

of conjecture, and if the dinner did not take place, the gossips would hear of it immediately and interpret it as the worse possible sign of impending trouble.

It was not long before the company was ushered into the banquet hall, brilliantly lighted with waxen candles. A round table stood in the centre of the floor charged with a treasure of plate and crystal.

It was five o'clock when the Barons sat down to their first course. It was nine when they reached the gloria. Just at that supreme moment, a waiter handed a paper to the Lieutenant Governor.

"Another glass, gentlemen. The rebel Jockey will have to swim the St. Lawrence on horseback, if he wishes to pay us a visit."

The note was from Hardinge who, on arriving at the Chateau and finding the Lieutenant-Governor engaged with his guests, wrote a line to inform him that he had safely crossed all the infernal boats.

"This news will not be so good as the other," whispered one of the Barons to his neighbor, while the host was reading the despatch.

"Because alternation is the law of life." The old Baron was not mistaken. M. Cramahé perused the paper with a very grave face, and folding it slowly, said:

"My friends, I regret that I must leave you for to-night. But first let us sip our cognac with the hope that nothing will prevent us from meeting again next week."

The message which the Lieutenant-Governor had received was from the faithful Donald who informed him that the enemy had arrived within five miles of Point Levis and encamped for the night.

(To be continued.)

THE FRENCH AND THE CENTENNIAL.

It is always a pleasure to turn from the political side of the French people, which is their weak point of view, to that taste and indomitable energy which are the strong point of the national character.

THE GLEANER.

It has been resolved to pave Piccadilly with patent wood.

A BLIND mendicant, in Paris, wears this inscription around his neck:—"Don't be ashamed to give only a sou. I can't see."

It is now said, contrary to the first report, that the Queen will not open Parliament next Session. Her Majesty will remain at Osborne until the middle of February.

THE Municipal Council of Paris has voted the sum—a very handsome one for France—of £400 for the monument to American independence France proposes to erect in New York harbour.

THE price of London land is on the rise and rapidly, for the fee simple of No. 24, Cullum street, Fenchurch street, covering a superficial area of little over 280 feet, was sold the other day at about £10 per square foot.

THE last descendant of John Calas, for the rehabilitation of whose name and family Voltaire laboured so many years, and with full success, has just died at Toulouse. Calas was broken on the wheel in 1762.

M. DUMAS, the celebrated scientist and Perpetual Secretary of the French Academy of Sciences, has been elected one of the "immortal forty" of the Academie Francaise in the room of the late M. Guizot.

A GENTLEMAN has been summoned in Paris for encouraging small boys by throwing coppers to them to open slides on the flagway near his house. He confessed to the policeman he did so, as he expected his mother-in-law to dinner.

A CIRCASSIAN in Reading, Pa., shows a pair of stockings that she says she made out of her own hair. It is not wonderful that a local editor remarked on seeing them: "Those hair stockings knock the socks off any other sock story going; they're too wild almost to take stockin'."

THE bodies of Generals Lecomte and Thomas, the first two victims of the Commune, who were assassinated on the 18th March, 1871, were recently exhumed from their original resting place, and, after remaining a day for solemn service at the Invalides, interred at Pere la Chaise.

THE annual report of the Medical Department of the British army for 1873 shows that the troops were healthiest in seaport towns, camps, and at small stations. In the large manufacturing towns and Dublin the death rate was high. Thus, while in camps the number of constantly sick was 38 in every 1,000, it was 49 in London and 43 in Dublin.

THE Sultan visits the mosque in Constantinople every Friday, and this custom makes a weekly pageant. Soldiers and gaily dressed civilians line the streets through which he passes, and vehicles are kept out of the way. A discharge of cannon announces his departure from the palace, and as he walks along in the midst of his attendants, the spectators cheer lustily.

THE eldest daughter of Admiral Hardy, the officer in whose arms the gallant Nelson expired, has just died in England. She was the occupant of a suit of rooms in Hampton Court Palace, allotted to her by the Queen. The musket ball by which Nelson was killed was for many years kept as a memento by Capt. Hardy, who had it mounted in crystal and silver as a locket. It is believed now to be in the possession of the Queen.

AN official commission has reported that most of the water supplied to London is unfit for drinking. The supply is provided by eight companies, six of whom draw from the Thames or the Lee, and both of those rivers are, even at the points from which the water is taken, polluted by sewage. Filtration theoretically purifies the water before it is sent to the city in pipes, but really does not do the work perfectly. The Commission advises that wells and springs in the neighbourhood be used exclusively, as is now done by two companies.

HEARTH AND HOME.

