

HERE'S TO THE LAND!

CANADIAN SONG.

Here's to the Land of the rock and the pine;  
Here's to the Land of the raft and the river;  
Here's to the Land where the sunbeams shine,  
And the night that is bright with the North-light's quiver.

Here's to the Land of the axe and the hoe;  
Here's to the berries that give them their glory  
With stroke upon stroke, and with blow upon blow,  
The might of the forest has passed into story!

Here's to the Land with her blanket of snow,  
To the hero and hunter the welcome pillow;  
Here's to the Land where the stormy winds blow  
Three days, ere the mountains can talk to the billow!

Here's to the buckwheats that smoke on her beard;  
Here's to the maple that sweetens their story;  
Here's to the scythe that we swing like a sword,  
And here's to the fields where we gather our glory!

Here's to her hills of the moose and the deer;  
Here's to her forests, her fields and her flowers  
Here's to her homes of unchangeable cheer,  
And the maid 'neath the shade of her own native bowers!

Eaton, Que. WILLIAM WYE SMITH.

THE NEW QUEEN OF SPAIN.

His Majesty Don Alfonso XII., King of Spain, who is just twenty-two years old, having been born on Nov. 28th, 1857, has now taken a second wife; his first being his cousin, Maria de las Mercedes, youngest daughter of the Duke de Montpensier and of the Duchess de Montpensier, who is sister to the ex-Queen Isabella II. of Spain. The young King began to reign in January, 1875, and was married, three years later, to his cousin, Princess Mercedes, who died June 26, 1878, having been only six months Queen. The new Queen is an Austrian Princess, the Archduchess Maria Christina, youngest child of the Archduke Karl Ferdinand, cousin to the Emperor Francis Joseph I., King of Hungary; her mother being the Archduchess Elizabeth, another member of the Hapsburg-Lorraine Imperial family. She was born on July 21, 1858, and has been educated under the watchful care of her mother, to whom she is deeply attached. She is as well acquainted with four foreign languages as with her own; she draws and paints, mostly flowers, and is an excellent pianist. In Gmunden, where the family of the Archduchess regularly passed the summer, the Archduchess occupied herself with wood-carving, under the tuition of a clever artist. Every year she forwarded a number of warm garments, made by herself to the poor children of Gmunden. The Archduchess is much attached to her former teachers and governesses, and is full of kind attention and regard for her attendants. Immediately on the arrival of a former instructor on a visit, the Archduchess will herself place footstools and cushions for her visitor's comfort, and numerous are the occasions when the Archduchess has been seen plodding her way down the steep wooden steps in Gmunden to visit one of her former governesses. She yields without any contradiction to any wish expressed by her teachers, be it ever so difficult, and rejoices like a child when praised. She is perfectly free in her political views, and never conceals her most decided antipathies. The young Archduchess was devotedly attached to her uncle, the Archduke Francis Charles (the Emperor's father), and whenever he announced his coming from Ischl to Gmunden to dine with the Archduchess and her mother the day was sure to be kept as a festival. The kind-hearted Archduke never neglected any occasion of giving his dear 'Christa' pleasure. When, two years ago (the last summer of his life), the young Archduchess was hard at work collecting stamps for a poor young lady in Munich, who wished to win a splendid Börsendorfer piano by collecting a million of stamps, in return for which an English gentleman offered to give this piano, her uncle Francis Charles forwarded stamps to further his darling's wish. The young Archduchess, when seventeen years of age, shed many tears when she was informed that the "Emperor" had selected her to be the Abbess of the Ladies' Convent at Prague. It took a long time to convince and persuade her that she had not to take the veil and go into the cloister, but that this was simply a place of high honour and income, and that she could at any moment exchange it for the bridal veil.

Queen Christina is very girlish looking, and appears younger than she is. Her hair is flaxen, her complexion very blonde, with ruddiness; her figure very slender, and her stature below the middle height, though her photographs represent her as being tall. The Queen is shy, but has amiable manners, and a smile that pleases. Her attitude is deeply respectful in the presence of her elders of equal rank. She lost her father just a twelvemonth ago.

