

LORD TRANMERE OF CANADA.

A NOVEL.

Written for the Canadian Illustrated News.

CHAPTER I.—Advertisements.

In the south of England, in the winter of 1830, placards were posted in public places bearing words as follows:—

“£500 reward! Captain Swing! Barn-burning! Machine-breaking! Arson! Murder! By order of the Right Hon. the Secretary of State for the Home Department, a Reward of five hundred pounds sterling is hereby offered for such information as will lead to the apprehension and conviction of the person styling himself Captain Swing, alias Count Julien, alias George Francis St. Eustace Tramere. The Secretary of State will advise His Majesty to grant a free pardon to any accomplice or accomplices, who may give such information as shall lead to the conviction of the said person styling himself Captain Swing.

Home Office, White Hall, November 1st, 1830.

£1000 Reward.—In addition to £500 sterling, offered by His Majesty's Government, a Reward of £1000, (one thousand pounds sterling), is hereby offered for the apprehension of the said Captain Swing, or person falsely assuming the name of George Francis St. Eustace Tramere, the said reward of £1000 to be paid on the apprehension of the incendiary and Murderer—with such other expenses after his conviction as may have been lawfully incurred. Apply, privately or otherwise, to Robley, Crossley & Cox, Solicitors, Temple Chambers, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.”

Extract from a Canadian Newspaper, 1837.

“We learn that their Excellencies the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor of Lower and Upper Canada, have offered rewards for the apprehension of upwards of fifty leaders of rebellion, among whom are Louis Joseph Papineau, Dr. Wolfred Nelson, William Lyon McKenzie, Dr. Ducombe, General Sutherland, and the mysterious stranger Van Vogel, alias George Francis St. Eustace, Earl of Tramere. We trust they may be all speedily captured, and hanged or otherwise disposed of according to their crimes.”

Advertisements in Newspapers of 1837.

“Information Wanted—Proof of the death of George Francis St. Eustace Tramere, otherwise George Johnson, otherwise Peter Van Vogel. He was variously reported to have gone over Niagara Falls in the Steamer Caroline, or to have been executed under another name, or to have met his death under other peculiar circumstances in Canada, or in the State of New York, in the year 1837 or 1838.”

“Also Wanted.—Proof of the lawful marriage of the said George Francis Eustace Tramere, otherwise Peter Van Vogel, with Catharine Darnley. Also, proof of the death of the said Catharine Darnley, if dead, or place of residence if alive. Also, proof of the existence of children by such marriage, if there were any, and of their place of residence. Parties affording this information, or any material part thereof, will be liberally rewarded. Apply to Messrs. Crossley, Cox & Crossley, Solicitors, Temple Chambers, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.

Another Advertisement:

“Whereas, John Robert Cox, Esquire, Solicitor, of Temple Chambers, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, accompanied by his clerk, Mr. Crossley Cox, and Mr. Jonathan Twigtree, an Inspector in the London Metropolitan Police, arrived in the City of New York on the 20th of November, 1860, and shortly after proceeded on a journey to the Western States of the Republic, and through portions of the Province of Canada, in search of certain persons supposed to be next of kin and one of them heir-at-law to the title and estates of the late Earl of Tramere. And whereas, it is believed they had discovered one such person, the next of kin and lawful heir to said title and estates, a child of tender years, and were, with the mother and nurse of said child, journeying near the Niagara frontier of the State of New York, intending to go by way of Her Majesty's Province of Canada to England. And whereas, as hath been reported, they, the said John Robert Cox, Esquire, Mr. Crossley Cox, Mr. Jonathan Twigtree, Inspector of Police; Julien Francis St. Eustace, the youthful heir to the title and estates of the late John Earl of Tramere, his mother and nurse were, treacherously waylaid in the neighborhood of the Niagara frontier of the United States; there forcibly placed in a boat, or scow, or other vessel, without oars; their hands bound; the boat or other vessel sent adrift in the Niagara river, at night: swept into the Rapids; carried over the great Falls, and the said unhappy persons drowned. And whereas, certain legal documents are supposed to have been inclosed with their travelling luggage, the following rewards are offered: Two hundred and fifty pounds sterling on recovery of the said legal documents, and one thousand pounds sterling to any person or persons who shall give such evidence as will convict the perpetrators of the above-named atrocious crime, before any Court of Justice in the United States, or in Her Majesty's Province of Canada.”

Extract from an American newspaper, 1862.

“Our readers may remember the report of a party of English travellers going over Niagara Falls about six months ago; the party consisting of a London solicitor, his relative, a nephew, we believe; a detective policeman, a child, its mother and nurse; the child alleged to have been heir-at-law to an English title and large estates. The report caused much sensation as the frightful crime, at which human nature shudders, was supposed to have arisen out of the aristocratic institutions of England, by, or at the instance of rival claimants to the Earldom of Tramere.—The truth of the report was, in some quarters, doubted at

the time, and it may now be further doubted. A party of Confederate prisoners, recently arrived at Fortress Monroe, state that three men claiming to be British subjects, and answering the description of the two English lawyers and the policeman, and professing to be in search of a lost heir to an English title and estate, were, four months ago, arrested in Texas as spies; and, though alleging to have true Confederate passports, were hanged by the secesh mob within half an hour of the time of their capture.”