A CHEERFUL FACE.—There is no greater everyday virtue than cheerfulness. This quality in man among men is like sunshine to the day, or gentle, renewing moisture to parched herbs. The light of a cheerful face diffuses itself, and communicates the happy spirit that inspires it. The sourest temper must sweeten in the atmosphere of continuous good humour. As well might fog, and cloud, and vapour hope to cling to the sun-illuminated landscape, as the blues and moroseness to combat jovial speech and exhilarating laughter. Be cheerful always. There is no path but will be easier travelled, no load but will be lighter, no shadow on heart or brain but will lift sooner, in presence of a determined cheerfulness.

FRIGHTENING CHILDREN.—Nothing can be worse for a child than to be frightened. The effect of the scare it is slow to recover from. It remains sometimes until maturity, as is shown by many instances of morbid sensitiveness and excessive nervousness. Not infrequently fear is employed as a means of discipline. Children are controlled by being made to believe that something terrible will happen to them, and punished by being shut up in dark rooms places they stand in dread of. No one without vivid memory of his own childhood can comprehend how entirely cruel such things are. We have often heard grown persons tell the sufferings they have endured, as children, under like circumstances, and recount the irreparable injury which

they are sure they then received. No parent, no nurse, capable of alarming the young, is fitted for the position. Children, as near as possible, should be trained not to know the sense of fear, which, above everything else, is to be feared in their education, early and late.

BRELOQUES POUR DAMES.

A good matrimonial firm is said to be one that consists of three-quarters wife and one-quarter husband.

"Ah!" yawned a bachelor, "this world is but a gloomy prison." "To those in solitary confinement," added a witty lady.

THE Albany Argus denies that an Albany girl, out walking with her lover, threw snuff in his eyes while she could pull up her stockings.

A bachelor explains that the reason a woman puts her finger in her mouth when she thinks is because she cannot talk and think at the same time.

THE first lady lawyer admitted to the bar in America has just got her first client. The client is very youthful, and she is doing as well as could be expected.

THE American Rochefoucauld says women, like the plants in the woods, derive their softness and tenderness from the shade, and yet never like to confess to the shady side.

JOSH BILLINGS says—"When Freedom from her mountain height unfurled her standard to the air, her skirts, pinned back so very tight, made her appear exceeding spare."

A dishwashing-machine is the latest invention says an American paper. They will continue to invent washers, ringers, ironers, sewers, and one thing and another, till women will not be worth fifteen cents a dozen.

"THE widow lived on a small limb left by her relative," said a Boston young lady. When requested to explain, she said, "Mamma has told me never to mention leg, but to use the word limb instead."

A young Tennessee girl recently married an entire stranger, alleging that she should have plenty of time to become acquainted with him afterwards. The civilized part of the world acts a little after this fashion, but does not quite so candidly admit it.

ONE of the young members of the French legation, hard pushed for a compliment to a fair English lady whose face was marred by an undeniably flat nose, remarked, "Madam, you are an angel fallen from heaven, but you fell on your nose."

THE friends of a wit expressed some surprise that, with his ace and fondness for the bottle, he should have thought it worth while to marry. "A wife was necessary. They began to say of me that I drank too much for a single man."

MRS. DAVY, of Tennessee, pretended to be drowned just to see what her husband would do. He hired a cheap negro to drag for the body, and went to the cornfield at his usual pace. And then she crawled out from under the house, followed in and blessed him her hardest.

A Paris paper gives a conversation between a father and his little daughter. "What have you done with your doll?"—"I have put it away to keep for my children, when I grow up."—"But if you shouldn't have any?"—"Ah! well! then it will do for my grandchildren."

A countryman went to see his lady-love, and wishing to be conversational, observed, "The thermomokron is twenty degrees above zero this evening."—"Yes," innocently replied the maiden, "such kinds of birds do fly highersome seasons of the year than others."

THE Woman's Dress Association is turning attention to the costumes of our servants, whose prevailing love of finery is to be taken in hand, and awards of money are to be offered as encouragement to female servants to dress more suitably to their station in life, and to keep their places more carefully.

A languid, sentimental, slow Dalton "pin-back" of sweet sixteen went to hear a clergyman famous as a revivalist a few Sundays ago. The clergyman claims hers as the quickest case of revival from sentimental languor he has ever seen or heard, for she made the fact known with her dress pinned back as tight as a breeches leg, and when she took her seat the pin sat down first.

It is impolite to ask a lady her age. As a matter of courtesy, if she is forty, you are to say you think her about thirty; if from forty to fifty-five, say about thirty-five. Ladies regard themselves complimented when they are thought to be much younger than is the case. "Miss Gumboge," says Mr. Blixen, to that interesting but rapidly-advancing lady of forty-four, "I declare you are looking quite charming—a regular twenty-one bloom and spirits. You can't be a day over that figure, if I'm a judge!"—"Now, Mr. Blixen, you do say such insinuating things; and then you guess ages so closely!"

