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 you gorgeous, outstretched veil of blue Were but lifted up, or rent asunder. What new glories mortal eye could view.

Yer, 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 block watering places by the sea. This fancy is due to two causes—the Anglo-menia which has lately become epidemic in certain circles, and the perplexities of swell medical practitioners, who, driven to their wits' end to devise new and original diversions for exacting and profitable patients have availed themselves of the opening presented by astate landlords on the coast to prescribe a winter residence by the

sea.

The unwonted appearance of these tender plants of society at this inclement season is a mystery which the 'long-horeman cannot solve. To him, the winter be he ever so well prepared to encounter its vicissitudes, is a season to the appro ch of which he looks forward with dread. No more agreeable place of abode may be found at any season than in certain closely built towns and cities situated immediately upon the coast. Fashion, however, which is nothing if not bizarre, leaves these on one side, and seeks bleak localities, from which those to the manor born would only too gladly escape, did not their necessities enforce an unwilling stay-

In nothing is our service copy of foreign models more grotesque than in the adoption of this fashion of a winter sejourn on our exposed Northern coast. The climite 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 imita The English winter resorts for invalid, either real or fancied, are towns of considerable population on the South coast, where the climate is softer and more genial than in any other part of Great Britain. These resorts are sheltered from the harsh north and west winds; these to which they owe their equable temperature come to them from Africa across Spain and Southern France. In their course those balmy win is traverse but comparatively short stretches of chilled short water, consequently they do not materially lose their original warmth and salubri'y. Our Northern coast presents altog ther different conditions. In front of it is the vast Atlantic, while in the rear, as a rule, are great sandy plains, captily covered with scrab oaks and stunted pines, which offer no barrier to the icy blasts from the North. The water of the sea is reduced to a low temperature by these winds; consequently when they shift to the south, instead of, as might be supposed, fetching with them a warm and balmy air, they being us from the chilled surface of the ocean an atmosphere far more insupportable, penetrating and, depressing than that which comes from the north and west. The Gulf Stream is a fetish worshipped by these pilgrims to this wintry Mecca. It is supposed to be a vast furnace tempering and softening the breezes near the sea. There is no doubt of this, but its effect on the souther-ly winds during the winter is not appreciable for at least thirty-six hours after a shift to that quarter. Under the racking influence of our shuttlecock climate, a body of people congregated in some isolated caravan-ary on our Northern coast must be very sincere admirers one of the other to make the life worth living. During high gales and storms, when precluded for days from out-door exercise, one might fancy that, driven to desperation, they would fall

upon each other with sarcastic fury.

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. To enjoy it thoroughly the domestic interior must be one of great comfort; indeed, luxuriousness in this direction only enhanced by contrast the bleak-uess and solitude of out-door life. Such a home need not be reared within the very reach of the breakers; the end may be accomplished in choosing a site close to the edge of one of the many bays and sounds found on portions of our Northern coast. These bodies of water are usually quite shallow and frozen during the They are separated from the sea by stretches of sand-beach, across which an occasional glimpse of the ocean may be had. absolute privacy be sought, it may be found here. One's nighest friend may in summer reside miles away, while in winter one must go to the distant town or city to find the same. render this life attactive and endurable, its disciple should be devoted to some particular and absorbing pursuit, or he should be a sportsman whose enthusiasm can not be chilled by repeated failures and disappointments. If the latter, and he follow almost exclusively the pursuit of

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. By lamplight he prepares him-self or eats a frugal breakfast made ready for him. The howling of the northwest wind about the angles of the house gives him a foretaste of what may be encountered without. With his trops and decoys, he embarks in a twelve-foot skiff, hoists a goose-wing sail, and puts off before the wind. As he recedes from shore, the waters roughen, and the following waves hang menacingly above the stern of the bost. Half way across the bay to the shooting grounds, he observes the first indications of the dawn of day. A more complete sense of isolation can not be Not a single friendly sail is to be seen. A twinkling light in some house on the distant shore is the sole guarantee that he is not tossing in mid-ocean. When he reaches his destination, he is stiff with cold, and his garments covered with ice. Until sundown he watches patiently for the coming duck or goose. He may be successful, or at night-fall he repeats the experience of the morning without a feather to show for his perseverance and pertinacity. The instinct of the genuine hunter is so strong, notwithstanding the hardships and insuccess of former efforts, he soon forgets his trials and privations, and at slight encouragement is eager to repeat them. In a day or two he will be off again, under circumstances many times more trying and exasperating.

