

THE MONTREAL SNOW SHOE CLUB.

5TH FEBRUARY 1859—TWENTY YEARS AFTER—A WICKED STORM—ANNALS OF THE CLUB—THE NEW ROCKAWAY.

On the 5th of February, 1859, a number of the members of the celebrated "Tuque Bleue Club" went to St. Hilaire at the invitation of Mr. Comte, the then proprietor of what is now termed the Iroquois House.

The former race we will give an account of as it has been narrated to us by some of those who were present or took part in both races; the latter we are happy to be able to describe from personal experience.

Among those who ran or were present in 1859 were Messrs. Romeo Stepiens, Col. Ermatinger, G. Lamotte, our present postmaster, Arthur Lamotte, his brother, Col. de Salaberry, the "evening" N. Hughes, W. H. Rintoul, Thos. Cross, Thos. Coffin, Dr. McCard, brother of David McCard, Esq., Dowd, Samuel Macaulay and others.

The present members of the Club are "chips of the old blocks" and all things considered, they accomplished on the 25th ult. a greater feat than the "oldsters," if we may call them so.

Without further ado, let us plunge *à medias*. In town, heavy snow has been falling for two days, and the snow and ice as to the race coming off at all are freely discussed, but as Mr. Angus Grant, the President, tells Mr. Campbell on arriving at St. Hilaire Station, "If it had been ten times worse we would have come, for when the Tuque Bleue boys undertake a thing they always carry it out."

Bravo! But we are anticipating. At last all are at the Station; friends come to see the boys off and kindly prophesy that they will be buried in the snow, that the train will be stuck for a week, but that they will come and dig them out and so forth.

All aboard! The panes are frozen and nothing can be seen of the country through which we are passing and yet we console ourselves with the thought that "things" will look better in the country. "Things" is a very vague word, yet it is a straw to catch at.

Groups are formed, snow shoes spread out on our knees and quiet little rubbers are indulged in, i. e. as quiet as they can be whilst a dozen good voices are going through a whole repertoire of comic songs. That pest of railroad carriages, the orange-peanut-pize-package-cheap literature-boy is unheeded; he has soon to beat a hasty retreat.

Then begin discussions about the probable winners of the race; Starke of course is the favourite; then the eternal "dark horse" is spoken of. All goes on merrily till St. Bruno, where there is a stoppage and for a time the prophecies of our kind town friends seem likely to be verified.

"turned turtle;" Major MacDougall's head appears sticking out through the window. The boys pass us and we see no more of the race. Suffice it to say that after a few more spills we reach the Iroquois House, and there we get all matter of valuable information.

A publication that will interest the members of the Club and more especially their lady friends, is the new rockaway just brought out by that enterprising publisher Mr. Prince. The need of it had been felt a long time as there was no other in existence, except the one published years ago in Toronto.

The Treasurer of the Montreal Snow Shoe Club is about to put forth a neat little volume containing the history of the Club from its inception down to the present day.

VARIETIES.

AN INSPIRED ORATOR.—On a certain occasion S. S. Prentiss visited Boston and addressed its citizens in Faneuil Hall. A gentleman who heard him, then a venerable judge, told this anecdote, which illustrates the orator's power. Unable to procure a seat, he stood jammed by the crowd.

A JOURNALIST.—Picture yourselves seated at your desk from seven till long after midnight every evening, lumps of ice and wet towels on your head. On your right hand a large bucket of ink, on your left huge dictionaries of all the living and dead languages, in front of you maps of all the countries in the world, and reams and reams of paper under your nose waiting to be filled.

COMMON SENSE.—If only this much-talked-of and to-be-praised gift could be widely diffused among us, how vastly different would be our lives, and how much less conventional we should become! If we had each one of us but the moral

courage to take from its hiding-place the common sense with which we are more or less provided, to cultivate it by constant use, and to act solely on its dictates, what a very different world this would speedily become!

RICHNESS BOTH WAYS.—He had been sitting still so long that the mother expected to find him asleep, when she looked around and asked, "Well, Harry, what are you thinking of?"

RED-HEADED GIRLS.—An exchange pauses to remark between items: "Why there should be a prejudice against red-headed girls, is not wholly apparent; but there is no want of evidence that there is such a prejudice.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

Solutions to Problems sent in by Correspondent will be duly acknowledged.

TO CORRESPONDENTS. J. W. S. Montreal.—Letters &c. received. Many thanks. Student, Montreal.—Correct solution of Problem No. 212 received.

THE FOLLOWING EXTRACT FROM THE TORONTO GLOBE, AND ALSO, ANOTHER FROM THE SAME SOURCE, WHICH WE INSERT THIS WEEK IN OUR COLUMN, WILL SHOW THAT CHESS IS RECEIVING THE ATTENTION IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

TELEGRAPH MATCH. Toronto vs. Ottawa.

