

On the following day, in the Corps Legislatif, Count Palikao made the following statement:—"The Prussians assert that they were victorious on the 18th, I affirm the contrary. I have communicated a despatch to several of the Deputies showing that the Prussian army corps united and attacked Marshal Bazaine, and they were repulsed and driven into the quarries of Juncourt. My reserve about this despatch will be understood. I need not mention the small advantage near Barle Duc. We are now actively completing the fortifications of Paris. In a few days all will be assured."

A despatch from London says, however, that the defeat of the French was most complete, and their army was frightfully demoralized. Again, the New York *World's* special says: the battle at Rezonville was without decisive result, victory was claimed by the Prussians, and the French fell back in good order, without pursuit, to Metz, their ammunition having given out. The losses of the Prussians greatly exceed the French, the former losing 40,000 on Thursday alone, Steinmetz's whole corps being literally cut to pieces, and his magnificent cavalry no longer existing.

The position of the armies on Sunday last, the 21st, was as follows: the Crown Prince was at Vitry le François, 19 miles S. E. of Châlons; Prince Frederick Charles lay at St. Mihiel, eight leagues south of Verdun; the King, with Bismarck, was at Pont-à-Mousson; Gen. Werder, with 30,000 men and a train of heavy siege artillery, surrounded Strasbourg, and the army of Wurtemberg lay before Platzbourg. Gen. Bazaine was between Metz and Verdun, and McMahon had effected a junction with Trochu at Châlons. A Paris despatch says that the armies of King William and Steinmetz are reported to be too severely crippled to assume the offensive, and it is given out on high authority that Bazaine was reinforced from Châlons on Sunday for the purpose of giving battle to the enemy near Metz. He is confident of victory, when he will march on the army of the Crown Prince and rescue Paris. On Tuesday he forced his way through the Prussian troops at Anteuil and Longueville, and reached Montmédy. The Paris *Press* of the 23d, in an extra, makes the following statement:—"We are now at liberty to make public the fact that McMahon has joined Bazaine with great numbers of troops. Bazaine has not abandoned his strong position near Metz. McMahon moved north, and France is saved by way of Rheims, Metz, and Montmédy. McMahon has reached a position where he can enter upon the decisive struggle." It is also reported that the Crown Prince of Prussia has withdrawn from his advance on Paris, and gone to support the Prussian armies west of Metz, the position of the latter being threatened with a formidable attack by Bazaine, who is said to have been reinforced by McMahon.

A still later despatch states that Generals McMahon and Bazaine are ready to assume the offensive, and that the Crown Prince, who, when last heard from, was at St. Diziers, has commenced to fall back.

All kinds of rumours have been spread regarding the Emperor. It has been stated at different times that he had fled from France; that he died while undergoing an operation; that he contemplated abdication, and that the Empress was urging him to abdicate in favour of his son. His movements since the 14th are thus given by the *Press*, and it is now known that he is stationed at Rheims. Since he left Metz on the 14th, he and his suite have traversed all the villages where combats have taken place since the battles around Metz began. He was at Longueville on the 14th, and at Gravelotte on the 15th. In the latter neighbourhood the Prussians were hidden at several points, and the Emperor had barely passed through when sharp fighting commenced. Several French regiments had to be detailed to protect him on his way. Next day he passed through Conflans, breakfasted at Etain, and slept at Verdun. Only a few moments after he left Etain, a Prussian Etat-Major breakfasted at the same place. On his way from Verdun to Châlons, the Emperor passed in plain view of the enemy's pickets. To-day he is at Rheims.