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 thep sweep from the sea unopposed across the plain, shaking to the centre any prominent object in their path. The genesis of these gales is generally the same. The, wind with a high barometer, is from the east, piling up in the west a bank of threatening clouds, which, as the wind force increases, grelually overspreads the zenith. As the wind rises, the barometer commences to fall, followed by rain or snow. If the gale reach its height during the night, when all noises seem magnified and intensified, the roar of the win i and surf is more noticable, the shutter keeps a craseless rattle, the house trembles and shakes, and the lifting of the roof is a possible contingency. Sleep, unless one be utterly overcome with fatigue, is entirely impossible. There is for a time a complete full in the gale, when all noises cease. This indicates that we are in the vortex of the storm, and that its centre is immediately about us. This temporary sitence is followed by a shi t of wind to the south and west, from whence it bursts upon us with increased power. In the midst of this fresh assault an ominous era h is heard above the roar of the gale. The man of experience does not attempt to fathom the mystery. The novice proceeds to make an immediate investigation. Dressed in tarpaulins, and armed with lautern, he sail es out. In a moment a furious blast lands him on his back, while the lanters disappears with a flish into space. With much difficulty the investigator regains his feet, and attempts to breast the wind; but he succombs to its irresistible power, and crawls into the house on his hands and knows. He seeks consolution in the study of the barometer, which is dowly recovering, on a shift of the wind north of west, from a nonimum fall of 28.60. The reacting winds of these evelones are more to be dreaded than those blowing in the earlier moments of the gale. The steeper the fall of the barometer, the fiercer will be the northwest or north winds which accompany clearing weather. These usually bring with them a cold wave, during which it is impossible, in a thoroughly wellbuilt house, exposed on all sides, and provided with the most powerful heating apparatus, to raise the temperature to an approach to a comfortable point. The ink freezes while one writes within ten feet of the fire, and the mercury in the hall sinks to a point which should be seen to prevent a shock to credulity itself. Women and children of sound constitutions, living in their own homes, well-clad and richly fed, suffer no inconvenience from these sudden changes of temperature while those constitutionally weak, or ill-fed and lodged, soon succumb to the trials of this sea-board climate.

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. similar wer is made of small boats, on the bottom of which iron runners are fistended. They are propelled with an ordinary boot hook. The temptation to venture on these frozen waters, particularly when the field of amusement is limited, sometimes leads to disagreeable consequence. A women and her children, unconscious of any lurking danger in the sky, ventures out some distance from the shore. Shortly the wind rises, and a few flakes of snow commence to fall; as the breeze increases, the snow falls more rapidly, and soon all landmarks are hidden The wanderers become completely from view. bewildered, and often before assistance can reach them, or their loss become known, they and the searchers pass what Rabelais calls "un mauvais quart d'heure."

Of all who reside on the coast during the win-

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. He must have medical assistance without delay. The bay is neither frozen solidly enough to bear the weight of a man, nor can a boat be propelled through the thin ice. The messenger is forced to follow the line of beach until he reaches a place where it connects with the mainland. The doctor, answer to the summons, follows the same rante in his gig, to find, on his arrival, that the patient has jurged himself of the disorder, and is pleasantly sleeping. Fees, precariously collected, make no amends for the annoyances of a midnight journey like this. From such experiences the country doctor in course of time develops into a person of great astuteness, and becomes a match for anything from a colicky whaler to a professional horse-trader. The latter now and again takes him in, but he must be a person of exceptional brilliancy. Such a one, of semi-clerical appearance, will appear with a string of horses in one of these sea-side hamleton a Saturday afternoon. On the evening of that day he will lead in prayer at the meeting. On the Sanday he is even more fervent. The rural barterets, always ready for a horse trade, are thrown off their guard by this display of true inwardness. By Monday night they find them selves the possessors of a first-rate collection of ring-bound, spavined, baulky animals, in exchange for an uncommonly sound lot of the Even a country doctor is occasionally nipped by these wandering sharpers. He has a plentiful opportunity to regret his simplicity when he is caught on the beach in a flood tide, and his banky purchase is backing him into the breakers of a wintry sea. GASTON FAY.

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

A NEW weekly journal is to appear in Febrnary, entitled Land.

THE brochure in French which has appeared London under the title, M. Gambetta et le regime purlementaire, is attributed to the Duc-

It is stated on good authority that the appointment originally intended of Lard Dafferin o be Viceroy of India will be made in the spring, on the Marquis of Ripon resigning, on account of the late chimatic 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, varated by the death of Mr. Frank Buckland. It was feared that we should never again read reports on English fisheries so tuli of a natural historian's knowledge as those produced by Mr. Frank Backland. Mr. Haxley, however, will continue to keep alive our interest in all things piscatorial by writings which will be masterpieces of

How long does Lord Beaconsfield calculate upon living f. 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 trick- of longevity. The furniture is all artistic, much of it marvellously artistic; it is all costly, and it is intended to be so complete and gorgeous that it will rival the dreams-the Oriental dreams-of Lord Beaconsti-ld's youth as a novelist. Receptionsbanquets-entert inments of all kinds are to make the house historical.

