

THE MISTLETOE-BOUGH.

I. 'Tis merry 'neath the mistletoe, When holly-berries glisten bright; When Christmas fires gleam and glow, When wintry winds so wildly blow, And all the meadows round are white— 'Tis merry 'neath the mistletoe!

ECHOES FROM LONDON.

SOME startling evidence will necessitate the re-opening of the Penge case. THE ground around St. Paul Cathedral is to be turfed, and trees will be planted there.

LORD Beaconsfield is going to emigrate. Report credits him with this intention, perhaps wrongfully. He proposes to leave Whitehall for Belgravia.

THE industrious and prudent Poet Laureate is busily engaged in revising and correcting his poetical works, with the view to get another edition, as it seems that his circle of readers and admirers is almost inexhaustible.

THE Queen, it has been remarked, always gives a Cashmere shawl as a wedding present; but it may not generally be known that they come from the Maharajah of Cashmere, and are a part of the tribute he pays the Empress of India every year.

It is reported that Meiklejohn, ex-detective, inspector, and colleague of "Benson and Co.," is endeavouring to profit by the example of his confederates and obtain a remission of sentence by divulging secrets which materially concern other members of the "force."

THE whole of the omnibus drivers and conductors on the Hammersmith line of the London General Omnibus Company have just received a hare, a pheasant, and a bottle of wine each, to celebrate Baron Rothschild's birthday, the baron appreciating their courtesy and good conduct in his frequent journeys from town to Turnham-green.

CANON FARRAR's remarkable sermon on the subject of eternal punishment, preached at Westminster Abbey, has led to a correspondence between the Canon and the Archbishop of Canterbury, which will probably be shortly published. The Primate's letters are in the nature of a remonstrance; Canon Farrar's in the nature of a defence.

SUCH considerable changes are taking place in the costume of our Volunteers that we shall soon not be able to recognize them. A large number of corps are going in for scarlet uniform, and a regimental order of one of the London battalions says, "As soon as the new helmet has been finally approved of as the headdress of the army, it will be adopted for this regiment." In fact, it will soon require a very keen eye, well versed in military tailoring, to distinguish between a regular and a volunteer.

MR. LEIGHTON has been painting three pictures for next year's Royal Academy exhibition. One is a very large work. The subject is the angel bringing food to Elijah in the wilderness, and the figures are over the life size. The second picture is that of two girls, one holding a skein of silk on her hands, which the other is winding; and the third work is a thoroughly classic study of a girl leaning against a pillar. It may not be generally known that Mr. Leighton is so particular about the moulding of his figures that he always paints them before he paints their drapery. He finds it better to create his lovely forms before clothing them. Worth would like to do the same.

A LADY of rank is performing a wonderful work in London. About two years ago she lost her two infant children, and then devoted her fortune and life to the work of saving the life of children. The statement that in England two

hundred thousand children die annually under the age of five, and three per cent. of these from preventable causes, met her eye. She began to visit the poor, to talk with mothers; she instituted weekly meetings, at which she gave them instruction in regard to preparing nourishing food, and she herself provided large quantities of food for sick children. She has extended her plan to include a day nursery, where women may leave their children while they are at work, and a Children's Retreat in the country, for infants whose lives depend on a change of air. The Empress of Russia last year sent the Countess a donation for her work and a warm letter of sympathy. The Grand Duchess of Baden has this year done the same.

HUMOROUS.

A WISE doctor always keeps his temper even if he loses his patients.

WHEN is a small baby like a big banker?—When he is a wroth-child.

WHY is the money you are in the habit of giving to the poor like a newly-born babe?—Because it is precious little.

"HOME's the place for boys," said a stern parent to his son, who was fond of going out at night. "That's just what I think when you drive me off to school every morning," said the son.

THE cold world little realizes the sense of desolation that shuts down on a man who thinks he has been handed too much change by his grocer when he dodges around the corner and finds it tight to a cent.

THE experienced editor can always tell at sight the man who comes in with his first attempt at original poetry. He walks on tiptoe, and looks as though he had just passed a counterfeit bill or strangled a baby.

A CLERGYMAN recently aroused his sleepy audience by announcing in a most positive manner that, notwithstanding the hard times, the wages of sin have not been cut down one iota.

PEOPLE often complain of hard times from a mere natural tendency to growl, but a Rome (Ga.) dorky, the other day, said, "Nebber seed sitch times since I been born. Work all day and steal all night, and blest if I can hardly make a livin'."

NOTICE TO LADIES.

The undersigned begs respectfully to inform the Ladies of the city and country that they will find at his Retail Store, 196 St. Lawrence Main Street, the choicest assortment of Ostrich and Vulture Feathers, of all shades; also, Feathers of all descriptions Repaired with the greatest care. Feathers Dyed as per sample, on shortest delay. Gloves Cleaned and Dyed Black only.

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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.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Solution of Problem No. 152 received. Correct. Student, Montreal.—Solution of Problem No. 152 received. Correct. M. J. M., Quebec.—Letter and Problem received. The latter shall appear soon. A. S., Montreal.—Sent letter containing Problem. Trust it came to hand. E. H.—Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 150 received. Correct.

THE SIXTH ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE DOMINION CHESS ASSOCIATION.

Now, that the Sixth Annual Congress and Tourney of the Dominion Chess Association are finished, it may not be out of place to make a few remarks on a gathering of Chess amateurs which ought, decidedly, to have a claim upon the notice of the players of the Dominion. One thing connected with it will, at once, challenge attention, and that is the fact, that all the players taking part in either Congress or Tourney, were from the Province of Quebec; Montreal being the only place sending visitors to the ancient capital. When the Association was set on foot, a few years ago, it was intended that its usefulness should extend to every Province in the Dominion, and that at every annual meeting representatives from all clubs should present themselves, and take part in its proceedings.

