

A PROVERB.

Among those crusts of common sense, Our saws and dittons, grave and gay, Wit's counters, Wisdom's copper pence— All some of us can find to pay!— I note, for fearless of decay. For universal as the sun, The sentence, mock at it who may, "Two's company, and three is none!"

Who made it! What was the offence That sped it on its endless way! Whose obtuse impertinence? Came it from knights at feast or fray, Or bumpkins "tumbling in the hay?" Was it in fury or in fun? Who was the first had sense to say, "Two's company, and three is none?"

O interlopers dull and dense, Should it not scatter your array, And teach that we should have you hence?— Leave Rook and Pigeon to their play! Leave Captain X. to Mrs. A. Leave, leave the debtor to his dun, Till to her Jack, the tramp to Tray!— "Two's company, and three is none."

ENVOY.

Prince, should you ever stumble and stray Into a duo not yet done, Remember, though you'd like to stay:— "Two's company, and three is none."

J. LIBBEL.

CARD ETIQUETTE.

Minimum writes from London to an American paper:—Cards are a most important factor in social life the world over, but in London the rule of the bit of pasteboard is really autocratic. The laws governing the form of a visiting card and its use are as strictly obeyed as are any laws made in that handsome building on the banks of the Thames, where Gladstone and the rest debate more weighty matters. I saw the Premier's visiting card at Parkins and Gotto's yesterday. I went in there to inform myself as to the latest fashions in regard to cards. For I know that, though we Americans are wonderfully independent and democratic, we like to know that our cards are like those of the people who know most about such things. Going in for instruction, I remained for amusement, and for half-an-hour turned over the pages of scrap books bearing the names of half the distinguished people in the kingdom.

All visiting cards are alike in this, the plainest script is upon each one. No fancy printing or writing is seen upon one of them, either of gentleman or lady. I must except the card of the Princess Beatrice. This is a plain bit of thick paper, engraved with the two words in an Italian script. It seemed odd to see just that "Princess Beatrice" on the royal maiden's card. I don't think I had expected to see "Miss Beatrice Guelph," but it does seem funny to think that there are girls who don't have to have their last names inscribed. If there had been a monogram and gilded crest, and so on, it would have seemed less strange, I suppose. In point of size, all ladies' cards are like hers. They are a little over three inches in length by two in width.

It is not "good form" to have the address engraved with the name on either a lady's or gentleman's visiting card. That is reserved for ladies' "at Home" cards. There is no difference between a young lady's card and that of her mother. Gentlemen's cards are very small. The names of Mr. Alfred Tennyson or Lord Russell appear in as small script, and upon as microscopic scraps of pasteboard as those of John Jenkins or Thomas Jones. An "at Home" card is always printed as I indicate, with a little "a" and a capital "H."

"At Homes" are quite doing away with call paying in London, except by means of cards. Yes, it is no longer the fashion to go out upon the round of calls. A lady may make out her list of visits owed, and give to her servant a corresponding number of cards, with her name thereupon. While she takes her ease at home these cards are left at the doors of her "dear five hundred friends," and her duty to society is done. At first thought one is apt to cry out at this as a great sham, but after all it is not. It is a genuine piece of sincerity. Everybody has always known that formal calls are not only insipid and tiresome, but very taxing upon one's strength. Now the labour may be done by a servant, and the lady keep herself fresh for other duties or pleasures. If the lady choose, she may go about and leave her own cards at her friends' doors, but unless very intimate she is not supposed even to ask if the people on whom she leaves the card are in. But on each "at Home" day she may go to see them. This fashion brings gentlemen more into afternoon society, and so makes it more agreeable. Men who hate a ball or a round of calls will drop in to "an afternoon" and enjoy it.

Invitations are usually printed now on very large plain cards, often bordered with silver—never, of course, with gilt. The old folded form is seldom used, even for wedding invitations. People in mourning use deeper black borders than ever before. An invitation for a wedding is always sent out at least a month before the ceremony.

It is not considered good style for a bride and groom to wait to receive congratulations, if going away on a wedding journey. When they return they send out cards to their friends. Sometimes the bride's mother sends out the cards just after the wedding, naming the date of return. The proper thing in these cards is a satin silver-edged card, with the name and address of the newly-married pair thereupon, and with the bride's maiden name on the fold of the invitation envelope, with a printed line drawn through

it. That indicates that the young lady has done with that name, and seems to me a much better idea than the old one of enclosing her girlhood card.

CHILD STEALERS.

The commerce in children in the 17th century, was connected with a trade. The Comprachicos engaged in the commerce, and carried on the trade. They bought children, worked a little on the raw material, and re-sold them afterwards.