#### VISIT OF THE ILLINOIS PRESS ASSOCIATION.

The Press Association of Illinois, comprising among its members the editors of nearly all the weekly journals published in the State, made their annual excursion this year to Canada and New England. At Toronto they were received as the guests of the Corporation, and after having been shown the "lions" of the western capital, were entertained by the Hon. George Brown. The new Pullman car was placed at their disposal for the trip to Montreal, where they arrived on Wednesday morning. The *Witness* of that day gives the following programme for their entertainment in this city and account of their arrival:—

Last evening an informal meeting of the City Council was held in the City Hall, His Worship the Mayor in the chair, for the purpose of arranging for the reception and entertainment of the members of the Illinois Press Association, who arrived from Toronto this morning by the 9:30 train. After an hour's discussion as to the best and most fitting way of entertaining the visitors,—the men whose thoughts and opinions influence the daily life and political and commercial action of the farmers and dealers of Illinois, the following

#### PROGRAMME WAS RESOLVED UPON:

A Committee, consisting of the Mayor, Acting Mayor Bournay, Aldermen David, Bernard, and Wilson; Councilors G. W. Stephens, Nelson, and McShane was appointed on arrangements.

The excursionists on their arrival about 9 o'clock, to be received at the St. Lawrence Hall by the Mayor and Corporation.

The visitors to have the day to look about, and in the evening the Mayor and Corporation will accompany the excursionists to the Viger Gardens, which will be lighted up, and the band of the Rifle Brigade will play a selection of music.

On Thursday morning at 10 o'clock carriages are to be provided by the Corporation, and the members are to drive with the visitors to view the most attractive places of the city, and at 1:30 the party are to be entertained to lunch at the Mayor's residence.

After which they drive round the Mountain to the Comeries, &c.

#### ARRIVAL OF THE ASSOCIATION.

This forenoon, at 10 o'clock, the members of the Illinois Press Association, about sixty gentlemen, accompanied by about forty ladies, being the wives and relatives of members, arrived from Toronto at the Bonaventure Depot. They were conveyed thence in carriages to the St. Lawrence Hall, where

they were received by His Worship the Mayor and members of the Corporation. The Mayor, after being introduced to Mr. E. H. Greigs, of the *Rutford Register*, President of the Association, delivered a brief address of welcome.

He, on behalf of the members of the Corporation and the citizens of Montreal, welcomed the members to the city which they had honoured with a visit, and he trusted that they would enjoy themselves and that their visit would be as pleasing to them as it was acceptable to the citizens. He then informed them of the programme of arrangements.

Mr. Greigs, on behalf of the Association, in reply, thanked the Mayor for the kind reception which they had extended them. He said they had left their homes in Illinois, scattered over all parts of the great State, to visit in an unostentatious manner the different cities and objects of interest in this Dominion. Wherever they have been they had met with a most cordial reception and lavish kindness quite unexpected, and which made them forget that they were in a foreign country. He concluded by hoping that their anticipations of the visit would be realized to them.

The Mayor then introduced the individual members of the Corporation to the President, and shortly afterward they retired. The excursionists will meet again at 4 p. m., and will, accompanied by the Mayor, &c., visit the Victoria Bridge.

#### THE WHY AND THE WHEREFORE OF PECULIAR NAMES—MANNERS AND CUSTOMS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN.

BY THE REV. J. D. BORTHWICK.

(Continued)

II.

**HALOS OR CORONÆ.**—Coloured circles of varying diameter are occasionally seen surrounding the sun and moon when the sky is invested with light clouds. They are more frequently observed around the moon, but this is simply owing to the sun's light being generally too dazzling to admit of colours being distinguished near his disc. They are caused by the inflection of light by the globules of visible vapour, minute crystals of ice and snow; or that property of rays to bend and divide as they pass near the borders, ridges and angles of surfaces.

When the halos are well defined, and closely encircle the luminous body, it is because the atmosphere is surcharged with humidity, large globules being formed. And hence there is truth in the popular remark, that a dense halo portends rain.

**HARMATTAN.**—This is a name given to a singular wind, which blows periodically from the interior parts of Africa, towards the Atlantic ocean. It prevails in December, January, and February, and is generally accompanied by a fog or haze, that conceals the sun for whole days together. Extreme dryness is the characteristic of this wind; no dew falls during its continuance, which is sometimes for a fortnight or more. The whole vegetable creation is withered, and the grass becomes at once like hay. The natives take the opportunity which this wind gives them, of clearing the land, by setting fire to trees and plants in this their exhausted state. The dryness is so extreme, that household furniture is damaged, and the wainscot of the rooms flies to pieces. The human body is also affected by it, so as to cause the skin to peel off; but in other respects it is deemed salutary to the constitution, by stopping the progress of infection, and curing almost all cutaneous diseases.

