

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**HENRY S.**—The mistresses of manor houses in former times served out to the poor, weekly, with their own hands, certain quantities of bread, and were therefore called *Lef-days*—two Saxon words signifying *bread-giver*—these words were at length corrupted into *Lady*. As we stated in a former number, the title of *Lady*, as a title of honour, properly belongs only to the daughters of earls and all of higher rank, but custom has made it a term of complaisance for the wives of knights and all women of eminence or gentility.

**M. A.**—The following is an attempt to show the sound of "ough" final:

'Tis not an easy task to show,  
How O. U. G. H. sound; since THOUGH  
An Irish LOUGH, and English SLOUGH,  
And COUGH and hie-COUGH all allow  
Differ as much as TROUGH and THROUGH  
There seems no reason why they do.

**WILLIAM H.**—Asks why is English money called sterling? Because in the time of Richard I, money coined in the Eastern part of Germany became on account of its purity in especial request in England, and was called *Easterling* money, as all the inhabitants of that part of Germany were called *Easterlings*. Soon after some of these people skilled in coining were sent for to London to bring the English coin to perfection, and hence the adoption of the name of *sterling* to designate it.

**E. T. B.**—The phrase "mind your P's and Q's" undoubtedly originated in the tavern practice of scoring debts by customers, the P's signifying pints and the Q's quarts.

**A SUBSCRIBER.**—The order of Odd Fellows originated in Great Britain about the beginning of the nineteenth century. It is a benefit society, having all the characteristics of the class of societies known as friendly societies, with some of the features, secrets, and ceremonies of freemasonry grafted upon them.

**DELTA.**—If our correspondent is desirous of amusing himself in a witless manner, we can have no objection. We think he will tire of writing sooner than we shall of casting his letters unread into the waste basket.

**EFFIE.**—The hours of sleep must be regulated by the constitution. Some old rhyme says.

"Nature requires five.  
Custom gives seven;  
Laziness takes nine,  
And wickedness eleven.

## SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

Dr. Richardson considers iodine as the best chemical agent for destroying organic poisons. Iodine placed in a box covered with muslin will diffuse itself at a temperature of 70 deg. at the rate of a drachm in twenty-four hours. Heat and light favour the destruction of the poisons.

Some interesting experiments were made by Dr. Hales on the evaporating power of plants. He found that a sunflower plant weighing 31b. perspired about 30 oz. of water in twelve hours during a day in the month of July, but in a warm night it perspired only 3 oz., and lost nothing in a cold night; on the contrary, it gained weight by imbibing dew.

A safety smoke-stack for locomotives has been invented by a Nashville mechanic, who has applied for a patent. His smoke-stack is so constructed that no sparks are emitted from the top of the stack, a shoot being fixed to carry them downward, and they fall harmless upon the earth beneath the locomotive, thus ensuring safety to articles of a combustible nature on the train or in its immediate vicinity.

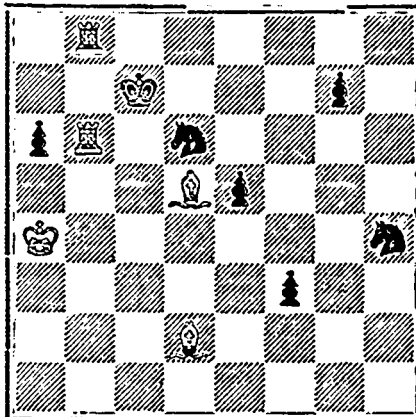
**GLYCERINE GLUE.**—A peculiar glue, consisting of glue or gelatine, with about a quarter of its own weight of glycerine, has just been discovered, by Mr. Fischer, a German chemist. The addition of the glycerine makes the glue lose its brittleness, so that it becomes applicable for many purposes for which it was previously unfit. Mixtures of this kind are used for dressing leather in bookbinding, &c. A mixture of

starch, glycerine, and sulphate of lime is said to remain plastic and adhesive, and is recommended for luting philosophical apparatus and similar purposes. It is stated that the glycerine glue possesses many of the qualities of India-rubber; and, among them, the singular one of removing and erasing the marks of a black lead pencil.—P.

**SLEEPING ROOMS.**—The rooms we sleep in should never shut out the fresh, pure air. A sleeping person consumes two hogsheds of air in an hour, that is, deprives it of all its oxygen, and replaces it with carbonic acid gas, which is a negative poison; leaving it so destitute of life-giving property that the person breathing it will die in a short time, in an hour sometimes. It follows, therefore, that unless the room be larger than most of those found in dwelling-houses and hotels, there should be thorough ventilation. Currents of air, says the correspondent of an American paper, must be avoided. Hence the bed should be so located in the room that they may not pass over the sleeper. If there be a single window, it is often well to raise the lower sash a few inches, and lower a little the upper sash. In this way the current is confined to the window, while it keeps the air fresh.

