MY WIFE.

BY FREDBRICK LOCKER.

My little wife is out beyond the burn, I see her parasol behind the fir, And here am I inditing verse to her Ere she return.

That pretty bird is happy there conceal'd,
This fragrant chamber smiles a peaceful smile—
What joy to sing the joys of home—the while
My Joy's afield!

My spouse is mild—she's meek as any nun. And yet her spiritual calm is such..... Somehow one's always feeling she is much Too good for one.

She thinks I'm wise and handsome—'tis her creed. I wouder am I either! On my word, Sometimes I've wonder'd "an my bonnie bird " Thinks so indeed:

Perhaps! for she my homage ne'er repels; Perhaps I might have loved her half a lite, Perhaps—had she but been the little wife Of some one else.

But why should I complain of cross or cares?

While entertaining her (who won't complain)
It may be I an angel entertain— And unawares

FROM OTTAWA.

The proceedings in the house during the past few days may be characterized as dull, flat, stale and unprofitable. The leader of the Opposition has been absent for several days, and his Lieutenaut De Transfer tenant, Dr. Tupper, has been in command. There seems to be a looseness of discipline, and a want of subordination in the Conservative ranks, which bodes ill for the future.

The Doctor had a slight skirmish with the Premier on the question of a return, relative to the Montreal Harbour Commissioners' works at Sorel, which ended in the member for Cumberland being several times called to order. The pugnacious Doctor is like those spirits of the vasty deep—he is frequently being called, but does not seem disposed to come—to order.

Mr. Dymond's Bill, providing that persons charged with common assaults should be competent to give evidence on their own behalf, passed its second reading and was referred to a passed its second reading and was referred to a Select Committee. It is a tentative measure, and, if it works successfully, will probably be followed by more sweeping innovations.

Mr. Rymal, who occupies the distinguished position of Parliamentary jester, brought down the House the other night by going for Mr. Dalton McCarthy in a very lively fashion.

The present member for Cardwell is rather a

The present member for Cardwell is rather a pet of his party, who are fond of referring to him as a worthy successor of the late Hillyard

Referring to this, the facetious Mr. Rymal re marked that he understood that the mantle of the late member for Cardwell had fallen on the shoulders of Mr. McCarthy, and he felt con-strained to say that he considered the said mantle a remarkably bad fit and very much too large. He was further of opinion that the only resemblance between the late and the present member for Cardwell was such as might exist between a singed cat and a Bengal tiger! The House, of course, went into firs over this piece of delicate banter.

I am given to understand that the talented and respected Mr. Cool Burgess has acquired a fair competence in the exercise of his profession.
As I believe this gentleman is a Canadian, it is quite in the nature of things that he may one day come to Ottawa as the representative of one of our enlightened constituencies, in which case he ought, by virtue of his professional talents, to take a prominent position in the House.

Some years ago the late Hon. Joseph Howe gave a lecture to the young men of Ottawa, in gave a lecture to the young men of Ottawa, in which he referred to the advantages they possessed in being able to attend the debates in Parliament, with the view of acquiring a logical and polished style of oratory. Were the hon, gentleman to "revisit the glimpses of the moon," he would hardly be like y again to advise the he would hardly be like y again to advise the rising generation of Ottawa "thence to those famous orators repair."

There have been several abortive attempts on the part of the members to "grab" a portion of the iron rails belonging to the Government for the use of the minor local railroads in which they happen to be specially interested. The Premier has however been so far proof against their blandishments.

Mr. Campbell, in moving for papers and correspondence in connection with the removal of the Custom House from New Campbellton, described in the most touching terms the inconvenience suffered by his constituents in consequence of such removal. The hon, gentleman was really so pathetic in his description of the sufferings of those ill-used Nova Scotians that I was quite moved, and felt correspondingly indignant with the unprincipled Minister of Customs who had caused all this anguish. I was therefore rether taken aback when the hon. Mr. Burpee rose and said that he had made enquiries at the Department and had also telegraphed to the Collector,

and no removal had taken place. Mr. Campbell said he had correspondence which showed that the removal had taken place, but, being marked "private," he could not use it! The House, of course, laughed consumedly over this little episode, but how about the public, over this little episode, but now about the public, who must have either an incompetent Minister or an untruthful representative? Alas! poor public! I must, however, remark, in justice to the hon, member who brought forward the that the sufferings of the residents of New

Campbellton have not their origin altogether in the fertile imagination of their representative.