**HEGENOTS.**—This word is of uncertain origin. Dr. Johnson derives it from *Eignots, confederates*. It was used as a nickname by the French Catholics against their countrymen, the members of the Reformed Churches. Another derivation is from the German word *eidgenossen, allies*, a name given to the Germans who entered into alliance with the Swiss Cantons to maintain their religious liberties against Savoy.

I

**ICHNEUMON.**—From *ichneumon, to trace, to watch*; because this animal is said to watch the movements of the crocodile, to break the eggs. Pliny thus describes it:—"When it sees him asleep with his mouth wide open, it whippeth into his throat, and shooteth himself down as quick as an arrow, and then gnaweth his bowels, catch a hole through his body and so killeth him."

J

**JAMES GOODFELLOW.**—During the cessations in the English invasions of France, the peasantry, stung beyond endurance by the outrages and cruelty of their lords, rose in a general sanguinary outbreak—the first of a kind which has been but too common in the country. It was called the *Jacquerie*, from Jacques Bonhomme, or James Goodfellow.—a term applied to the French peasant as John Bull is to the English.

**JANISSARIES.**—Were the Grand Signor's footguards, raised by Amurath I. A.D. 1361; and annihilated by the Sultan, 14th June, 1826. The word means new soldiers.

**THE JESUITS,** or members of the Society of Jesus, are a religious order in the R. C. Church, which at different periods has possessed very considerable influence and power. It was founded by one Ignatius, of Loyola, in Spain, who, in the year 1528, assembled ten of his companions at Rome, and made a proposal to form a new order; when, after many deliberations, it was agreed to add to the three ordinary vows of chastity, poverty, and obedience, a fourth, which was, to go into all countries, whither the Pope should send them, in order to make converts to the Church of Rome.

**JOHN BULL.**—Dr. John Bull was the first Gresham Professor of Music, and organist and composer to Queen Elizabeth. John, like a true Englishman, travelled for improvement; and having heard of a famous musician at St. Omers, he placed himself under him as a novice; sometime after, his master showed him a song which he had composed in *forty parts*; telling him at the same time, he defied the whole world to produce a person capable of adding another part to his composition. Bull desired to be left alone, and to be indulged for a short time with pen and ink; in less than 3 hours he added *forty parts* more to the song, upon which the Frenchman was so much surprised, that he swore in great ecstasy he must be either the *Devil* or *John Bull*; which has ever since been proverbial all over England and wherever the Anglo Saxon race is found.

L

**LANDAU.**—A kind of carriage; so called because first made in the town of Landau in Germany.

**LANDLORD.**—A sad misnomer is presented by the word *Land-*

*lord*, as applied to the keeper of an inn. Formerly, wayfaring guests were for the most part entertained by the proprietors of the land, the lords of the manor through which they journeyed, and in those times the application of the name landlord to the entertainer was well enough. But now-a-days, many a poor auberge-keeper receives the name, who is lord of himself and no lord beside, and who does not expect, indeed, ever to be lord of more land than those few feet over which all men have a mortgage.

**LORD.**—This word is abbreviated from two words, or rather two syllables; it was originally *Illa Ford*, which, by dropping the aspirate, became *La Ford*; and afterwards, by contraction, *Lord*. It is derived from *hlaf*, a loaf of bread; and *ford*, to give or afford, because great men fed the poor, or were givers of bread. The nickname of "My Lord," given by vulgar persons to hunch (hump) backed persons, is from the Greek word *l rdox*, crooked.

According to the July statement, just published, there were \$7,380,333 of Dominion notes then in circulation; and of this amount \$447,000 were in fractional notes.

