

at the forest of Marchenoir and at Cailmare, and in both of which they were forced to abandon their positions, the Prussians, under General Von der Tann, some 25,000 in number, withdrew into Orleans, where, it appears, they intended waiting for reinforcements before attempting another attack on the army of the Loire, three divisions of which, the 15th, 16th, and 17th, were drawn up in the vicinity of the city. The French, however, did not wait for the arrival of the reinforcements, which were already marching from Chartres and Chateaudun. General d'Aurelles de Paladine, their commander, commenced a movement evidently with the intention of hemming in Von der Tann's army and compelling him to surrender. Their line occupied both sides of the Loire, on the north from Vendôme to Beaugency, and on the south from Blois la Ferte to Neuve, forming an obtuse angle with its apex at Beaugency. Von der Tann, seeing the position in which he was placed, prepared to retire northwards, but before he could effect a retreat, he was assailed by the 16th corps under Gen. Lussac, and after a severe engagement was compelled to evacuate Orleans. His loss is variously stated; the account given by the French commander places it at 25,000 prisoners, besides killed and wounded, and his own loss 2,000 killed and wounded. A despatch from Tours states that the total Bavarian loss in the three days' battles (8th, 9th, and 10th) was 3,140 in killed, wounded, and prisoners; another despatch from the same place puts it at 500 in the last day's battle. The French papers, however, report that the Germans lost—out of the army of 25,000—10,000 killed, and 1,800 prisoners! The safest estimate would appear to be 5,000, as on the following day Von der Tann's army numbered 20,000. After evacuating Orleans, the Bavarian general retreated unmolested to Toury, a small town about half way between Paris and Orleans, where he was joined by Gen. Von Wittich and Prince Albrecht, with 13,000 men, and by the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg with a force of 23,000 men. His total force thus reaches 56,000, while that of Gen. d'Aurelles de Paladine numbers 100,000, with a reserve of 50,000 on the south side of the Loire. However, Prince Frederick Charles, with his victorious army from Metz, to the number of 160,000, had at that time begun his march to Toury, and when last heard from was at Sens. Should he not be able to effect a junction with Von der Tann before the army of the Loire comes up the result may be fatal for the Prussians. Against his 150,000 the 56,000 of the German general can be of small avail; and Von der Tann once defeated, the road lies open to Paris, and the investing line finds itself between the army of 150,000 commanded by Trochu and the victorious army of Gen. d'Aurelles de Paladine.

Around Paris, and in fact at every other point of the scene of operations, little of importance has occurred. On the Swiss frontier the Prussians have advanced as far as Dôle, while the French, in two distinct armies under Garibaldi and General Michel, occupy Autun and Chagny. Belfort, in the Haut-Rhin, is invested by an army of 50,000 men, and further north Prussian armies invest both Thionville and Montmédy. In the north the Prussians are marching upon Lille, and when last heard from were at La Fère.

Throughout the whole of the provinces, since the failure of the negotiations for an armistice, a new spirit seems to have seized upon the people. Everywhere vigorous preparations are going on to resist the Prussians, new levies are being made, fortresses are being garrisoned and provisioned, and a bitter, deadly warfare *à l'outrance* may be expected. In the western provinces the Breton member, Keratry, is at work enrolling the Bretons and Vendéans, descendants of the Chouans, to whom the rule of the first Republic was so distasteful, but who now rise to a man against the invader. In the north the ex-imperialist Bourbaki is entrenched at Lille, while the cities of Douai and Dunkirk are preparing for siege. In Normandy camps have been established at Beauvais and Gisors, and already the Prussians in this quarter have sustained considerable reverses. In the south Lyons is preparing for defence, while the united armies of Garibaldi and Michel are watching the movements of the German troops in the Doubs, and closely following their advance. News has also been received from the coast that the fleet which had been recalled from the Baltic has been hovering about the mouths of the Elbe and the Weser, and that the bombardment of Hamburg might be commenced at any day.

