

SUNDAY AND MANUAL LABOR IN GERMANY.

On these subjects we have of late read several articles in the papers of this Province, and while some points are true, the writers have entirely lost sight of the fact that there are two sides to every picture. Speaking of the usual topic of "Churches," by which many a man tries to impress his hearers with his godly life, one writer says that sometimes six villages together have only one church. It is true that there are no "Cities of Churches" in Germany, but neither are there any three, four, five nor six places, which are villages, where they all go to only one place of worship.

Through there is, perhaps, according to many person's idea, only too little outward show of a religious life in Germany, yet we know from fifteen years experience that the Bible is looked upon by many people as a great treasure, and read daily in their homes, and that, too, while their hands are toiling to make laces for our fashionable ladies. Besides, we are glad to say that such associations like the Y. M. C. A. are established many years ago, and are engaged in Christian work under the name of "Juenglings-Verein."

Particularly in the principal mining districts of Germany we find a very good evidence of godly life, which, to our knowledge, is not found in any other part of the world. Let us relate this. Thousands of these miners can be seen going to their various mines at 4 o'clock a.m., there they meet in hundreds in large halls, where, at precisely five o'clock a.m., at which hour the church bell ceases to toll, the door is locked and the men are seated at long tables, at the head of which presides the chief officer, with his assistants at his right and left. No intruder interrupts the solemnity, and a hymn, chosen by the head officer, is sung by all present, then a prayer follows, after which the roll is called, the orders given, and the men depart with the solemn salute "Glueck Auf," to seek in the depth of the earth, for the very treasure which makes men so frequently forget the station they come from, and look down upon their fellow-men. Where is on this continent a single industry followed likewise!

As to Sunday desecration it is only too true that this state of things is in some measure unsatisfactory, yet, why blame all Germans, when most of the higher classes abhor any noise, dancing on Sunday and such like? Still, let us look at a miners life, a man who frequently does not see daylight for six days, who leaves his wife and children in the early morning to follow his, by no means enviable occupation, and it is not a rare occurrence that a kind, honest and upright husband and father is brought home cold in death. Sunday comes, he goes to church in the forenoon and goes out in the afternoon to some place for recreation, not selfish, but he takes his wife and children along, while many of our men leave their wives at home to toil, which is often called play with the children! Can we entirely blame that man, whose occupation of life has the tendency to incessant danger and melancholy, when he tries to disperse dark clouds by such a recreation on the Lord's Day? but which is, we grant, recreation in a somewhat wrong direction.

Perhaps some will say, let him sit down and read a book of some consoling sermon very attentively and no trouble will be on his mind after. Let that very man take the place of that miner, follow his occupation, carry strictly out the new doctrine, and let him come and tell us after a year's trial what he thinks of this gloomy monotony of life and about being shut out of the world, not having attended a theatre, concert, club, deprived of his "Half and Half," a "Soda with a stick in," "An eye opener," his favorite "Night Cap" and his "Billiards," all of which formed a vital part of his life and filled his leisure hours.

Supposing we were to take all our prisoners, even those from the common jail, and make them clean the streets, particularly before their relations and friends door, as is done in Germany, and thus take away a great expense to our cities, while our jails and penitentiaries would not be filled to their utmost capacity, our day laborers would try to create a revolution. And so it is with a new Sunday law and such Germans who cannot at all enjoy themselves during the week. We are certainly in favor of stamping out anything which may be injurious to society, but let no man be deprived of recrea-

tion, which is the very essence in the discharge of his duties!

There are means and ways by which many a course of habit can be changed, it made use of judiciously, but if one wants to force a navigation among rocks, then let him take the consequences. Measures such as adopted by the government in the Socialist question will certainly not have the tendency of respecting a new Sunday law in Germany, but will make matters worse.

Manual labor performed by women is another subject commented upon by a writer who either knows nothing about it, or writes nonsense to fill up a paper.

Any common sense man will acknowledge that the Germans on the whole are industrious people, and why some people attribute the employment of women to the laziness of men, goes beyond our comprehension.