LORD MAYOR M'ARTHUR may begin to feel uncomfortable or proud according to his views. The fire has gone forth which probably makes im the penultimate Lord M His successor's successor will be Lord Mayor not of the City only, but of all London. Among the measures which the Ministers have in hand-excluded this session because of the pressure of Irish legislation-is one for creating out of London a great corporation, and making ita rulers into a great Parliament, with the Lord Mayor for chief.

THERE is no truth in the rumour current a short time since that Lord Benconsheld contemplates writing his own life. The residuum of truth is that with the assistance of his faithful ecretary, 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. No bint is forthcoming as to who the biographer-designate is, or whether indeed Lord Beaconsfield will not be content to have lived his life and leave the choice of an historian, as wild sea-fowl, he will meet with quaint and ter, probably the country doctor has the widest | well as the labour of record, to his survivors.

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 cration in the House of Commons, amidst roars of laughter, that "if the Land Loague had not existed, the crime would, he believed, have been ten times as great. There had been great exaggerations in the reports of outrages. Threequarters of the reports were exaggerated, and half the reports had no foundation whatever." The prize joke is a Scotchman's, who proposes to do away with obstruction without infringing on liberty of speech by making an Imperial grant to Irishmen that they may, nay, must, when required, deliver their speeches simul-

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. B iteman for some years presided over the destinies of the Lyceum. Her efforts to resuscitate the dramatic glories of Sadler's Wells, and make it again the permanent home of the legitimate drama have been cut short just at the moment when her landable nterprise exhibited all those signs of success which it eminently deserved. It is to be hoped that one or all of her gifted daughters (Kate, Isabel, Virginia), may carry on the excellent work so efficiently begun by their much regretted

An enthusiastic muffir, 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 Beaconstield." It was explained to him that Earl Beaconstield." It was explained to him that Earl Beaconstield. consfield ate little, and that little did not include mussins, and he went away very discontented. Quite a controver-y has sprung up about the politics of that mushin man. Some say that he must have been a Tory or he would not have been so energetic in his endeavours to serve Lord Beaconsfield. It is feared by others that he may have entertained the notion of tempting the earl to a dyspeptic duet before making a speech. The one thing certain is that if he has a vote it will be Liberal next time. For what muchin man will vote for a party whose leader do s not eat muffins t'

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S., Montreal,-Papers and letters to hand

J. H. Chicago —Letter received. Thanks E. H.—Correct a dution received of P.

J. H., Chicago —Letter received. Thanks.
E. H.—Correct solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 321,
E. C.W., Sheroroke, P.Q.—Correct solutions received of Problems Nos. 312 and 313.

From the Chess Column of the St. Louis Globe Democrat we find that the match between Captain Markenzis and Mr. Juddi has been arranged, and that the principal considerate are as follows. The first winer of seven games shall be decisted victor, draws not counting; the time limit shall be fitteen mores per hour. All games shall be played at the Mercantile L-bray chess-room on Monday and Saturday nights of each week, beginning at 730 and finishing at 12 o'clock, the business of the players preventing them from playing during the day. The money prize for which they will play is offered by the St. Louis players for the purpose of increasing the interest in chess in the city."

We are also, informed that the number of games played between these two gentlemen "addifferent times, from 1871 to 1881, but here it had gentlemen and different times, from 1871 to 1881, but here the gentlemen and different times, from 1871 to 1881, but here this gentlemen and different times from 1871 to 1881, but here this gentlemen and different times from 1871 to 1881, but here this first priving him to be the better player, although the friends of Mr. Judi think that the latter will acquire himself more creditably in the coming encounter." Chess-players in all parts of the world will feel increasted in the result of a contest of this nature.

Land and Wafer, of January 15th, has just come to hand, and to it we find the fullest information respecting the chess doings of the metropolis and its surroundings. To those who, vers 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 so increase i of late that there is hardly a suborb 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 chees matter. We ought to have stated in our notice of this jurnal 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, rading, &c.

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

The volume is to be bandeomely bound and embellished and will be an excellent addition to a cheesplayer's library. Orders to be sent to Brentano, 39 Union Square. New York.

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

. Blackburne plays a series of blindfold games on Mr. Blackburne plays a series of blindfold games on Tuesday the leth 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 fullowing day. On the 22nd he plays a series of blindfold games at the Manohester Chess Club.— Glasgow Herald.

In the telegraphic match between Liverpool and Cal-cutta, the Liverpool game has been brought to a con-clusion. Calcutta has resigned.