On her way through Paris she was met by his mother, the ex-Queen Isabella, and held a reception, of which we publish a sketch. The marriage took place at Madrid on the 30th ult. A grand reception and drawing-room was held in the Throne room of the Royal Palace. It began at 1 o'clock and lasted till 10 at night. Twelve thousand persons defied before the newly married couple. King Alfonso was seated on his throne, under the splendid dais, with Queen Christina at his left, and the Princess of Asturias on the low seat at the foot of the throne. The scene was one of incomparable brilliancy. The Cabinet Ministers were dressed in crimson velvet knee-breeches with white silk stockings, and coats covered with rich gold embroidery. The ladies were in full court dress. The blaze

of jewels was dazzling. Each of the company walked up to the steps of the throne, the ladies with their heavy trains kissed the hand of the King, then dragged their trains along and kissed the Queen's hand, then kissed that of the Princess of Asturias, and then backed out through the long hall. The gentlemen had simply to kiss hands, and then back out. After leaving the throne-room the company proceeded to pay their respects to Queen Isabella, who seemed to command universal sympathy. The streets were never so gay, and the people enjoyed themselves to their hearts' content. The Plaza Major had a wonderful display of fish, vegetables and fat turkeys. The beating of drums, the strumming of guitars and three-stringed instruments called rabeles, made an indescribable din. A gala representation was held in the evening at the Opera House, which was opened thirty years ago on the birthday of Queen Isabella. Every corner of the house was full. The Royal box in the centre of the house on the first tier was fitted up with crimson hangings and mirrors. All the Court was present. There were a wonderful number of pretty women in the four tiers of boxes and in the galleries, and the theatre wore the air of a splendid drawing-room.

BUSINESS PARAGRAPHS.

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Any announcement of Holiday season would seem incomplete without special mention of this house, whose goods are on most of the counters of general stores in the Dominion, supplied from their establishments in the above cities, a visit to either of which alone could give an idea of the numerous articles in toys and fancy goods from the principal European and American markets.

FLUID BREF seems to flow in favoured channels. In addition to Mr. Johnston's British Government orders, he is now hard at work for the U. S. War Department. This new industry appears to develop rapidly.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

- J. W. S., Montreal.—Letter and papers received. Thanks.
- T. S., St. Andrew's, Manitoba.—Letter containing game and problems received. Thanks.
- B., Montreal.—Letter containing problems received. Thanks.
- E. H.—Solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 251. Thanks.
- A. G. S., Brockville.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 253.
- R. F. M., Sherbrooke.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 252, also of Problem for Young Players No. 249.

In a late number of the *Dramatic Times* an interesting account is given of Mr. Blackburne's blindfold contest with the Chessplayers of the small town of Cheddle in Staffordshire. We are sorry our space will not allow of our inserting the whole of the article.

Cheddle is a small town, and contains between three or four thousand inhabitants, but small as it is, it boasts of an excellent Chess Club, has Chess influence enough to get the celebrated player to pay a visit to their small community, and was able to furnish ten players to oppose him in a blindfold contest; three of whom were strong enough to obtain draws.

An amusing incident connected with Mr. Blackburne's encounter with the Cheddle players is worth recording. Whilst the contest was being carried on, it became necessary that the room where the single warrior was contending against his ten antagonists should be given up for some important purpose, and the players had to adjourn to a neighbouring school-room. In the course of the transfer of the boards and men from one building to another, some of the pieces were displaced, and the positions consequently had to be reconstructed. This was being done from the papers on which the scores were written, when Mr. Blackburne interposed, and immediately from his memory recalled every move in regular order for each game, and very soon all things were in their proper condition again.

We are happy to say that the Montreal Chess Club is at the present time in a much more flourishing condition than it has been for several years past. The furniture and Chess appliances have been repaired, and, where necessary, renewed, and several gentlemen who rarely visited the club room are now regular members. Every club night there is a full attendance of players. This change is due in a great degree to the care and attention of the Secretary, Mr. J. Henderson, who seems desirous of maintaining this club on a footing which shall make it a credit to the city of Montreal.