Another advertisement.

The following was published in American and Canadian newspapers in the spring of 1863, and placarded in conspicuous places throughout the city of Bloomearly:

“SALE BY AUCTION. UNCLAIMED LUGGAGE; UNCLAIMED RAILWAY FREIGHT! Great Bargains.—Mr. Evergreen Gay is instructed by the Directors and General Manager of the Lake-Lovely Railway, to sell on the premises of the Company, at the Railway Station in the city of Bloomearly, Canada West, on the 30th instant, at eleven o'clock, a. m., the following effects:—All the unclaimed baggage or travelling luggage which accumulated at the several stations of the Lake-Lovely Railway prior to the 31st of March, 1862, consisting of trunks, valises, carpet-sacks, satchels, hat-boxes, hand-boxes, reticules, purses, writing-desks, ladies' work-boxes, and numerous packages—all supposed to contain property less or more valuable, such as wearing apparel, money, jewellery, watches, books, and valuable documents.”

“The unclaimed or unredeemed freight consists of threshing machines, ploughs, and other implements of the farm, chiefly of the best American manufacture. Also, carriages, sleighs, waggons, and harness, books, china, crystal, bales of cloth, and one large case supposed to contain valuable musical instruments.”

CHAPTER II.

STRANGERS AT BLOOMEARLY STATION.

It was the day before the sale. Railway men and others, who on the platform awaited the arrival of trains, conversed about the chances of obtaining good bargains, or fortunes, in the lottery of trunks and travelling-bags on the morrow.

“Stephen, will you bid for another prize at this sale?—You obtained a prize last year, did you not?”

“Prize, indeed; an empty carpet-bag, except a pair of old boots each with a brick in it to weigh heavy; an iron key, and some writing; I could make neither head nor tail of. Would you risk ten dollars for such a prize, Ma?”

“Atweel no; I'se no buy a nig in a pock; besides I go out with the Number Twenty Freight, and may not be here the morn.”

“Neither will I risk another ten dollars,” said Stephen Johnson, “unless I were likely to get a better lot than the old boots, the bricks, and the key.”

The Day Express West came in. Among the passengers who alighted were two young ladies. They drove to the Bloomearly Arms Hotel. After engaging apartments, one of them inquired for a book-seller's store, and being informed, went out and purchased a Dream Book.

Another passenger by the Day Express West, who alighted, was an aged man, with venerable grey hair descending on his shoulders and on his breast. He accosted Stephen Johnson, saying, in a low voice:

“Your name is — [he whispered] is it not?”

“No, sir; my name is Stephen Johnson.”

“Ah! Johnson is it? You purchased a carpet-bag at the sale of unclaimed luggage last year, and have not examined it carefully as you were instructed to do in the letter which described its appearance and marks, and contained money with which to buy it. You will be at the sale to-morrow?”

“I think not; I go out with my engine this evening.”

“No you dont. You will be at the sale. Take this purse of money. Purchase the packing-case lying among the unclaimed freight. It is six feet eight inches long; twenty-four inches wide, and twenty-four deep; painted dark blue, rather battered; has the letters H. H. H. in white on one end, and is addressed ‘to be called for.’ Buy that box and learn the mystery of your life and destiny.—It contains my travelling luggage, too heavy to carry. I go to the Confederate States. Should I not return sooner than one hour and one minute past midnight on New Year's Morning, first of January, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, open the lock and read. On the peril of your happiness open it not till then, neither you nor your wife. Let your neighbors be within call when that chest is unlocked, that they may hold your wife in her frenzy.”

With these words the venerable man re-entered the railway car, from which he had alighted, and departed with the train west.

Stephen Johnson stood amazed, bewildered. He felt something moving within him as if he were an engine.—He felt himself impelled forward, and obeyed the impulse until arriving at the Locomotive Office he obtained leave of absence from his engine, on the excuse of temporary inability. Mr. Amiable, of that office, looked upon the pale face, and said:

“Stephen, you do look bad; and others meeting him said, ‘How ill you look, Steve; what is the matter?’ Come and see the Canty wee Laird of the Station Hotel.’ But Stephen Johnson said ‘no, he would go home.’

Arrived at home he said to his wife, ‘Marion, I am bewitched. I have seen that strange old man again. He has spoken. He gave me a purse of money. Take it; I feel as if I would never drive an engine more.’

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

THE GAME OF CHESS.

CHESS COLUMN.

EDITED BY A COMMITTEE OF THE ONTARIO CHESS CLUB, OF HAMILTON.

