

EVENTIDE.

One by one the days are swiftly gliding
Backward in their noiseless, ceaseless flight;
One by one the years are ever hiding
In the past, from all save memory's sight.

Often, in the twilight of the even,
Dreamily we sit and gaze afar,
Ere for us the distant dome of heaven
Hath been gilded by a radiant star.

And in childlike mood we watch, and wonder
If yon gorgeous, outstretched veil of blue
Were but lifted up, or rent asunder,
What new glories mortal eye could view.

Yet, as tremblingly we near time's curtain,
None who might would draw aside the folds
Which conceal from us the dim uncertain
Vision that the future always holds.

WINTER LIFE BY THE SEA.

Fashion, which is generally disposed to take a pessimist view of any but a winter town life, has within a recent period developed a taste for a winter sojourn at bleak watering places by the sea.

The unwonted appearance of these tender plants of society at this inclement season is a mystery which the long-horizon cannot solve. To him, the winter he ever so well prepared to encounter its vicissitudes, is a season to the approach of which he looks forward with dread.

In nothing is our servile copy of foreign models more grotesque than in the adoption of this fashion of a winter sojourn on our exposed Northern coast. The climate conditions which have given rise to this custom among the English are so entirely different from those which exist with us as to emphasize the absurdity of our imitation.

There is a winter life by the sea, even very far North, which, under certain conditions, is very agreeable and full of interest. Its charms consists in its wildness and isolation, doubly enhanced where one is beyond the reach of the sound of the locomotive or the tug.

grotesques phases of human nature, and witness a play of the elements unknown to inland dwellers and residents of thickly inhabited towns and cities. While these are buried in sleep in close furnace-heated houses on a December morning, the bay gunner is astir long before the drawn of day.

Another interest in this sort of life is found in watching the varying phases of winter gales, and in studying the movement of the barometer incidental thereto. Only those who have had an extensive local experience of the same can appreciate the destructive power they develop, as they sweep from the sea unopposed across the plain, shaking to the centre any prominent object in their path.

When these bays are frozen, and free from snow, ice boats for all practical purposes usurp the functions of the ordinary vessel. They lack carrying capacity, but this is supplemented under favorable conditions—in light winds—by boats placed on runners, and towed astern.

Of all who reside on the coast during the winter, probably the country doctor has the widest

experience of its hardships and vicissitudes. His circuit is an extensive one. Often he is obliged to face wintry gales on the narrow stretch of beach separating the bay from the sea. Some old whaler, ten miles distant, who has encountered every possible form of disaster, and braved death in a hundred ways, finds himself during the night prostrated with the colic.

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

A NEW weekly journal is to appear in February, entitled Lind.

The brochure in French which has appeared London under the title, M. Gambetta et le régime parlementaire, is attributed to the Duc d'Aumale.

It is stated on good authority that the appointment originally intended of Lord Dufferin to be Viceroy of India will be made in the spring, on the Marquis of Ripon resigning, on account of the late climatic stroke to his health.

The usual square hole has been cut in the ice on the Serpentine, at the spot where the morning bathers are allowed to congregate. It must take several degrees of courage to plunge into this water during the present weather, but the "bath" has its daily visitors.

GREAT satisfaction is expressed at the announcement that Professor Huxley has accepted the post of fishery commissioner, vacated by the death of Mr. Frank Buckland. It was feared that we should never again read reports on English fisheries so full of a natural historian's knowledge as those produced by Mr. Frank Buckland.

How long does Lord Beaconsfield calculate upon living? He is seventy-six this year; but he is furnishing his new house in Curzon street in a way which seems to imply that he intends to rival all the public men of our time in what Brougham called the tricks of longevity.

LORD MAYOR MARTHUR may begin to feel uncomfortable or proud according to his views. The fit has gone forth which probably makes him the penultimate Lord Mayor of the City. His successor's successor will be Lord Mayor not of the City only, but of all London.

THERE is no truth in the rumour current a short time since that Lord Beaconsfield contemplates writing his own life. The residuum of truth is that with the assistance of his faithful secretary, Lord Rowton, he has revised and placed in order the enormous and interesting mass of papers that have accumulated at Hughenden, and that when the time comes the inevitable biographer will find abundant material.

THE prize Irish metaphor was awarded last week; the prize Irish bull is this week gained by Mr. E. D. Gray, who said, in his great oration in the House of Commons, amidst roars of laughter, that "if the Land League had not existed, the crime would, he believed, have been ten times as great."

GENERAL regret will be felt at the unexpected death of Mrs. Bateman, the lessee of Sadler's Wells Theatre. In conjunction with her late husband, Mr. H. L. Bateman, and by herself subsequently, Mrs. Bateman for some years presided over the destinies of the Lyceum.

AN enthusiastic muffin man lately sought an interview with Lord Beaconsfield. He would not at first explain his business. At length it came out that the desire of his heart was to have the exclusive right to supply the late Premier with muffins. He wanted to write on his hat "Purveyor of Muffins to the Earl of Beaconsfield."

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Papers and letters to hand Thanks.
J. H., Chicago.—Letter received. Thanks.
E. H.—Correct solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 311.

From the Chess Column of the St. Louis Globe Democrat we find that the match between Captain Mackenzie and Mr. Judd has been arranged, and that the principal conditions are as follows:—The first of seven games shall be declared victor, draws not counting; the time limit shall be fifteen moves per hour.

We are also informed that the number of games played between these two gentlemen "at different times, from 1871 to 1881, has been thirteen, of which the Captain has won eight and a half, this proving him to be the better player, although the friends of Mr. Judd think that the latter will acquit himself more creditably in the coming encounter."

Land and Water, of January 15th, has just come to hand, and in it we find the fullest information respecting the chess doings of the metropolis and its surroundings. To those who, years ago, were in the habit of seeking chess antagonists in the few localities where they were to be found in the great city, will be astonished to learn that clubs have an increase of late that there is hardly a suburb of London which does not possess one at the present time.

We have received the second number of the new issue of the Chessplayer's Chronicle, and, like the first, it is full of new and interesting chess matter. We ought to have stated in our notice of this Journal in our last Column that, in future, it will devote a portion of its space every week to news connected with in-door and out-door amusements, such as cricket, foot-ball, racing, &c.

The Book of the Fifth American Chess Congress, we learn, is in the press and will soon make its appearance. Besides the games in the Grand Tournament, it will contain the actual problems in the Problem Tourney, a history of the Congress, and some biographical sketches. Many of the games have been annotated by Captain Mackenzie, and the whole work has been carefully prepared by Mr. Charles A. Gilberg.

LONDON, Tuesday, Jan. 11. Last night, at the City Club, Mr. Macdonnell played 16 simultaneous games, of which he won 12, drew 3, and lost 1.

Mr. Blackburne plays a series of blindfold games on Tuesday the 11th inst., at the Burton Institute Chess Club, Burton-on-Trent, and a series of simultaneous games against all comers at the same place on the following day. On the 22nd he plays a series of blindfold games at the Manchester Chess Club.—Glasgow Herald.

In the telegraphic match between Liverpool and Calcutta, the Liverpool game had been brought to a conclusion. Calcutta has resigned.