I was much impressed with the little debate which occurred on Mr. Christie's motion relative to Calballa have a constant to the control of the control of their christie's motion relative. to Sabbath observance on our Pacific works. As I listened to the beautiful and pious sentiments expressed by some of those hon, members who took part in the discussion, I was penetrated with remorse, when I reflected that I had hitherto regarded those gentlemen as persons of-well, to put it mildly-not Puritanic proclivities. sincerely trust they will forgive me. "Mercy," s. id Mr. Pecksniff, "remind me when I take my chamber candlestick to-night to pray for Mr. Anthony Chuzzlewit, who has done me an injustice."

stice." May they do likewise. Our political quidnuncs have been in a state of great excitement over the recent dismissal, or resignation, of the DeBoucherville Administration in Quebec. The editor of our leading Conservative organ has lost several pounds in weight during the past few days, owing to the waste of tissue consequent upon the state of intense virtuous indignation into which he has been lashed, while writing his eloquent articles upon this un-

paralleled outrage.

Mr. Bunster, who is nothing, if not eccentric, brought forward his motion advocating biennial Parliaments. He was of opinion that there w s a great deal too much legislation going on in Canada, and that the country would get along much better and save a good deal of money, if Parliament met only once in two years, instead of every year, as at present. It having been my unhappy fate to listen to the balderdash uttered by hon, members during the past week on the Budget question, I am half inclined to agree with the member for Cariboo.

ARGUS.

HEARTH AND HOME.

Words of Wisdom .- We can gain the greatest victories over ourselves. What wits we should be if we only uttered the bright things we think of when the occasion has passed! A good constitution is like a savings-box -its value is not known until it is broken. Memory is strengthened by exercise, and life by remembrances. Never mind any other dowry if you have industry and economy. It is sad but true that we can silence our consciences easier than our desires. Mental pleasures do not cloy. Jealousy is no more than awkward homage. We can pardon, but can we forget? What a catalogue of social virtues a man requires to make him generally beloved!

Losing Friends .- Never cast aside your friends if by any possibility you can retain them. We are the weakest of spendthrifts if we let one friend drop off through inattention, or let one push away another, or if we hold aloof from one for petty jealousy or heedless slight or roughness. Would you throw away a diamond because it pricked you? One good friend is not to be weighed against the jewels of all the earth. It there is coolness or unkindness between us, let us come face to face and have it out. Quick, before the love grows cold! Life is too short to quarrel in, or to carry black thoughts of friends. It is easy to lose a friend, but a new one will not come for calling, nor make up for the old one when he

A MISTAKE OFTEN MADE. - Boys and young men sometimes start out in life with the idea that one's success depends on sharpness and chicanery. They imagine if a man is able always to "get the best of a bargain," no matter by what deceit and meanness he carries his point, by what deceit and meanness ne carries his point, that his prosperity is assured. This is a grand mistake. Enduring prosperity cannot be founded on cunning and dishonesty. The tricky and deceitful man is sure to fall a victim, sooner or later, to the influences which are for ever work ing against him. His house is built upon the sand, and its foundation will be certain to give way. Young people cannot give these truths too much weight. The future of that young man is safe who eschews every phase of double-dealing, and lays the foundation of his career in the enduring principles of everlasting truth.

REFINEMENT. -- Refinement is not fastidious ness. It is not luxury. It is nothing of this kind. It is far removed from excess or waste. A person truly refined will not squander or need-lessly consume anything. Refinement, on the contrary, is always allied to simplicity and a judicious and tasteful employment of the means of good and happiness which it has at com-mand. It seeks to divest itself of superfluities, and aspires continually to the utwert residuaand aspires continually to the utmost possible purity. Refinement leads to personal cleanliness and elegant neatness, good taste and simplicity in dress. "Loudness" or flashiness is repugnant to its spirit. In its home and surroundings -whether palatial, affinent, or humble-the natural grace are maintainame chast ed. The abode of genuine refinement and a mere pretender to it are very different.

ENCOURAGEMENT. - Whenever you can concientiously encourage any one, do so. would not leave those plants in your windowboxes without water, nor refuse to open the shut-ters that the sunlight might fall upon them; but you leave some human flower to suffer from want of appreciation or the sunlight of encouragement. There are a few hardy souls that can struggle along on stony soil—shrubs that can wait for the dew and the sunbeams—vines that will climb without kindly training—but only a motion, that the Minister of Customs is not by any means famous for his knowledge of the details of his Department, and it may yet turn out

no one knows" blights many a bud of promise Whether it be the young artist at his easel, the young preacher in his pulpit, the workman at his bench, the boy at his mathematical problems, or your little girl at her piano, give what praise you can, for many a one has fallen by the way for the want of that word of encouragement which would have "stablished their feet."