The only news of the slightest importance from Paris is that the city is not to be bombarded, as it is expected that the supplies within the capital cannot last more than three weeks. The correspondent of the *New York World*, writing from Versailles, gives the following account of the position of the troops around Paris:—

"I have made a tour around the whole army of investment, beginning at Sartroville, a point on the Seine, eight kilometres from St. Germain. The army of the Crown Prince holds a double line of entrenched positions, extending from the west to the south side of the city to Chelles, a point on the Marne near the junction of the Strasburg Railway with the river. This line is forty-five miles long, taking in St. Germain, Marly, Versailles, Sceaux, Choisy-le-Roi, and Noisy le Grand. The army of the Crown Prince of Saxony holds the line extending from Chelles around the north and north-east of the city, twenty miles long, and touching Montfermeil, Sevran, Garges, and Saunoy. The troops are quartered in all the houses of the villages and some in wooden barracks, and are so scattered that it is difficult to determine their strength. They are apparently so arranged as to be able to concentrate between 60,000 and 70,000 men on any point attacked within two hours, and to concentrate larger forces will require six or seven hours. There is no doubt but that the health of the troops is greatly impaired, the sick lists growing more alarming."

TOWN OF DUNDAS, ONT.

This town, a view of which we give in the present number, is situated in the North Riding of the County of Wentworth, five miles due west of the city of Hamilton. Its site is in a romantic little valley in the township of West Flamborough, which is surrounded, except by a narrow swampy gorge on the north-east corner. Through the valley, from west to east, runs a small stream, which has been of the utmost importance in developing the industrial resources of the town, in the establishment of flouring and saw mills, breweries, factories, &c., &c. The Desjardins Canal, a water channel without locks, runs from the eastern end of the town through the "long swamp" or gorge mentioned, and pierces the Burlington Heights by an enormously deep cut, about half a mile west of the Dundurn property, thus connecting Dundas with

the navigation of Burlington Bay at the head of Lake Ontario. Dundas is a comparatively old town, and was once the rival of Hamilton, or "Port Burlington," as it was first called; but the shipping facilities of the latter, together with its superior connection by gravel roads with the surrounding country, soon gave it the advantage. After the opening of the Great Western Railway, which passes to the north of Dundas on the highlands, the town suffered many years of commercial depression; but trade has long since revived, and it continues to be an important manufacturing locality, on account of the excellent water privileges enjoyed. For its size there is no doubt but that it contains a greater variety of extensive manufacturing establishments than any other town in Canada. It has two newspapers, several handsome churches, and many beautiful private residences on the surrounding heights. Until of late years its progress in population has not been rapid; in fact for seven of the ten years between 1851 and '61 there was rather a decrease. But the restoration of its manufactures has more than made up the population to its highest former figure. It is now estimated at from 3,300 to 4,000 souls.

THE NEEPIGON REGION.

No. 5.—NEEPIGON RIVER AND STURGEON LAKE.