Why is this employment of women? Simply because the military system, which spoils many a young man's career, calls frequently the father and sons, or the only support of a widowed mother, for many months every year regularly away from home and the family is not in good enough circumstances to warrant the employment of help. Therefore, the girls, or ladies as we style them here mostly, perform such duties as they can, and try to help to support the family by uninterrupted diligence.

This, perhaps, seems rather strange to many of our readers and a little out of place, but it is decidedly better to help the parents on than to live an idle and so called stylish life, break down the sorrowing business man and make the creditors pay for it.

Any one a little familiar with history knows that Germany was involved in three bloody wars during the past fifteen years, the last of which, however glorious, cost many a father's and son's life, who had to leave their homes in spite of straitened circumstances and leave their families to the care of their Creator and their older daughters. Any man knows that a war crowned with victory may enrich the people as a nation, while it brings poverty to nearly every one who contributes either human lives to gain "laurels for the country," or suffers from stagnation of trade, the direct result of war by disagreeing sovereigns. And such being the case in Germany, where, for several years, men were sometimes scarce, and those who hired themselves out as helps asked and insisted upon such wages which many could not afford to pay; thus manual labor performed by women grew to be an absolute necessity, and no Christian can object to the women who work to keep the little they have left and gain their subsistence.

To judge a nation requires more than a few months travelling, especially where a different tongue with dozens of dialects are spoken like in Germany.

Have you, who are always ready to talk of "Sunday and Manual Labor in Germany," ever felt the want of a father or brother who went to the battlefield and perhaps returned no more? We presume not, or you would cherish a kinder thought of your fellow-men; and if you have, perhaps you owe all your rearing to your sister, who was taught by your parents to be industrious since her early life, otherwise you might have got into bad company and stained the name of your family.

That the army rules caused all this women trouble is no doubt to a great extent true, though not a reason why there should not at least be a little change. Let us hope for the better.

With all the faults which are found in the German nation, few drunkards are seen to disgrace the streets or a lorn the prisons; scandal in high life, such as our newspapers have often to record, are little or not at all known. No boys who light their cigars, pipes and chew tobacco at the tender age of five years are there. Elopements of so-called high born ladies with coachmen and such like, are almost impossibilities to their minds, and we hope we will soon be able to say that of ourselves in our otherwise beautiful country.

In conclusion we beg of you who are always straying away and ready to talk of Sunday desecration by others, to try to see your own faults, and if you are as pure as you like others to be, then exercise the Christian spirit which always looks at both sides of the picture, reasoning and reflecting at the same time, and not ridicule and condemn those who cannot always have the same opinion which you may see fit to entertain.

E. W. B.

Montreal, Nov. 10.

LITERARY.

ARTHUR GILMAN, the Chamber scholar, is about to publish a work called "Shakespeare's Morals," in which he will aim to show by parallel passages that the poet's indebtedness to the Bible was large. A chapter on the genius of Shakespeare will be added. The book is promised for November.

A "Dictionary of Hymnology," a companion to existing hymn books, by the Rev. John Julian, will shortly appear in England. The work is intended to show the origin and history of the hymns contained in the present hymnals used by the Church of England, Scotland and Ireland, and various dissenting bodies.

TENNYSON'S "Harold" has found a German translator in Count Albert von Wichenburg, who will publish his translation this autumn at Hildesheim. Long fellow has long been a popular poet in Germany, where his works are eagerly translated and read. "The Golden Legend" will shortly be added to the number of these translations. The translator is the Baroness Hohenhausen.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Letters, &c., to hand. Thanks. Student, Montreal.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 246.

W. A., Montreal.—Letter received. Thanks. T. S., St. Andrew's, Manitoba.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 246, also correct solution of Problem for Young Players No. 243. The other matter shall be attended to.

R. F. M., Sherbrooke.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 248, also correct solution of Problem for Young Players No. 245.