Under the Stuarts, the Comprachicos were by no means in bad odour at Court. On occasions they were used for reasons of State. For James II. they were almost an instrument regni. It was a time when families, which were refractory or in the way, were dismembered; when a descent was cut short; when heirs were suddenly suppressed. At times one branch was defrauded to the profit of another. The Comprachicos had a genius for disfiguration which recommended them to State-Policy. To disfigure is better than to kill. There was, indeed, the Iron Mask, but that was a mighty measure. Europe could not be peopled with iron masks, while deformed tumblers ran about the streets without creating any surprise. Besides, the iron mask is removable; not so the mask of flesh. You are masked for ever by your own flesh—what can be more ingenious? The Comprachicos worked on man as the Chinese work on trees. They had their secrets, as we have said; they had tricks which are now lost arts. A sort of fantastic stunted thing left their hands; it was ridiculous and wonderful. They would touch up a little being with such skill that its father could not have known it. Sometimes they left the spine straight and re-made the face. They unmarked a child as one might unmark a pocket-handkerchief. Products, destined for tumblers, had their joints dislocated in a masterly manner—you would have said they had been boned. Thus gymnasts were made.

Not only did the Comprachicos take away his face from the child, they also took away his memory. At least they took away all they could of it; the child had no consciousness of the mutilation to which he had been subjected. This frightful surgery left its traces on his countenance, but not on his mind. The most he could recall was that one day he had been seized by men; that next he had fallen asleep, and then that he had been cured. Cured of what? he did not know. Of burnings by sulphur and incisions by the iron he remembered nothing. The Comprachicos deadened the little patient by means of a stupefying powder which was thought to be magical, and suppressed all pain. This powder has been known from time immemorial in China, and is employed there in the present day.—VICTOR HUGO.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

All communications intended for this Column should be addressed to the Chess Editor, CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, MONTREAL.

The annual meeting of the Counties' Chess Association at Manchester, a short time ago, was a great success, and no doubt will have the effect of furthering in many ways the cause of the royal game in England.

There were ten entries for Class No. 1, Messrs. Blake, Coker, Fisher, Lord, Mills, Owens, Skipworth, Spens and Thorold. The following table shows the result of the play in this class. As will be seen, Mr. Fisher and Mr. Thorold tied for the highest position, and finally agreed to divide the two prizes, one £20, and the other £10, between them.

Table with columns: CLASS I, NAME, and scores for various players (Thorold, Spens, Skipworth, Ranken, Owen, Mills, Lord, Fisher, Coker, Blake).

There were fourteen entries for the second class, but only twelve became contestants, Messrs. Bowley, Fish, Harris, Hooke, Huntsman, Lambert, Leather, May, Newham, Pilkington, Wainwright and Miss Thorold.

The three prizes, valued at £10, £5 and £2 10s. respectively, were adjudged to Messrs. Bowley, Fish and Lambert, who obtained a total of 8½ games each. Besides the foregoing tourneys, there were other

matches which were played in the evening. Altogether, the gathering seems to have been a most enjoyable one to both the players and the visitors. Among the latter were Mr. Blackburne and Mr. Macdonnell, whose presence, no doubt, did much to excite in the contestants a determination to do their best in their struggles over the checkerboard.

"Chess Blossoms" is the poetical name of a work by a lady in England on what has been called the poetry of chess, that is, chess problems.

The problems Miss F. F. Beechey intends to publish are those of her own composing, and they will appear in a volume as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers send in their names. The work will contain forty two-moves, and a few three-move problems, with hints on the solving and construction of two-movers. The price by subscription will be 2s. 6d.

When we see the name of a lady on the list of competitors for prizes in the late Counties' Association, and now learn that a work on chess problems and their construction is about to make its appearance by another member of the fair sex, we cannot in any way feel astonished at the rapid advance made by chess in the old country within the last few years.

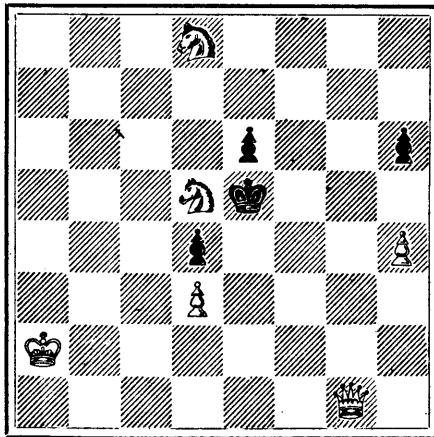
JUDD AND THE AMATEURS AT ST. LOUIS.

