

POISONS.

MAN is the most wonderful of animals. Among other strange things which he can do, he can eat poisons with a certain degree of impunity. It is only necessary to be prudent, regular, and careful about the doses to survive a considerable period.

A certain quantity of opium kills. Four or five grains are almost certain death to a person not in the habit of using it; but any one can learn to eat twenty and thirty grains at a dose. It becomes the necessity of a second nature, and though it shortens life, it does it so slowly that its operation in this respect is not alarming.

So coffee, tea, and tobacco are poisons. It requires some hardihood to get accustomed to the latter. A drop or two of the essential oil of either of these narcotics, or a very concentrated decoction, will kill; yet how many millions of men use all three every day of their lives. There is some derangement of the nervous system—some diminution of the strength—probably some shortening of life; yet how few hesitate to use these fascinating luxuries.

And arsenic is very decidedly a poison, yet there is at least one country in the world where it is habitually eaten. A young man of seventeen, say, begins by taking three grains at a dose, which is gradually increased until he gets up to twenty-three grains. It does not do to exceed this quantity, nor is it safe to leave off suddenly. When the arsenic-eater arrives at the age of fifty, he gradually diminishes the doses. The immense quantity of poison constantly passing through his system does not prevent his reaching the age of seventy or eighty.

For all this, it is our opinion that the more simple our food, and the less poison we take of any kind or in any form, the better. Probably no man, at the end of his life, was ever sorry he had taken little opium, or brandy, or tobacco, though some may have been sorry for taking too much.

PASTIMES.

PUZZLE.

One-third of ten and divide fifty-five by one-fourth of nine, to which add three-fifths of seven and show under what circumstances the result can make a score. HATTIE.

ENIGMA.

I'm wonderful marvellous, all that's uncommon,— Sometimes I'm a man, and sometimes a woman; When whole, I am always a subject for wonder, So now please to guess at my parts when asunder. In the fens (1) I'm an insect, in the barns a small (2) beast,

To birds I'm a home, (3) and I'm none of the least (4). I catch fishes, (5) make (6) leather, hear all that (7) is said, And many a pair come to me (8) to be wed. Though with science (9) oft coupled, I'm grim and (10) look wild,

And yet you will own I am far from (11) a child. My passions you see by what falls from (12) my eyes. And my wrath (13) is two-fold tho' I'm known (14) to be wise.

In revenge (15) I'm a goddess, in the forest (16) a deer. To one point (17) of the compass, I'm sure I can steer. In the North I'm a (18) bridge many travellers see, And nuns in the (19) convent are guarded by me.

On board ship you (20) may smell me, and see me all round. And then in your wake (21) I'm sure to be found. On the lace of your (22) stays I'm one end or both I'm the emblem (23) of industry and symptom (24) of sloth.

What the enemy sowed (25) when the husbandman slept. What at dinner (26) you do, and where (27) fire is kept. You ride (28) on me, ride in (29) me, ride at (30) me, may more

You sometimes (31) ride through me, I'm just half a score (32).

I'm in dress (33) like a quaker, and always (34) at hand, Beneath you (35) when sitting, but not when (36) you stand.

Each morning (37) you take me, each quarter (38) you pay. To poor sailors at midnight (39) I oft show the way, I'm dispatched, I'm disovered, (41) a gift of crown (42) land.

I'm what boys (43) do by heart, and men do (44) by hand. The sun is just like me when (45) he makes you a bow, And I'm sure 'twill be strange if you can't guess ere now.

NOTE.—The above is a word of eight letters, from which forty-five other words may be formed. We have not the answer to the whole of these forty-five words, and shall be glad if our readers, who feel an in-

terest in this department, will forward what solutions they may discover.

DECAPITATIONS.

1. Complete I am a bird, behead me I am what young ladies like to have, behead again and I am a preposition signifying across.

2. Complete I am a preposition signifying relating to, behead me and I am a revel, behead again and I am an adverb, twice behead again and I am a favorite beverage.

CHARADES.

1. I am a word of 14 letters— My 2, 3, 14, 5, is a small insect. My 9, 12, 11, 4, 13, is expressive of fidelity. My 8, 14, 1, 3, 5, applies to one eminent for piety.

My 4, 9, 13, 10, 5, is to distribute. My 2, 7, 8, 5, 10, expresses relief. My 8, 7, 6, 5, denotes a petition. My whole is the Christian and surname of the founder of a religious body.