## CHESS.

PROBLEM, No. 80.  
BY THE LATE I. B.; OF BRIDPORT.  
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and Mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM, No. 75.

WHITE	BLACK.
1 Q to K Kt 7.	K takes R or (a. b.)
2 Q to Q 4 (ch.)	K to B 4.
3 Q to B 4 Mate.	
(a) 1 Kt to K 6 (ch.)	K takes B.
2 Q to Q Kt 7 Mate.	K moves.
(b) 1 Q to Q Kt 7 (ch.)	P takes B.
2 K to R 6 Mate..	K to Q 3.

## WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

**A LAWN "PARTY."**—A Bishop.

**"CASH ADVANCES."**—Courting a rich widow.

**STEPS TO KNOWLEDGE.**—Library steps.—

**CHEAP PASTRY FOR KITCHEN DINNERS.**—Puffs of smoke.

**WHEN IS A CANDLE IN A BAD TEMPER?**—When it's put out.

**WHY IS IT PERMISSIBLE TO USE OSTLERS' SLANG AT DINNER?**—Because it's (s) table talk.—

**SAILORS, THOUGH NOT GENERALLY A MUSICAL CLASS OF MEN, ARE ALWAYS ABLE TO SOUND THE C CORRECTLY.**

**NARROW ACCOMMODATION.**—Is it hospitable when you ask a stout friend to come and see you, to tell him that you will give him a spare bed?—*Punch*.

**VERY SEVERE FOR A TAILOR.**—"Here I am between two tailors," said a dandy at a public table, where a couple of young tailors were seated. "Very true," said one of them; "we are but beginners, and can only afford to keep one goose between us."

We think this extract from a medical advertisement is entirely correct, "Consumptives, cough while you can, for after you have taken one bottle of my mixture you can't."

**STRIKING.**—"I will not strike thee, bad man," said a Quaker one day, but I will let this billet of wood fall on thee, and at that precise moment the bad man was floored by the weight of the walking-stick that the Quaker was known to carry.

An elderly maiden, who had suffered some disappointments, thus defines the human race:—Man: a conglomerate mass of hair, tobacco smoke, confusion, conceit, and boots. Woman: the waiter, perforce, on the aforesaid animal.

**BOTTLE AND GLASS.**—Sir John Irwin was a favourite of George III, who once observed to him, "They tell me, Sir John, that you love a glass of wine."—"Those," replied Irwin, "who so informed your majesty have done me a great injustice—they should have said a bottle."

**FEW PRIVILEGES.**—A gentleman, being asked by a clergyman why he did not attend the evening prayer meetings, said he could not leave the children.—"What, have you no servants?" "Yes," he replied, "we have two servants, who keep the house and board us, but we are allowed few privileges."

**DARKNESS VISIBLE.**—One night in a thunder storm we thought the little ones all asleep, when a little voice from the "trundle-bed" called out, "Oh, mother, the darkness is winking! First it shuts up, and then it shuts down."

"Mary, why did you kiss your hand to the gentleman opposite, this morning?" said a careful mother to her blooming daughter.—"Why, the gentleman had the impudence to throw a kiss clear across the street, and of course I threw it back indignantly. You would not have me encourage him by keeping it, would you?"

**THE SMITH FAMILY.**—"Gentlemen," said a candidate for Congress, "my name is Smith, I am proud to say I am not ashamed of it. It may be that no person in this crowd owns that very uncommon name. If, however, there be one such, let him hold up his head, pull up his dickey, turn out his toes, take courage, and thank his stars that there are a few more left of the same sort."

Bannister use to tell a story of his having been introduced, with Mrs. Bannister, to an elderly lady of exceedingly "high notions." After the presentation had taken place, the lady asked a wit of the day who was present, "Who are the Bannisters? are they of good family?" "Yes," said the wit, they are closely allied to the stairs.—"Oh," said Lady Lucretia, "a very ancient family from Ayrshire, dates back to 1640. I am delighted to see your friends."

During the long French war, as two old ladies in Stranraer were going to the kirk, the one said to the other, "Was it no a wonderfu' thing that the Breetish were aye victorious ower the French in battle?"—"Not a bit," said the other old lady; "dinna ye ken the Breetish aye say their prayers before ga'in into battle?" The other replied, "But canna the French say their prayers as weel?" The reply was most characteristic, "Hoot! jabbering bodies, wha could understand them?"

A good story is told of Baron Platt, who, when once visiting a penal institution, inspected the treadmill with the rest, and being practically disposed, the learned judge philanthropically trusted himself on the treadmill, desiring the warden to set it in motion. The machine was accordingly adjusted and his lordship began to lift his feet. In a few minutes, however, he had had quite enough of it, and called to be released, but this was not so easy. "Please my lord," said the man, "you can't get off. It's set for twenty minutes, that's the shortest time we can make it go." So the judge was in durance until his "term" expired.