The determination on the part of some of the chess-players of Ontario to have a Chess Association of their own, and, in this way, to set aside, as far as they are concerned, the present Canadian Association, is no more than we expected.

The move, no doubt, has been hastened by circumstances connected with the late meeting at Ottawa, but these are not the only reasons. The fact is that when the Association was established in 1872 too much was attempted. It was thought possible to unite in chess interest, by an Association, players living in cities which were too far apart for that unity of action upon which must depend, to a great extent, success and permanency. In the programme, issued in 1872, we see the names of the following cities mentioned as being represented by players holding positions as officers of the Association: Hamilton, Ont.; Halifax, N.S.; St. John, N.B.; and Seabrook, Ont.

We feel sure that the extension of the management of the affairs of the Association over so large an area has been the chief cause of the troubles which are at present jeopardizing its existence, and under the existing circumstances we see no remedy. From this has naturally resulted that local influence at each annual meeting which has in several cases regulated the proceedings of the Association at its next Congress, and which this year seems to have led to the present idea of separation on the part of the Ontario players.

We would be glad to see flourishing in the Dominion an Association which would gather together in one body chess-players from Nova Scotia, on the one hand, and from Manitoba on the other; but the time has not yet arrived for that, and in order to lessen the chances of dispute among Canadian players, we are inclined to think that the plan which is suggested by our Ontario friends is a good one, and that such Province might have an Association of its own, to which the undivided attention of its players might be devoted.

As illustrating one of the defects of our present Association, we would invite any one to look over the names of the officers appointed at any of the previous meetings, and, considering the facilities to which they respectively belong, to ask himself the question, how often on these persons would be able to meet together during the year in order to arrange matters for a successful annual gathering? Our chess-players are yet but a small body. Almost everyone here in Canada is busily engaged in matters having reference to the material interests of a new country, and there are very few who have acquired the means, or the leisure, to become enthusiasts in chess, or any other similar pursuit. In other countries it may be different. Therefore, instead of looking upon the determination of our brother chess-players in Ontario to have an independent Association as an evil, it may ultimately turn out to be quite the contrary.

If we multiply our Associations they will individually be more carefully looked after, and will eventually give rise to that emulation, both as regards management and advancement in skill, which must be beneficial in the long run.

We hope to be able to return to this subject again soon.

We have been requested to publish in our Column the following programme. The mode of awarding the prizes is unusual one, but as the competitors are to be the judges, we imagine that there will be no dissatisfaction:

PROGRAMME OF AYR ARGUS CHESS PROBLEM TOURNEY.

I. The competition will be open to all problem composers.

II. Each competitor must post to "The Chess Editor, Argus and Express, Ayr, Scotland," on or before 15th January, 1880, a sealed envelope containing—

1. One or two original problems in two or three moves—either two two-movers or two three-movers, or one of each—with full solutions.

2. The name and address of the competitor.

3. One shilling and sixpence of entry-money.

III. As soon as possible after the 1st of February, 1880, the competing problems will be printed and sent to the competitors in the form of a book.

IV. The prizes will be awarded by the votes of the competitors, each having one vote for the best two-mover and one vote for the best three-mover. For the purpose of voting, dated voting papers will be sent along with the book of the problems; and two months after the date of such voting papers, those that are returned shall be opened and the prizes awarded to the problems in two and three moves having the greatest number of votes. No competitor can vote for his own problems.

V. The prizes will be two silver medals—the one for the best problem in two moves, and the other for the best problem in three moves.

SCORE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TOURNEY.

Won | Dr. Won | Dr. America.....27 | Great Britain.....24 | 7.

We are glad to find that the pending games in the International Postward Tourney are to be played out. This is far more satisfactory than having them adjudicated, though it was, of course, indefinitely delay the result.—Chessplayer's Chronicle.

