

match was declared "off," occasioning much disappointment to the entire chess world.

Dr. Howe, the courteous President of the Montreal Chess Club, is away—immersed in the problem of Nature and her beauties.

Ten contestants have offered on this side, and fifteen on the other (England), to take part in the International Postal Tourney. The list of pairing-off will soon be published.

Mr. Gompert, from New York, lately visited Montreal, and played with some of our city-clubbists.

Herr Harrwitz, the celebrated Prussian player, is in London. He has abandoned the game professionally, and will not play during his visit, which is a source of sincere regret to all lovers of chess—he being one of the old masters whose name recalls the period of Morphy and that brilliant era of the game.

The Canadian Chess Association of Canada meet at Quebec on the 21st inst. The prospectus, delayed by causes beyond control of the Secretary of the Association (D. C. Mackedie, Esq., of Quebec), will be out in a few days. This gentleman asks us to apologize through this column for the delay of the prospectus' appearance, owing to family misfortune. The apathy manifested by the clubs throughout Canada in reference to the meeting is to be regretted. We, however, presume that when the actual gathering takes place, there will be a revival of the enthusiasm that usually marks these annual meetings. Montreal has subscribed forty dollars towards the \$100 Trophy Cup to be competed for on the occasion.

Mr. Geo. Linbeck is spoken of as the probable first holder of the silver "Challenge Cup" as the result of the tournament now just closing in the New York Chess Club.

Women's Rights are being practically maintained in the fact of the gentler sex coming to the front in the matter of chess in this age more than last. The Countess Volpini has been awarded a special prize for her set of problems in the recent tourney of the *Italian Chess Magazine*.

The following has been handed in to us for publication. We give it for what it is worth. It was taken from an English provincial journal, which copied the article from a continental newspaper :—

"*Another Chess Automaton.*—The Automaton Chess-player, Ajeeb, is attracting great attention in Berlin. It is a waxen figure, in the form of a Turk; sits cross-legged, with a Turkish 'tschibook' in the left, and plays with the right hand. When it is Ajeeb's turn to play, he seizes a piece, and makes the move as any living player would; and if the piece is captured, removes it from the board, and places it in the box. Three nods of the head signify *check*. The intelligence beaming from the eye gives it a life-like appearance. Who can explain this mystery? The figure is too small for a person to be encased in it, and, besides, during the progress of a game, the head is twisted off, and at the close the viscera are exhibited, which consist of only a mass of wheels. There are no wires visible to allow of explanation through the agency of electricity.

The Automaton averages six hours of play per day, a charge being made of five silver groschen for each game."

The following is the prospectus of Mr. Bird's new work, expected out soon :—

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The Author also took part, in the great New York Clipper Tournament (21 entries), recently held in New York, at which he secured the first position and silver cup prize for most brilliant play.

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