The following which we take from the *Adelaide Observer* is interesting as it testifies to the pleasing fact that Chess is not in any way neglected in distant parts of the world which not many years ago were almost unknown.

New Zealand.—The first prize in the handicap tournament at the Fielding Chess Club was won by Mr. T. Sexton, who has exhibited considerable proficiency as a blindfold player, one of his games of that kind appearing in the *New Zealand Mail* of September 6. A banquet to celebrate the Congress took place on September 1, Mr. J. V. C. Veil presiding. The proceedings were of a thoroughly enjoyable character, and there were some good speeches, notably one by Mr. Grinstead. The report fills two columns of the *Canterbury Times* of September 6. The match on the West Coast between Kumara and The Bend, six players aside, ended in a draw, each side scoring three games. Another tournament at the Fielding Club is spoken of.

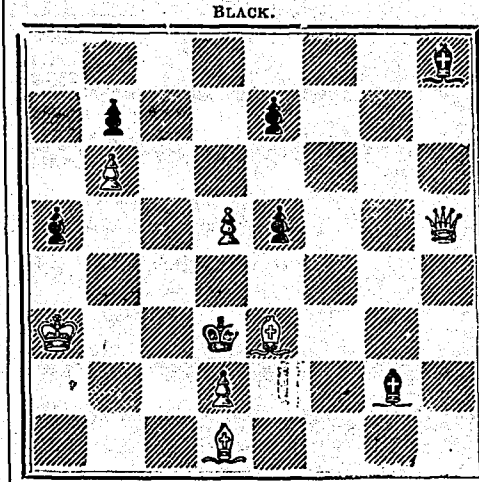
A most important addition to English chess has just appeared in the shape of a chess column in the *British Empire*—which is under the editorship of F. Healey. By chess players who are familiar with the wonderful beauty of the works of this composer the announcement will be gladly received, as it seems to promise that we will now be favoured with more of those works which formerly delighted the chess world. The first problem which appears is under the name "F. Healey," and a column in which such problems may appear cannot fail to be waited for with interest. When we state that the diagrams are beautifully mounted, and the letter-press all that can be wished, it will be seen that the proprietors of the *British Empire* have done what they can to command success for this chess column.—*Argus and Express.*

The boy chess prodigies, Masters Harry Boardman, Norton, Jackson, Jacobsen, Frank Brown, and W. A. Rohrer (Bright, Victoria), have had an accession to their ranks in the person of Master J. Henry Kirkham, of Newington, U.S. He is aged 13 years, plays a good game, and shows great aptitude in solving problems.

General McClellan, of the United States Army, is a fine player at chess.

PROBLEM No. 255.

By J. Berger.



WHITE  
White to play and mate in three moves.  
GAME 383RD.

(From Land and Water.)

One of six blindfold games played by Mr. J. H. Blackburne, at the Athenaeum Chess Club, Manchester, on the 1st inst. (Allgauer Kieseritzki.)

- |                          |                       |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| WHITE.—(Mr. Blackburne.) | BLACK.—(Mr. Zollner.) |
| 1. P to K4               | 1. P to K4            |
| 2. P to KB3              | 2. P takes P          |
| 3. Kt to KB3             | 3. P to K Kt4         |
| 4. P to KR4              | 4. P to Kt5           |
| 5. Kt to K5              | 5. B to Kt2           |
| 6. P to Q4               | 6. P to Q4            |
| 7. P takes P             | 7. Kt to K B3         |
| 8. B to Q B4             | 8. Kt to R4           |
| 9. Kt to Q B3            | 9. B to B4 (a)        |
| 10. B to Kt5 (ch)        | 10. Kt to Q2          |
| 11. Kt takes Kt          | 11. B takes Kt        |
| 12. Q takes P            | 12. B takes B         |
| 13. Q takes Kt           | 13. Q to Q2           |
| 14. B takes P            | 14. B takes P         |
| 15. Castles (QR) (b)     | 15. B takes Kt        |
| 16. K R to K sq (ch)     | 16. B takes R         |
| 17. Q to K5 (ch)         | 17. K to Q sq         |
| 18. Q takes R (ch)       | 18. Q to K sq         |
| 19. Q takes Q (ch)       | 19. B takes Q (c)     |
| 20. R takes B            | 20. K to Q2           |
| 21. B to Kt5             | 21. K to Q3           |
| 22. P to B4              | 22. R to B sq         |
| 23. B to K7 (ch)         | 23. K to Q2           |
| 24. P to B5 (Z)          | 24. P to B4           |
| 25. B to B6              | 25. B to Kt3          |
| 26. R to K7 (ch)         | 26. K to Q sq         |
| 27. P to R5              | Resigns.              |

NOTES.