In this number we print three of the Neepigon views. No. 5 mentioned in our issue of the 5th inst., a scene on the Neepigon River (looking North) near Camp Alexander; No. 10, the Northern view from the head of Pechaunigum rapids. These rapids are about seven or eight miles from Lake Neepigon, being the second of the half-dozen on the river; No. 13, Sturgeon Lake, looking South, at the head waters of the Black Sturgeon River. The sketches (11 and 12) on Lake Neepigon will be given next week. The Black Sturgeon River rises from the west side of Lake Neepigon towards the southern end, and runs through ponds and boulder deposits for about five or six miles into Sturgeon Lake,—a long narrow sheet of water, running from North to South about sixteen miles, with a pretty even breadth of from four to five miles. The southern extremity of this Lake is almost parallel with that of Lake Neepigon in lat. 49.30. The Little Sturgeon River rises from the western side of the same Lake about four miles above its southern end, and pursues a course almost parallel with the Black Sturgeon, entering Black Bay, Lake Superior, about six miles west of the latter. After passing from the extreme southern end of Sturgeon Lake the Black Sturgeon flows South by inclining towards the East, through a small lake called Manwahtun or Lake of Five Rapids. One of these rapids is four miles long, and may be easily run in the smallest canoe. There are, altogether, twenty-one rapids on the Black Sturgeon, and the scenery on its banks is very picturesque. Some parts of the country are thickly wooded, with high hills on either side, leaving a tract of fine alluvial soil about a mile and a half wide and fifty miles long on both the eastern and western banks. These tracts were formerly covered with pine, which has long ago either rotted away or been burnt up by the summer fires, and is now succeeded by an undergrowth of birch, thus shewing that the quality of the soil has been improved by the destruction of its former crop. From a hill between two portages (numbered ten and eleven on the map—see page 264, Oct. 22) our correspondent saw some splendid natural clearings admirably suited for agricultural purposes, the soil being rich and of great depth, and the lands well sheltered from the north and north-west winds by a high range of thickly wooded cliffs. The level of this land is from five to twenty feet above that of the river. There is no appearance along the river banks of abrasion from heavy ice "shoves," so that the conclusion is warranted that the break up in spring is not attended with any danger from flooding, the ice suddenly floating gently away. This is also rendered all the more probable from the fact that the current, apart from the rapids, is only about two miles an hour. There is a portage of four miles just above Red Rock, Hudson's Bay post, and from the last rapid the river is navigable for twelve or fifteen miles to its mouth, where there is a low land and a mud bar. As its name implies, the river is well stocked with sturgeon, and there is also an abundant supply of pike. Besides these, it abounds with otter, mink, &c., thus affording an attractive field for the sportsman. The water is of a dark red colour, caused, no doubt, by the large deposits of iron sand in its bed at the northern end. The trees along its banks are mostly large sized spruce, tamarac, cedar, and white birch. A large canoe can cross all the rapids with the height of water in September last. The average breadth of the stream is from sixty to seventy yards, and its depth about twelve feet.

THE GREAT ORGAN, CHICAGO.

The modest City of Boston, Mass., otherwise called the "Hub of all creation," or the "Athens of America," is no longer alone in its possessing a "great organ." Chicago, the Mushroom City of the West, so called, not for any special connection it has with the fungus tribe, but because it has shewn about equal capacity in the way of rapid growth, can now boast an organ which excels anything of the kind in America, except the Boston organ, and even with respect to that many critics have pronounced it superior in many important points, and inferior only in size. Our special reason for noticing the great organ of Chicago, is that it was built in Montreal, by Mr. J. Mitchell, whose reputation as an organ builder is already well established in Canada. The Chicago organ is, however, his master-piece, not because he was not capable of doing as well before, but because he had never been favoured with an order for so vast an instrument. It has been placed in the church of the Jesuit Fathers, and a few weeks ago was tested, for the first time, in the presence of a large concourse of Chicago musical artists, members of the press, &c. The result was not only satisfactory, but gratifying in the extreme, for the keenest critics in the audience were the best pleased. We trust that Mr. Mitchell's merits will not be overlooked by congregations or church authorities, when they require superior musical instruments.

AURORAS ANCIENT AND MODERN.—The aurora borealis has lately shown symptoms of unusual activity at a time when, if we may be permitted to say so, its displays, however beautiful, are calculated to produce an uncomfortable effect on the nervous. Perhaps, if it more frequently honoured us with its presence, we should be less inclined to look at it with an eye of suspicion as a harbinger of evil; but although of late years it has been more common in the European region of the northern zone than in former periods, its visits are, as a rule,