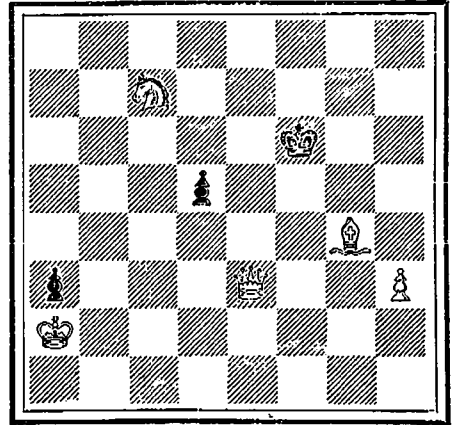
Communications to be addressed to the Editor of the Illustrated Canadian News.

PROBLEM No. 12.

BY J. B.

One of the competing Problems in the Cambridge Tourney, 1860.

BLACK.

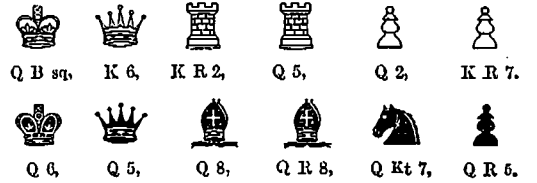


WHITE.

White to play and Mate in three moves.

ENIGMA No. 2.

BY E. B. COOKE.



White to play and mate in two moves.

A brilliant skirmish between Mr. Kolisch and Mr. Frasar, of Dundee, the former giving the odds of his Q Kt.

MUZIO GAMBIT.

[Remove White's Q Kt.]

- White—Mr. K. 1. P to K 4. 2. P to K B 4. 3. Kt to K B 3. 4. B to Q B 4. 5. Castles. 6. P to Q 4. 7. Q B takes P. 8. Q takes P (a). 9. Q B to K Kt 5. 10. Q to K R 5 (ch). 11. R takes K B P. 12. B takes Kt (ch). 13. R to K R sq (ch). 14. Q to K B 7 (ch) (b). 15. R to K B 6 (ch). 16. Q takes Q mate. Black—Mr. F. 1. P to K 4. 2. P takes P. 3. P to K Kt 4. 4. P to K Kt 5. 5. P takes Kt. 6. Kt to Q B 2. 7. Kt to Q B 4. 8. Kt takes B. 9. P to K B 3. 10. K to K 2. 11. Kt takes R. 12. K takes B. 13. K to K 2. 14. K to Q 3. 15. Q takes R.

(a) This and the following moves to the end are cleverly played by Mr. Kolisch. (b) The most expeditious course here is to check with the Rook, by which mate may be given on the next move.

A sparkling partie between Mr. Anderssen and Mr. Bird.

RUY-LOPEZ KNIGHT'S GAME.

- Black—Mr. B. 1. P to K 4. 2. Kt to K B 3. 3. B to Q Kt 5. 4. P to Q 4. 5. Castles. 6. P to K 5. 7. R to K sq. 8. P to Q B 3. 9. Q Kt takes P. 10. Kt to Q 5. 11. Q B to K B 4. 12. Q B takes P. 13. Kt takes Kt. 14. B to Q B 4. 15. Kt to Q 3. 16. Q to Q B 2. 17. P to K R 3. 18. R to K 4. 19. B to Q Kt 3. 20. Q to K 2. 21. Q takes Kt. 22. Kt to K 3. 23. R to K sq. 24. B to Q Kt sq. 25. P to Q B 4 (b). 26. K B takes Kt. 27. P to Q B 5. 28. Q to Q 7. 29. Q takes K B P (ch). 30. B takes Kt, and wins. White—Mr. A. 1. P to K 4. 2. Kt to Q B 3. 3. Kt to K B 3. 4. P takes P. 5. P to K 2. 6. B to K 5. 7. Kt to Q B 4. 8. P takes P. 9. Castles. 10. P to K B 3. 11. P takes P. 12. Q Kt takes B. 13. Kt to K 3. 14. B to Q B 4. 15. Q to K R 5. 16. B to Q 3. 17. Q to K R 3. 18. P to Q Kt 4. 19. Kt to K Kt 4 (a). 20. Kt takes R. 21. K to R sq. 22. R to Q Kt sq. 23. P to K Kt 2. 24. P to Q B 4 (b). 25. K B takes Kt. 26. P to Q B 5. 27. Q to Q 7. 28. Q takes K B P (ch). 29. B takes Kt, and wins.

(a) It is not often we meet with a player who defies a discovered check such as Black now threatens. Mr. Anderssen, however, had evidently well calculated the peril he ran, and the resources at his command to meet it.

(b) Black never recovered the effect of this move.

MEMORY OF NUMBERS BY GENIUS. The inability to remember names or numbers is common to poets and poetesses; and Elizabeth Barrett Browning says of herself, in a letter to Dr. Shelton Mackenzie:—“I was born in the county of Durham, but spent the greater part of my life, and from my infancy, at Hope End, Herefordshire, close to Malvern. As to dates I never could remember one in my life; I am constantly forgetting the Annus Domini, or doubting myself into the middle ages. I am afraid I must be past thirty by three or four years, but your readers will not care too curiously to enquire which; and your ‘living authors’ of the feminine gender, in general, will not, I fancy, on such a point, combine to afford you information of such unlimited frankness.”