- (a) If 9 Kt to Kt6, White replies with B takes P, obtaining thereby an attacking position at the cost only of the exchange; for the Black Knight, will not be able to escape after taking the Rook. The move made is, however, not satisfactory, and there can be little doubt but that 9 Castles is the correct play.
- (b) 16 B to K5 has a plausible aspect, but the text move, with its subtle continuations, appears upon examination to be preferable.

THE SUN for 1880.

THE SUN will deal with the events of the year 1880 in its own fashion, now pretty well understood by everybody. From January 1 to December 31 it will be conducted as a newspaper, written in the English language and printed for the people.

As a newspaper, THE SUN believes in getting all the news of the world promptly, and presenting it in the most intelligible shape—the shape that will enable its readers to keep well abreast of the age with the least unproductive expenditure of time. The greatest interest to the greatest number—that is the law controlling its daily make-up. It now has a circulation very much larger than that of any other American newspaper, and enjoys an income which is at all times prepared to spend liberally for the benefit of its readers. People of all conditions of life and all ways of thinking buy and read THE SUN; and they all derive satisfaction of some sort from its columns, for they keep on buying and reading it.

In its comments on men and affairs, THE SUN believes that the only guide of policy should be common sense, inspired by genuine American principles and backed by honesty of purpose. For this reason it is, and will continue to be, absolutely independent of party, class, clique, organization, or interest. It is for all, but of none. It will continue to praise what is good and reprobat what is evil, taking care that its language is to the point and plain, beyond the possibility of being misunderstood. It is influenced by motives that do not appear on the surface; it has no opinions to sell, save those which may be had by any purchaser for two cents. It hates injustice and baseness even more than it hates unnecessary words. It abhors frauds, pities fools, and deplores nincompoops of every species. It will continue throughout the year 1880 to chastise the first class, instruct the second, and discountenance the third. All honest men, with honest convictions, whether sound or mistaken, are its friends. And THE SUN makes no bones of telling the truth to its friends and about its friends whenever occasion arises for plain speaking.

These are the principles upon which THE SUN will be conducted during the year to come.

The year 1880 will be one in which no patriotic American can afford to close his eyes to public affairs. It

I. W. ENGLAND, Publisher of THE SUN, New York City.

(c) Not so good as K takes Q, which would enable him to play K to Q2 afterwards, without blocking in his Rook and Bishop. Of course he would soon have to reckon with P to Q Kt3, but this could be replied to by P to Q Kt3.

(d) Which gives White a clear won game. Black, in fact, though only a Pawn behind—and there are Bishops of opposite colours—is as helpless as a crab tying on its back.

SOLUTIONS

Solution of Problem No. 253.

- |                 |               |
|-----------------|---------------|
| WHITE.          | BLACK.        |
| 1. B to K B5    | 1. R takes B  |
| 2. Kt to K6     | 2. K takes Kt |
| 3. Q to K8 mate |               |

There are other defences.

Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 251.

- |               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| White.        | Black.      |
| 1. Q to QR sq | 1. Any move |
| 2. Mates acc. |             |

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS, No. 252.

- |                |             |
|----------------|-------------|
| WHITE.         | BLACK.      |
| K at KB5       | K at Q4     |
| B at K3        | Kt at Q B3  |
| B at Q B8      | Pawns at    |
| Kt at K2       | K B2 and 3, |
| Pawns at Q3,   | K Kt4, Q3   |
| K Kt4 and Q R3 | and Q Kt5   |
- White to play and mate in two moves.

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