

clearness which will render the poem a valuable contribution to Chess Literature. Here is the description of White's Casting on the fourth move, which seems remarkably happy and well-turned in every sense:—

"Inspired of goblin say from whence the dread?
Defiant once, why seek thy royal head
Anon to shelter 'neath thy Castle's walls?
Ignoble flight, at fourth, white crown entrails."

Black's 9th move, B to K 3, attacking White's B on B 4, is thus rendered with ease and elegance:—

"Then dusky Bishop restless for the fray,—
As swift as eagle when it sights its prey—
To monarch's third, his equal to confront,
To challenge e'en as oft it is his wont;
And yet the taunt, and yet th' insidious art,
E'en fail t' incite the foe."

The close of the game is neatly rendered in the following lines:—

"White King aghast, beholds with deep dismay,
The deathful menace and his troops at bay;
Close on his rear the dusky cohorts loom,
As phantoms flitting through the awful gloom:
A captive now within his wing confined,
Rage and despair alternate in his mind,
Exploring ev'ry file he seeks in vain,
How best his subjects may sustain his reign:
But futile all his fervid hopes of life;
Unable longer to maintain the strife,
Submits with calm to th' unpropitious fates,
And to the sable King capitulates."

The close of the Tourney also gives occasion for some neat and expressive couplets:—

"No more the winged missives speed their flight,
To urge the foe or wake the ling'ring fight:
And Kings in wanton strife no longer vie,
Nor in their monarch's cause the subjects die;

* * * * *
"Two circling stars—and mimic battles fought,
Five score and five—to warriors oft brought,
Reverse in battle due to foeman's might:—
And bonds of friendship now their loss requite."

The winner of the Tourney, Mr. John Henderson, is also celebrated, in what seems rather a small meed of praise, only four lines, the first of which seems to jolt along instead of flowing, but perhaps Mr. Henderson himself is partly accountable for this:—

"To HENDERSON, skilled in war's mimic art,
Let friends their praises, and Chief the prize impart:
To him the Tourney's Cup, the victor's meed,
The just reward his vanquished foes concede."

The poem closes with a well turned eulogium of Mr. Shaw for his exertions during the Tourney:

Mr. Murphy's poem is decidedly clever, the conception ingenious, and the similes well carried out. A few of the lines might have been somewhat polished and the punctuation improved, but the poem will stand as a most praiseworthy production, and redound to Mr. Murphy's poetic talent. Mr. Shaw ought to be proud of such a tribute to himself and the Dominion Chess Correspondence Tourney.—[CH. ED. CAN. SPEC.]

ENGLISH FRUITS IN CANADA.

That Canada is not altogether the huge iceberg many people erroneously imagine the country to be, is proved, among other things, by the earliness and excellence of the various European fruits which are grown there. As a matter of fact, a much larger variety of fruits will grow in perfection in the open air in a given area in Canada than in a similar area in England. At the beginning of July gooseberries were selling at Montreal at the rate of 60 cents (2s. 6d.) per gallon, while red and black currants could be had, freshly gathered, for 40 cents (1s 8d.) per gallon. As an instance of the earliness at which even more delicate fruits than these ripen, we may quote an advertisement which appeared in a Toronto paper of the second week in April, to the effect that the "first strawberry picnic" of the season would take place on the 14th of that month. But gooseberries and strawberries are not the only fruits which Canada can produce in abundance. The more delicate stone fruits and grapes are grown in many districts, and if the cost of transport could be reduced within reasonable limits, these fruits, packed in refrigerators, or otherwise preserved, would form a welcome addition to the scanty native supply of sun-forsaken England.—*The Colonies and India.*

ADVANCE IN COAL.

It is rumored that negotiations are pending between the large coal companies to so limit the coal supply that prices can be advanced twenty cents per ton in September. In plain English, these huge corporations are to levy an additional tax upon every householder and industry in the land. Not satisfied with advancing the price within a year nearly 100 per cent., they propose to put an additional burden upon the people. Well, let them do it. This, perhaps, will be the shortest way out of the clutches of such grasping monopolies. It is the "last straw that breaks the camel's back;" this additional advance may be the last burden imposed in this direction. The inside history of the great coal corporations since the panic of 1873 has yet to be written. This new move may pioneer the way to its revelation. When made public, perhaps some men that now pose as saints may be found vilest frauds. One thing is certain, the public will not be patiently squeezed to pay tribute to corporations which long ago should have adjusted their capital to the new order of values since the panic. Forcing coal above five dollars per ton for the sake of paying a dividend on capital not worth half its value if properly estimated, is not a healthy process. The weak places will be sooner or later exposed. Already one corporation is before the courts with no very fragrant odor.

In the facts brought to light through judicial inquiry the coal combination plays the role of the big fish, eating up all the little ones. This combination issues its edicts with all the authority of the old Romans, and they must be obeyed. It matters not whether industries are by the order retarded, the poor suffer, or the public fleeced, the pound of flesh they must have to pay dividends on capital not justly represented. Go on, Mr. Presidents and Receivers of the coal companies; issue your orders for higher prices. Stop the supply, if necessary, to force the market. Make the public face the music—they are a patient body—but for all this the day of reckoning will surely come. The things now hidden will be revealed, and when that time comes, to some men the handwriting will appear on the wall.—*U. S. Economist.*

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