The *Ottawa Times* says:—"We understand that the Government are about to send parties to Lake Nipigon for the purpose of ascertaining the best route for a railway through the country adjacent to the lake. One exploration will be made westward, and another south between Lakes Nipigon and Superior."

**THE TYNE CREW.**—The members of the Tyne crew arrived in Quebec by the steamship *Hibernia* on Sunday last. At Quebec they were met by a deputation from this city consisting of Messrs. S. H. Wallis, J. Hervey, J. H. McNider and E. J. Lindsay. They left Quebec on Monday night by the steamer *Montreal*, and arrived in the city on Tuesday morning. The crew have taken quarters at LaBine, where they intend to remain for training purposes until the race comes off. The names of the crew are J. Renforth, J. Taylor, J. Martin, T. Winship, and J. A. Adams. The latter has come as an extra hand in case of accident.

The fires in the neighbourhood of Ottawa were still raging about the middle of the week, though they had ceased to spread, and the fear of further injury had consequently abated. About two hundred and fifty families on both sides of the river have suffered more or less loss, many of them having been rendered utterly destitute. On Friday of last week great fears were entertained for the safety of the village of Hull, and even for the Capital itself. But the Rideau Canal was cut, and a portion of the country around Ottawa flooded, and other precautionary measures were taken, which, aided by a lull in the wind, happily checked the progress of the flames. It is reported that twelve people have lost their lives by the fire, and many have been seriously injured by exposure. The citizens and City Council of Ottawa came promptly to the relief of the sufferers. The Dominion Government lent the houseless the use of military tents, and the Ottawa Corporation appropriated a thousand dollars for the purchase of food for the destitute. It is expected the local governments of Ontario and Quebec will give assistance, and a most liberal private subscription has been started at Ottawa. The recent rains, it is hoped, have completely extinguished the fires.

There is a French librarian near Berkeley square, London, who has taken the trouble, for the sake of his female subscribers, to mark in his catalogue with an asterisk all those novels which a mamma may allow her daughter to read.

The *Lancet* says:—"It is a curious fact that of the passengers in the train which met with the terrible accident at Newark, all, or very nearly all, who were asleep at the time escaped uninjured—nature's anæsthetic insuring them, not only against fractures and contusions, but even against the bad effects of shaking and concussion."

Two years ago, M. Prevost Paradol, the French Minister who committed suicide at Washington, in an article in the *Debate*, made the following remarkable prophecy:

"France will pay, with her children's blood, if she succeed, with her greatness, perhaps her very existence, if she fail, for the series of faults committed since that fatal day when she stood by and suffered the dismemberment of Denmark to take place, in the vain hope of turning it to account. France and Prussia are like two steam locomotives hurrying against each other at full speed on the same line of rails. After many curves and windings, the two trains must inevitably meet—laden, alas! with how many loving and living hearts, with untold wealth, and with the fate of two great empires."

#### CHESS.

In the following short and sharp contest, a contributor gives the Queen to a novice; there is not much skill displayed on either side, but it has a most unusual and amusing termination.

Before playing over, the White Queen should be removed from the board.

White.	Black.
1 P. to K. 4th	P. to K. 4th
2 B. to B. 4th	B. to B. 4th
3 K. Kt. to B. 3rd	Q. Kt. to B. 3rd
4 Q. Kt. to R. 3rd	Q. to K. B. 3rd
5 P. to Q. 3rd	K. Kt. to K. 2nd
6 Castles	K. Kt. to Kt. 3rd
7 B. to K. Kt. 5th	Q. to Q. 3rd
8 Q. Kt. to Kt. 5th	Q. to K. B. sq.
9 Kt. takes Q. B. P. mate!	

#### SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 15.

White.	Black.
1 Q. to Q. R. sq.	B. takes Kt. (best)
2 Q. to K. R. 8th ch	K. takes P.
3 B. mates.	

#### VARIATION,

White.	Black.
1 ———	K. moves
2 Q. to K. R. sq. ch	B. in
3 Q. takes B. mate	