A CLASS TO BE PITIED.—We are all familiar with that type of people known as the shabbygenteel—people who cannot bear to be thought poor. They must live like their neighbours, although these neighbours may be twice or three times as rich as themselves. They imitate the dress of people who are far above them in the social scale. Worse than that, they even imitate their follies and extravagances. They copy the entertainments of the wealthy, and adjust their dinner-parties and evening receptions to the same scale, however much they may pinch and squeeze at the family fireside. Fancy Mis-tress Sham's expression when she personally superintends gathering up the fragments of a feast and dooms an unhappy, discontented household to scanty dinners for a month! A heavy price for one evening's amusement, truly. And what is gained by such extravagance? Nobody thinks better of a man who notoriously lives beyond his means. The frog cannot try and puff himself out to the dimensions of the ox without danger of bursting. Surely it is the very irony of life when a man struggles to assume or keep up a position which his means cannot afford. He is running a reach which will too surely lead to ruin.

UTILIZE THE WIND .- As we cannot all have what we want in the way of music, perhaps the following information how to make the most of what all can get may be acceptable:—Double, twist and wax strong silk thread; tie a knot on each end; make two little wedges of soft wood, with the little end split up a quarter of an inch, and put one one all orders. and put one on each end of the thread, the knot and put one on each end of the thread, the know keeping it from slipping through. Now stretch it as tightly as possible between the sashes of a window where the wind will play upon it; fasten firmly with the wedges, and your room will be filled with music soft and sweet, so full of change-ful harmony, you will almost fancy it the music of angel voices, and listening to it will beguile many an hour of pain and weariness. By making the string coarser or finer different tones will be produced, but all full of rest and sweet-

Spurgeon and the Shoemaker.-It is said of Spurgeon that in his pointed way he cried out from the pulpit, "There's a shoemaker.

Last Sunday he sold shoes that amounted to Last Sunday he sold shoes that amounted to ninepence, and there was fourpence profit on it." In the audience there was a shoemaker who had done that very thing. The mystery bothered him all the week, so on next Sunday he had his girl open the shop while he went to church. "Ah, sinner," Spurgeon began, "sinning by proxy is just as bad as though you sinned yourself. It's no use for you to come here yourself It's no use for you to come here yourself and leave your daughter to keep shop, shoemaker was dumbfounded. It see shoemaker was dumbfounded. It set him thinking, and he was converted. Spurgeon hearing of the circumstances, said he believed the Holy Spirit inspired by the Holy Spirit inspired his words.

WHY ADVERTISE?

People sometimes ask why does Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N.Y., spend so much money in advertising his family medicines, which are in advertising his family medicines, which are so well known and surpass all other remedies in popularity and sale. It is well known that A. T. Stewart considered it good policy, and undoubtedly it paid him, to spend many hundred thousand dollars in advertising his goods, yet nobody questioned the excellence of his merabondies. The ground agent of comparison chandise. The grand secret of success lies in offering only goods which possess merit to sustain themselves, and then through liberal and persistent advertising, making the people thoroughly acquainted with their good qualities. Men do not succeed in amassing great fortunes, establishing thriving and permanent business, and founding substantial institutions like Dr. Pierce's Grand Invalids' Hotel at Buffalo, which cost over two hundred thousand dollars, unless their business be legitimate, their goods meritorious, and the services which they render the people genuine and valuable. Dr. Pierce does not attempt to humbug you by telling you that his Golden Medical Discovery will cure all discovery with the state of eases. He says, "if your lungs are half wasted by consumption, my Discovery will not cure you, yet as a remedy for severe coughs, and all curable bronchial, throat, and lung affections, I believe it to be unsurpassed as a remedy." The people have confidence in his medicines because he does not over-recommend them, and when tried they not over-recommend them, and when they they give satisfaction. His Medical Adviser, a book of over nine hundred pages, illustrated by two hundred and eighty-two engravings and bound hundred and eighty-two engravings and bound in cloth and gilt, is offered to the people at so moderate a price (\$1.50, post-paid), that it is no wonder that almost one hundred thousand have already been sold. His memorandum books are on every druggist's counter for free distribution.

NOTICE TO LADIES.

The undersigned begs respectfully to inform the Ladies of the city and country that they will find at his Retail Store, 196 St. Lawrence Main Street, the choicest assortment of Ostrich and Vulture Feathers, of all shades; also, Feathers of all descriptions Repaired with the greatest care. Feathers Dyed as per sample, on shortest delay. Gloves Cleaned and Dyed Black only. J. H. LEBLANC. Works: 547 Craig St. Jackson, Esq. and Dr.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

PSolutions to Problems sent in hy Correspondents will be duly acknowledged.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Letter received. Much obliged. Solution of Problem No. 168 received. Correct. Student, Montreal.—Solution of Problem No. 164 received. Correct.