This year's meeting has failed to maintain to its full extent the original design of the promoters of the Association, and it may be useful to ascertain the cause, or causes, with a view to a opt measures which may prevent a recurrence of so limited a use of its benefits. In considering the matter we can hardly come to the conclusion that Chess is losing ground in any part of the Dominion. The rapid progress it is making elsewhere, seems at once to render this very unlikely. The establishment of Clubs in the United States and Great Britain during the past year has been unprecedented, and Columns for the diffusion of Chess intelligence are to be found in a large number of successful literary journals of both countries, and not a few of the leading newspapers of the day set apart a portion of their valuable space for the same purpose.

It might be suggested that Quebec is so situated that it does not lie within easy access of those living in many parts of the Dominion, but this objection will apply to other places, and will therefore, be likely to occur on many future occasions. If it can be proved that the position of the locality where the Congress is held determines its success, the best plan, perhaps, would be to connect it permanently with such a one as will be the best calculated to ensure all the benefits likely to arise from it. Toronto, Hamilton, Ottawa, Montreal, are all important places, and each has, we believe, a flourishing Chess Club connected with it.

Another point claiming attention as regards the working of the Association seems to be the difficulty of raising funds to meet expenses at each annual gathering. From the rules of the Association it would appear that, at its inauguration, it was not expected that entrance fees from members, and subscriptions from clubs, would supply ample means for all purposes, but we are afraid that, if it had not been for the liberality of the Chess amateurs of Quebec, the prizes at the late Congress would not have been on such a satisfactory scale as they were. As a matter of course the inability of the Association to raise

sufficient funds from its members in order to carry out its objects would make it a great burden to any place where it might be permanently located. Our space allows us only the means of calling attention briefly to matters affecting the interest of the Association. At the next annual meeting, which takes place in Montreal, we trust, that before the excitement of the usual Tourney begins, the members present will give the constitution of the Society and its working, the benefit of their thoughtful consideration.

From the Toronto Globe. TORONTO CHESS CLUB.

We are glad to announce that after lengthened incubation this Club is again reorganized, with prospect of vigorous action during the present season.

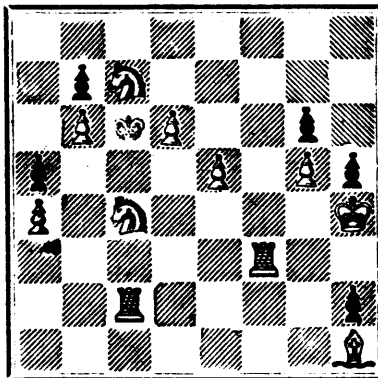
The following is the list of officer-bearers:— President—Mr. H. J. Rose. Vice-President—Mr. H. Northcote. Secretary-Treasurer—Mr. M. Hirschberg. Committee—Messrs. Boutilbie, G. L. Madison, J. W. Beatty.

The regular meetings will be held in the Mechanics' Institute every Friday evening, but play may be had during the week afternoons and evenings as well at the same place.

We understand that at the last regular meeting a Tournament was opened in two classes for friendly contest among the members, and by the liberality of one of the officers a prize was offered for the best player in each class.

PROBLEM No. 154.

By M. J. MURPHY, Quebec. BLACK.



WHITE

White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME 229TH.

(From Land and Water.) CHESS IN LONDON, Eng.

A lively game played at Pursesell's some time ago between Mr. Potter and Mr. Earee, the former giving the odds of Pawn and two moves.

(Remove Black's K. B. P.) WHITE.—(Mr. Earee.) BLACK.—(Mr. Potter.)

- 1. P to K 4 2. P to Q 4 3. B to K 3 4. B to Q 3 5. Kt to KB 3 6. Kt to Kt 5 (b) 7. P to K 5 8. Q to R 5 (ch) 9. B takes P (ch) 10. Kt to B 7 (ch) 11. Kt takes R 12. Q to Kt 5 13. B to Q 2 14. Kt to B 7 (d) 15. Kt to K 5 (e) 16. Q to B 4 17. Q takes K Kt 18. Q to R 4 19. R to B sq (f) 20. Q to R 6 21. K to K 2 22. B to K 3 And then White more distinctly realizing his position, resigned (g).

NOTES.

- (a) This defence has proved very successful against amateurs, not only strong but experienced, at these odds. (b) Unusual, but not wanting in ingenuity. (c) Kt to K R 3 would have been sounder. (d) Not good. He should have played B takes R P. (e) He will not, as might be imagined, lose a piece immediately by this move, but there are eventualities in store which will prove sufficiently disastrous. (f) If 19. R to Kt sq 20. K to Q 4 21. Q to Kt 3 22. K to K sq 23. Q takes Kt 10. Kt to B 6 (ch) 20. Kt takes R 21. B to B 6 (ch) 11. B to Q 3 21. B to Q 3 22. Q to K 4 (ch) etc.

SOLUTIONS.

Solution of Problem No. 152.

- WHITE. 1. Kt to Q 6 2. Kt to Q Kt 5 (ch) 3. Pawn mates BLACK. 1. B takes B (a) 2. K to Q B 5

- 1. R takes Kt 2. Anything

Solution of Problem for Young Players, No. 150.

- WHITE. 1. Q to KB 6 2. Mates accordingly BLACK. 1. Any move

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS No. 151.

- WHITE. K at K sq R at QR 5 Kt at QR 7 Kt at Q Kt 6 Pawn at Q 5 BLACK. K at Q Kt sq R at K R sq Kt at Q B 2 Pawns at Q 3 and Q Kt 2 White to play and mate in three moves.

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