few and far between. In a work by M. de Mairan, entitled "Traité Physique et Historique de l'Aurore Boréale," published in 1754, is given a record of all the observations of aurora from the sixth century down to that date, as far as they appear upon the page of history. The gross number of distinct phenomena enumerated by M. de Mairan amounts to 1,441, distributed as follows:—From A.D. 583 to A.D. 1354, 26 were observed; 1354 to 1560, 34; 1560 to 1592, 69; 1592 to 1633, 70; 1633 to 1684, 34; 1684 to 1721, 219; 1721 to 1745, 961; 1745 to 1751, 28. During the earlier periods a great many instances no doubt occurred which are not recorded, but the high numbers which appear after the close of the seventeenth century seem to point to an increasing frequency of these displays in European localities. Distributed according to the different months in which the aurora appeared, the numbers to be assigned to each are as follows: January, 113; February, 141; March, 202; April, 124; May, 45; June, 22; July 22; August, 84; September, 172; October, 212; November, 153; December, 151. The instances in the winter half-year amount to 972, and those in summer to 469, being nearly in proportion of two to one in favour of the former. A brilliant display took place on March 6, 1716, of which Halley remarks that nothing of the kind had occurred in England for more than eighty years, nor of the same magnitude since 1574. This latter display occurred on November 14 in that year, when Stowe observes that there "were seen in the air strange impressions of fire and smoke to proceed forth from a black cloud in the north towards the south. That the next night the heavens from all parts did seem to burn marvellously ragingly, and over our heads the flames from the horizon round about rising did meet, and there double and roll one in another as if it had been in a clear furnace." The year following, 1575, it was twice repeated in Holland, and Cornelius Jemina, a professor in the University of Louvain, thus describes the second appearance in that year:—"The form of the chasma of September 28, following immediately after sunset, was indeed less dreadful, but still more confused and various; for in it were seen a great many bright arches, out of which gradually issued spears, cities with towers, and men in battle array; after that there were excursions of rays every way, waves of clouds, and battles mutually pursued and fled, and wheeling round in a surprising manner." Perhaps the reason we pay less attention now than formerly to the aurora borealis is that our nerves have of late years received such rude shocks from atmospherical phenomena that we are becoming hardened. Few appearances are more awful than a London fog in November, when from a dark cloud issue cabs, vans, light carts and reckless drivers, who wheel round the corners in a surprising manner, bringing the end of the world to many a hapless pedestrian.

Temperature in the shade, and Barometer indications for the week ending Tuesday, Nov. 15, 1870, observed by John Underhill, Optician to the Medical Faculty of McGill University, 299 Notre Dame Street.

	9 A. M.	1 P. M.	6 P. M.
Wednesday, Nov. 9.....	52°	53°	49°
Thursday, " 10.....	36°	39°	34°
Friday, " 11.....	30°	39°	41°
Saturday, " 12.....	40°	47°	44°
Sunday, " 13.....	38°	44°	38°
Monday, " 14.....	36°	45°	36°
Tuesday, " 15.....	33°	38°	34°
	Max.	Min.	Mean.
Wednesday, Nov. 9.....	53°	32°	42° 5
Thursday, " 10.....	40°	30°	35°
Friday, " 11.....	41°	23°	32°
Saturday, " 12.....	49°	31°	40°
Sunday, " 13.....	45°	32°	38° 5
Monday, " 14.....	46°	29°	37° 5
Tuesday, " 15.....	40°	29°	34° 5

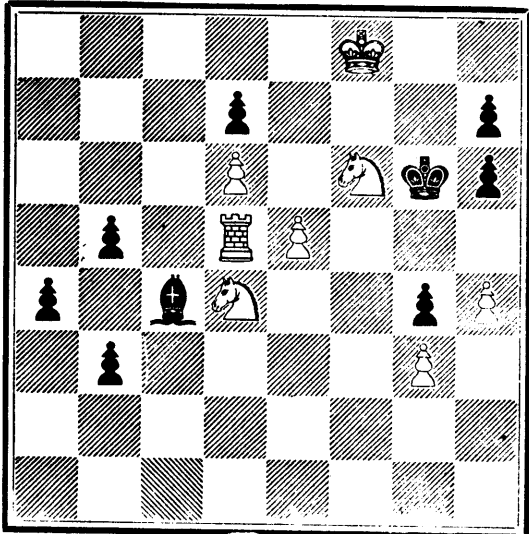
Aneroid Barometer compensated and corrected.

	9 A. M.	1 P. M.	6 P. M.
Wednesday, Nov. 9.....	29.76	29.70	29.77
Thursday, " 10.....	30.30	30.34	30.40
Friday, " 11.....	30.30	30.02	30.19
Saturday, " 12.....	30.00	29.94	29.91
Sunday, " 13.....	29.86	29.84	29.93
Monday, " 14.....	29.86	29.88	29.83
Tuesday, " 15.....	29.88	29.90	29.96

CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 21.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

SOLUTION OF ENIGMA No. 5.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| White. | Black. |
| 1. R. to Q. Kt. 4th. | B. takes B. (best.) |
| 2. P. takes B. | Any move. |
| 3. Kt. mates. | |