J. S. St. Andrews, Manitoba.—Correct solution of Problem No. 169 received.

M.J.M., Quebec — Correct solution of Problem No. 162 received.

Amateur, Montreal.—We will endeavour to answer our query in our next column.

C. B. Montreal.—Your solution is not correct. Try

J. H., Montreal.—Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 161 received. Correct.

G. B. S., Arkona, Ont.—Solution of Problem No. 161 received. Correct.

THE INTERNATIONAL CHESS MATCH.

(From the Glasgow Evening News, Feb. 14, 1878.)

(From the Glasgow Erening News, Feb. 14, 1878.)

"We have the pleasure to inform our readers that, on the 5th inst. we received a copy of a game in which one of the British team had a decided winning advantage—no less than the gaining of his opponent's Queen; the pleasure was increased by receiving seven days afterwards a copy of another game, in which the British player has announced mate in six mores.

"We refrain from publishing the games this week, because a proposal for a prize is under consideration."

"Let no man say that Chess is an ignoble subject. It is, if properly considered, as recondite a science as mathematics.

"Kings, conquerors and sages have not thought it bene (it them to) onder over the chequered board; and it may be that the noble game has contributed, in no slight degree, to the success of their most triumphant efforts."

—Blackwood's Magazine.

We learn from a recent issue of Land and Water that in the match between Mr. E. Thorold and Miss Rudge, at the odds of & Knight, two more games have been played, in both of which the lady was unfortunate. The score, as it now stands, gives Mr. Thorold eight, Miss Rudge eight, and no draws. Eleven g: mes won by either side gain the victory, and, consequently, the contest is exciting considerable interest. It is noticed as remarkable that, in the match, sixteen games should have been played without a single draw.

In spe sking of this, we are reminded that, in a match foug it lately by two rival Clubs in the south of England, we were glad to find a lady amateur. Mrs. Whitemarsh, contesting with players of the other sex for Chesshonours. May many more follow her example on both sides of the Atlantie! Altogether a fair number of the gentle sex are now gaining renown in Chess and gathering laurels which heretofore were looked upon as not in any respect likely to excite their ambition.

There appeared in the Hartford (Conn) Times, very recently, a problem by G. Reichhelm, to be solved in ninety-two mores. We recollect noticing some years ago a position by the celebrated Labourdonnais, which required eighty-one for solution. It is generally admitted that there are enthusiastic Chess Problem solvers, who are willing to d-vote considerable time in trying to crack hard nuts of this nature, but we think that there are few who would undertake the task of solving either of the two to which we have just called attention. Three-move problems are long enough for ordinary Chessists, and difficult two movers are always acceptable.

The subjoined Problem is an interesting position which occurred recently in a game between Dr. I. Ryall and Mr. J. Henderson. White (Mr. Henderson) having the move, gave mate in four moves.

PROBLEM No. 165.

W L W À 闔 WHITE

White to play and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN CANADA.

GAME 245TH.

A lively skirmish played at the Montreal Chess Club ecently between Messrs, J. Barry and Saunders.

WHITE-(Mr. Saunders.) BLACK--(Mr. Barry.,

1. P to K 4
2. Q Kt to B 3
3. K B to B 4
4. P takes P
5. B to Kt 3
6. Q Kt to K 2
7. Kt to K B 3
8. Castles
9. P to Q 3
10. B takes B
11. Kt to K K 3
12. Kt to K 4
13. P to K R 3
14. Q Kt to K Kt 5
15. B takes Kt
16. P to Q B 3
40. Q to Q Kt 7
19. Q to Q Kt 3
19. P takes Q P
21. B to R 4
22. B takes P
23. Kt takes P
24. P takes K P
25. Q to Q Kt 7
26. O with the Company of BLACK--(Mr. Barry.) 1. P to K 4
2. K Kt to B 3
3. P to Q B 3
4. P to Q 4
5. P takes P
6. P to Q 5
7. Kt to K 5
8. K B to Q 3 . KB to Q3 . QB to K3 . KKt to QB4 . Kt takes B 12. Castles
13. B to Q B 2
14. P to K B 4 Kt takes Kt Q to K sq P to K B 5 18. R to B 2 19. Kt to Q B 3 20. K to R sq 21. P to K R 3 22. P to K Kt 4 23. P takes B 24. K R to B 3

25. Q to Q Kt 7 26. Q mates 26. B takes P (a) (a) A slip which loses the game at once.

GAME 246TH.