THERE is a very precise and methodical young lady in New York who divides her time up with the utmost exactness. For instance, she allows just so much time for eating, so much for reading, &c., and on no account suffers herself to deviate from her rules. If she has a visitor, she says, looking at her watch, "Now, I have just ten minutes to see you in without infringing upon my time for meditation." A friend called not long ago to relate to her the sad particulars of the death of her much-beloved grandmother. The methodical young lady was affected to tears,

but didn't forget her time-card. She drew forth her watch at the most touching point in the story, and begged her friend to cut it short, as in four minutes and twenty-two seconds she must practise with her dumb-bells.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

Solutions to Problems sent in by Correspondents will be duly acknowledged

All communications intended for this department to be addressed Chess Editor, Office of CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, Montreal.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

A. B. C. Montreal. The rule as regards pawns taking "en passant" is as follows:

"A pawn has the privilege, on being first played in the game, to advance two squares, unless in doing so, he pass a square which is attacked by a hostile pawn, in which case the opponent may, at his option, permit him to make the two steps forward, or may capture him in his passage in the same way as if he had moved but one step."

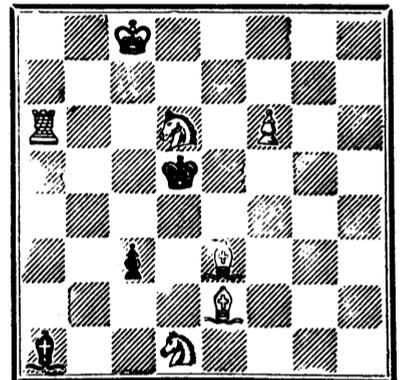
In the case you have supposed, if the black Pawn is advanced to Black's K Kt 4th, and it is to be taken by the white Pawn which is on White's K B 5th, the white Pawn is to be placed at White's K Kt 6th sq and the black Pawn taken as if it had only moved one square.

We see it stated that a Chess match has just been played between Mr. Bird, the celebrated English player, and Mr. Mason, of New York. We will endeavour to obtain fuller particulars of the match, and one or two of the games played, for our next column.

PROBLEM No. 56.

By M. J. MURPHY, Quebec.

BLACK.



WHITE

White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME 70TH.

Played recently at the Montreal Chess Club between Dr. Howe and an Amateur of considerable skill; the former giving the Queen's Knight.

The Queen's Knight must be removed from the board.

Irregular opening.

- WHITE (Dr. Howe.) 1. P to K B 4th 2. Kt to K B 3rd 3. P to K 4th 4. P to Q Kt 3rd 5. Q to K 2nd 6. P to Q 3rd 7. B to Q Kt 2nd 8. P to Q 4th 9. P to Q R 3rd 10. P to K Kt 3rd 11. P to K 5th 12. P to Q B 4th 13. K to K B 2nd 14. P takes P 15. P to Q Kt 4th 16. P takes P 17. K B to K Kt 2nd 18. K R to Q sq 19. K R to Q 2nd 20. Q R to Q sq 21. K B to K R 3rd 22. K takes B 23. Q to K 4th 24. B takes P 25. Q takes B 26. R takes R 27. R takes R 28. B takes Kt 29. Q takes P 30. Q to K 4th 31. Q takes Q 32. K to K 4th 33. K to K 5th 34. K to Q 6th 35. K to Q B 6th 36. K takes P 37. P to Q R 4th 38. P to Q R 5th 39. P to Q R 6th 40. K takes Kt 41. K to Q K 7th
- BLACK—(Amateur) P to K 3rd B to K 2nd Q Kt to B 3rd K Kt to B 3rd Kt to Q Kt 5th K B to Q B 4th Castles. B to Q Kt 3rd Kt to Q R 3rd P to Q B 4th Kt to Q 4th B to Q R 4th (ch) Kt to K 2nd B to K 2nd P to Q Kt 3rd P takes P Q B to Q Kt 2nd Kt to Q B 4th Q to K 2nd Q to K 2nd B takes Kt K R to Q sq P takes P B takes B R takes R R to Q sq Q takes R P takes B Kt to Q B 2nd Q to Q R sq Kt takes Q Kt to B 2nd K to B sq Kt to K 3rd Kt to Q 5th (ch) Kt to Q B 7th Kt takes P K to K sq K takes P K to Q sq Resigns.

SOLUTIONS.

Solution of Problem No. 54.

- WHITE. 1. R to K B 8th (ch) 2. Q to K Kt 6th (ch) 3. P takes B (ch) 4. B to Q 3rd mate
- BLACK. 1. K to K R 2nd 2. B takes Q 3. K takes P

Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 53.

- WHITE. 1. B to K 3rd 2. P to K B 3rd 3. B to Q Kt 6th 4. B to Q 8th mate
- BLACK. 1. K to R 5th or (A) 2. P to K Kt 4th 5. P to K Kt 5th

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS. No. 54.

- WHITE. K at K R 6th R at Q B sq Kt at Q Kt 2nd P at K Kt 4th
 - BLACK. K at K R sq B at K R 4th
- White to play and mate with the pawn in five moves.