Present—a Wedding Absent.

A QUACK'S MISTAKE.—A regular physician being sent for by a quack, expressed his surprise at his being called in on an occasion so apparently trifling. "Not so trifling, either," replied the quack; "for, to tell the truth, I have by mistake taken some of my own pills."

COME TO THE POINT.—A Yankee youth and a pretty girl sat facing each other at a husking party. The youth, smitten with the charms of the maiden, only ventured a shy look, and now and then touched Patty's feet under the table. The girl, determined to make the youth express what he appeared so warmly to feel, bore with these advances a little while in silence, when she cried out, "Look here! if you love me, say so, but don't dirty my stockings."

MANY years ago, when those who were condemned to suffer by the law had more choice than they now have of the particular tree upon which they should be hanged, a Highlander was sentenced to death for some crime or other, of which he had been found guilty. The judge, after passing sentence, said, addressing the prisoner, "Donald, it only remains for you to choose the tree upon which you are to be hanged."—"Well, well," said Donald, "if her ainsel maun be hanged, she be in no way particular, but for a' that, her ainsel will just choose a groser-bush" (gooseberry bush). The judge whereupon remonstrated with him, saying, "It would not be large enough."—"Och P!" said Donald, "she be in no hurry, she will just wait till it grows."