Play was commenced on Wednesday evening over the wires of the Montreal Telegraph Co., kindly granted by Mr. Dwight, the courteous Superintendent of the line.

INTERNATIONAL TOURNEY. GAME 10TH. An International Tourney game between the Rev. J. T. C. Chatto, Cambridge, England, and Mr. F. E. Brunsfinger, of New York.

The Ottawa Club, we are informed, has been recently reorganized, and is at present in a flourishing condition.

We are informed that a game of chess, with living chessmen in costume, will shortly be played in Holyoke, Mass. We also learn that a similar game, gotten up by the graduating class of the Red Bank (N.J.) Graded School, under the direction of Prof. Jacobs and Dr. Kimball, was played at that place on the 6th inst.

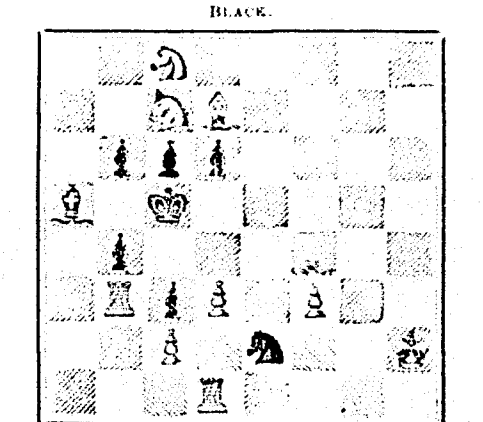
In accordance with the announcement previously made by us, Mr. Blackburn's metropolitan blindfold performance will take place this day week at Moutet's Hotel, Newgate street, play to commence at 5 p.m.

A contest of an unusually interesting character has been commenced between two members of the College Chess Club, viz. the Misses F. and H. Down, who ever wins the first five games to be the victress.

A game of chess was played January 21st, by telegraph, between the Chess Clubs of Bradford and Woodstock. After a close battle of four hours' duration, the game resulted in a draw.

The Rev. A. Cyril Peatson announces that towards the end of January he will publish a book containing 100 of his problems. The price is to be 2s. 6d.

PROBLEM No. 217. By J. N. Babbalanja.



WHITE. White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME 10TH.

Played recently by Telegraph between Mr. J. White, of Ottawa, and Mr. G. L. Maddison, of Toronto.

OTTAWA vs. TORONTO. WHITE—(Mr. White); BLACK—(Mr. Maddison, (Allgaier Gambit).

- 1. P to K 4. 1. P to K 4. 2. P to K B 4. 2. P takes P. 3. K Kt to B 3. 3. P to K R 4. 4. P to K R 4. 4. P to K R 4. 5. Kt to K 5. 5. P to K R 4. 6. B to Q B 4. 6. Kt to K R 3. 7. P to Q 1. 7. P to Q 1. 8. Q takes P. 8. Q Kt to B 3. 9. P to Q B 3. 9. Q Kt to B 4. 10. B to Q 3. 10. P to K R 3. 11. P to K 5. 11. P takes Kt. 12. P takes Kt P. 12. Kt to K B 2. 13. P to Kt 6. 13. Kt to K R 4. 14. Q to K 2. 14. Q to K 2. 15. Castle (e). 15. B to K 7 (d). 16. P takes Q P. 16. P takes P. 17. Q takes Kt. 17. Q takes B. 18. Q takes B (e). 18. Q to K 2. 19. Q takes Q (e). 19. B takes Q. 20. P to Q 5 (e). 20. Q R to B sq. 21. Kt to Q 2. 21. P to Q Kt 3. 22. R to K B 7. 22. Kt to K 2. 23. B to Q Kt 5 (e). 23. Kt to Q 4. 24. Q to K B sq. 24. Kt to Q B 4. 25. P to K Kt 7. 25. R to K R sq. 26. Q R to K B 5. 26. P to K R 3. 27. B to Q B 6. 27. Kt to Q 2. 28. R takes R P. 28. Kt to B 3. 29. R to R 8. 29. P to Q B 4 (f). 30. R takes Kt (e). 30. K to Q B 2. 31. R takes B. 31. R takes R. 32. R to B 7. 32. Resigns.

NOTES. (a) P to R 3 is considered by the authorities as the best move at this point. (b) The right move, and the one that controls nearly the whole of the rest of the game. (c) The position now is very interesting. (d) A weak move on the part of Black, of which his opponent immediately takes advantage very effectively. (e) A very useful move, as the position of Black's Knight will easily demonstrate. (f) Black here has hardly any better move. (g) And the struggle is over. The attack from the beginning has been vigorously maintained by White.