The longest game of chess on record was played lately between Messrs. Bird and Potter, England. It reached the extraordinary length of 113 moves on each side, Mr. Bird winning, and thereby securing a prize in the handicapp at the London Chess Club. In point of duration the longest game was once in fifty moves, by correspondence, won in 1875 by Mr. F. E. Bronzinger, of New York, from Dr. Bronzinger, of Baden. It lasted sixteen years.—Hartford Times.

All the games of the Mason-Potter match have shown a fixed determination on the part of the players not to win.—Croydon Guardian. And more than one showed a fixed determination on the part of the players not to win.—Hartford Times. The whole match showed their fixed determination to teach the world that the highest proficiency in chess is, that which simply wiggles the pieces without playing at all. It was the worst case of "little dalliance" in the history of the game.—Cincinnati Commercial.

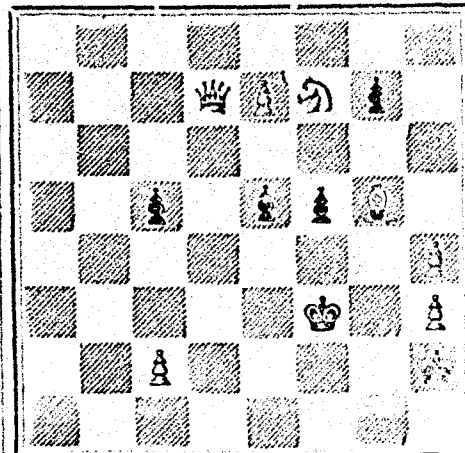
Mr. J. N. Bayson, of Boston, U. S., visited the Montreal Chess Club on Friday evening last. Mr. B. was for

several years Chess Editor of one of the Boston Journals, and is well known as one of the best problem composers of the United States. His stay in Montreal will be but brief.

PROBLEM No. 250.

By W. Atkinson, Montreal.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME 3761H.

CHESS IN NEW YORK.

Eleventh game in the match between Messrs. Barnes and Delmar.

(Irregular Opening.)

WHITE.—(Mr. B.) BLACK.—(Mr. D.)

- 1. P to Q 4 1. P to K B 4
2. P to Q B 4 2. K to K B 3
3. K to Q B 3 3. P to K 3
4. P to Q R 4 4. P to Q K 3
5. P to K 3 5. B to Q K 2
6. K to K B 3 6. B to K 2
7. P to Q K 3 7. Castles
8. B to Q 3 8. K to K 5
9. B to Q K 2 9. B to K B 3
10. Q to Q B 2 10. K takes K
11. B takes K 11. P to Q 3
12. Q to K 2 (a) 12. K to Q 2
13. Castles K R 13. P to Q B 4
14. Q R to Q B 14. R to K sq
15. K R to K sq 15. K to K 3 sq
16. P to K 4 16. Q H P takes P
17. B takes Q P 17. P to K 4
18. B to B 3 18. K to K B 3 (b)
19. P to K B 3 19. P to Q B 4
20. K to Q 2 20. B to K R 4
21. P to K B 3 21. B takes K
22. B takes B 22. K takes Q K P
23. R to Q K sq 23. K to Q 5
24. Q to Q sq 24. R to K B 3 (c)
25. P to K B 4 25. P to K B 4
26. B to K 3 26. P takes K P
27. B takes K 27. P takes K B
28. B P takes P 28. Q to Q B 3

and White resigns.

NOTES.

- (a) P to Q 4 strikes us as being a good move here.
(b) The K now comes into play with great effect, and it seems impossible for White to avoid loss of some kind.
(c) This is very well calculated, and brings about a most interesting termination.

—From Turf, Field and Farm.

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS, No. 243.

WHITE. BLACK.

- 1. K to Q K 6 1. Any move
2. Mates accordingly

Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 246.

White. Black.

- 1. Q to Q sq 1. R moves (best)
2. Q to Q 2 2. Q checks
3. K to K B 5, double ch and mate.

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS, No. 247.

WHITE. BLACK.

- K to Q B 3 K R to K 4
K to Q R 5 Pawn at Q R 2
Pawn at Q B 5
and Q K 2

White to play and mate in two moves.

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