The interest in the foregoing match is not abating in the least, but is steadily increasing, which fact is probably due to the splendid score of the amateurs. On the 9th Mr. Judd contested his third game with Mr. Murphy and won it; on the 10th he played his third game with Mr. Haller and also won that, but on last Thursday evening he was not so successful with Messrs. Robbins and Koerper, both of whom scored the games in their favor. These four games make the score stand as follows: Judd 7½; amateurs 1½. The amateurs have to win only 2½ games more in order to win the match. This they can surely do, as Mr. "Orrick," a very strong player, has yet to play all of his three games, and Messrs. Bird, Merrill and Robbins have each to play one game and Mr. Koerper two. If the St. Louis chess-players ever intend to become more than mere knight players, it is indeed, about time that they should be proving it. We look with eagerness for the result. Mr. Hooker's and Mr. Haller's games are published to-day.—Globe-Democrat.

PROBLEM No. 401. (From "Chess Gems.")

By A. TOWNSEND.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 399.

- White. Black. 1. R to K Kt 3. 1. Any. 2. Mates acc.

GAME 528TH.

CHESS IN MANCHESTER.

Played in the second-class tourney of the Counties' Chess Association at Manchester, August 2, 1882.

(Scotch Gambit.)

WHITE.—(Miss Thorold.) BLACK.—(Mr. Harris.)

- 1 P to K 4. 2 P to K 4. 2 Kt to K B 3. 2 Kt to Q B 3. 3 P to Q 4. 3 P takes P. 4 Kt takes P. 4 B to Q B 4. 5 B to K 3. 5 Q to K B 3. 6 P to Q B 3. 6 K Kt to K 2. 7 B to Q B 4. 7 P to Q 3.

\* Q to K Kt 3 is the proper move here.

8 Castles. 8 P to Q R 3. 9 K to R sq. 9 Castles. 10 P to K B 4. 10 B to Q Kt 3. 11 Q to Q 3. 11 B to K 3. 12 Kt to Q 2. 12 Q R to Q sq.

Had Black now played Kt to R 4 he could at least have exchanged off the adverse K B, which threatens to become very troublesome.

13 B to Q Kt 3. 13 P to K R 3.

\* Better to have exchanged Bishops.

- 14 B to Q B 2. 14 Kt takes Kt. 15 P takes Kt. 15 B to Q 2. 16 P to Q R 4. 16 P to Q 4. 17 R to K B 3. 17 P to Q B 4.

This loses a Pawn.

- 18 P to K 5. 18 Q to K B 4. 19 Q to Q Kt 3. 19 Q to K 3. 20 P takes P. 20 B to Q R 4. 21 Q R to Q sq. 21 P to K B 3.

Black might have ventured to play P to Q 5.

- 22 B to Q 4. 22 P to K B 4. 23 Kt to K B sq. 23 B to Q B 3. 24 R to K R 3. 24 R to K B 2. 25 Kt to K Kt 3. 25 Q to K Kt 3. 26 Q to K 3. 26 B to Q 2.

- 27 Kt to K R 5. 27 B to K 3. 28 Q to K B 3. 28 Q to R 2. 29 R to K Kt 3. 29 Kt to Kt 3. 30 R to R 3. 30 Q R to K B sq. 31 B to Q Kt 3. 31 R to Q 2. 32 B to K 3. 32 Kt to K 2.

\* This loses the game.

33 R to Kt 3. 33 K to R sq. 34 R takes Kt P. 34 Q takes R. 35 Kt takes Q. 35 K takes Kt.

White has played throughout with great care and judgment.

- 36 B to Q B 2. 36 R to K Kt sq. 37 R to K Kt sq. 37 P to Q 5. 38 B to K B 2. 38 Kt to Kt 3. 39 P to R 4. 39 B to Q 7. 40 B to K Kt 3. 40 B to K 6. 41 R to K B sq. 41 B to Q 4. 42 Q to R 5. 42 B to K 5. 43 B takes B. 43 P takes B. 44 P to K B 5. 44 Kt to K B sq. 45 P to K 6. 45 R to Q 4. 46 P to B 6 ch. Resigns.

EXPOSING spiritualism has invariably proved a profitable business for those who venture upon this form of amusing the public. However successful they may be, there has never yet been a decline in the popular belief of spiritualism following the numerous exposures of the tricks played off at spiritualistic seances. St. James's Hall has just been secured by Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin from America for their clever and amusing entertainment, the object of which is to prove that modern spiritualism is a very considerable imposture. At a private "rehearsal," given at the end of the week, Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin's capabilities for the task they have set themselves were well proved. An inexhaustible flow of broad Yankee humor enlivens the proceedings, which are in themselves both novel and interesting. At the private entertainment referred to there was a large attendance of clergymen, who had evidently been "got at" for the occasion. It was irresistibly comic to hear the principal performers cracking jokes at the expense of his patrons. Here is a sample of his method of addressing the gentlemen of the cloth: "Now, if any of you read your Bibles, and I don't suppose any of you do!" There being some difficulty experienced in getting a committee of inspection to investigate the experiments, and to see that these were done without the aid of trapdoors, &c., Mr. Baldwin, with the utmost gravity, remarked that in America he could get any number of committeemen by offering "to stand drinks."

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