2. If it be true, as Welshman say, Honor depends on pedigree. Then stand by all and clear the way— A vaunt! ye haughty sons of power! And you, ye race of old Glendower! And let me have full sway.

For tho' you trace through ages dark Your pedigree from Noah's ark, All down on parchment nice; I'm older still, for I was there, And I with Adam did appear, And dwelt in Paradise.

For I was Adam, Adam I— And I was Eve, and Eve was I— In spite of wind and weather; But mark me, Adam was not I— Neither was Mrs. Adam I, Unless they were together.

Suppose, then, Eve and Adam talking: With all my heart, but if they're walking— There ends all simile. For I have tongue and often talk; And I have legs, yet when I walk Is put an end to me.

Not such an end but that I breathe: Therefore to such a kind of death I make but small objection; For soon again I come to view, And tho' a Christian, yet 'tis true I die by Resurrection.

3. My first is a foreign affirmative, my second what none of us can do without, and my whole an English seaport.

TRANSPOSITIONS.

1. NNNIPTEEEDD, what we should all strive to be.

2. PAWNMMERASSIOO, seldom intended to be kept when given.

3. MMMHGUONAIRET, a confused mixture. HATTIE.

ARITHMOREMS.

Towns and villages.

- 1. 50 era O.
2. 550 ay sin.
3. 101 not P.
4. 110 mes.
5. 150 O warn 50.

ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

The product of the sum and difference of two numbers is to their sum divided by their difference as nine is to one; their sum is to their difference as seven is to one. Required the two numbers.

ANSWERS TO DECAPITATIONS, &c. No. 30.

Decapitations.—1. Feat-eat-tea. 2. Strife-rife-fire. 3. Stray-tray-ray. 4. Bear-ear. 5. Knox-nox-ox.

Charades.—1. Lifetime. 2. Francis. 3. Joanna. 4. Caroline. 5. Anna.

Enigma.—Palm. Arithmorems.—1. Collingwood. 2. Oakville. 3. Bodmin. 4. Windsor. 5. Thamesford. 6. Bloomfield.

Arithmetical Problems.—1. A's share £250, B's £200, C's £150, D's £100. 2. Nine subscribers 6s. 9d. each; 6s. 9d. devoted to one purpose, and £2 14s. to the other.

The following answers have been received: Decapitations.—E. R. A., R. M. Barnard, E. H., Festus, H. H. V., Geo. W., Flora, Cloude.

Charades.—E. H., Flora, Geo. W., H. H. V., Ellen H., Festus, Cloude, Jas. T.

Enigma.—H. H. V., Flora, Geo. W. Arithmorems.—Festus, Flora, Geo. W., Argus, Ellen H.

Arithmetical Problems.—E. R. A., D. G. McD., H. K. C., H. H. V., Festus, Cloude, Argus. Received too late for insertion in our last issue: D. G. McD., R. M. Barnard and P. B.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

I. R. M. B. HAMILTON, C.W.—Thanks for the problems; they will be inserted shortly. TYRO, QUEBEC.—Have you forgotten your promise?

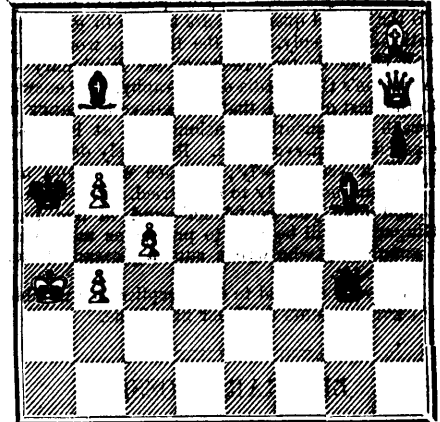
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 18.

Table with columns for WHITE and BLACK moves, listing chess pieces and their positions on the board.

PROBLEM No. 20.

By H. R. A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and Mate in four moves.

Partie in the Vienna club between Herren Steinitz, and L.—. Greco gives nothing finer than this game.—Bell's Life.

KING'S GAMBIT EVASDED.

WHITE. (Herr Steinitz.) BLACK. (Herr L.—.)

Table showing chess moves for White and Black, including piece names and board coordinates.

And Herr Steinitz wins.

(a) Steinitz always chooses a brilliant game; no matter at what risk. We wish we had a few more players of his mark. No bush shooting in him—no King's P one snak.

(b) Now observe the slashing attack Steinitz opens on his foe. (c) Would better have played Q to Q 4th.