

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters addressed for the Editor should be addressed "Editor of Saturday Reader, Drawer 401," and communications on business to "R. Worthington, publisher."

R. E.—Wassail is derived from the old Anglo-Saxon *Wæs heal*—"Be in health." The drinking of healths is of very ancient date; but the application of the word "toast" is modern, having had its origin in the practice of putting a piece of toasted bread in a jug of ale—hence called "a toast and tankard." The custom of so using the word is said to have had its rise at Bath in the reign of Charles II. It happened that on a public day a celebrated beauty of those times was in the large public bath, and one of the crowd of her admirers took a glass of the water in which the fair one stood, and drank her health to the company. There was in the place a gay fellow half tipsy, who offered to jump in, and declared, though he liked not the liquor, he would have the toast. He was opposed in his resolution; yet this whim gave foundation to the present honour which is done to the lady we mention in our liquors, who has ever since been called a toast—*Zeller*. Begun in the form of toasting beauties at private parties, toasts were in time given on all sorts of subjects at public festivities.

A. B. C.—When, on the side-walks, two persons proceeding in different directions are about to pass, each should pass to the right-hand of the other.

W. W. B.—The article is respectfully declined.

A CONSTANT READER.—We cannot say positively, but we will endeavour to arrange in future that the serial tale or tales shall conclude with the volume.

MADE.—The lines entitled "Days of Old" are declined with thanks.

GEO. D. L., PORT DOVER.—We have entered your name as a subscriber for the club, and handed the problem to our chess editor, who will report in due course.

V.—The publisher will retain the Canadian copyright of the prize story, but the author will be at liberty to republish in Great Britain. We can give no definite reply to your other question.

DELF.—The phrase, "Mind your P's and Q's," is said to have originated in the tavern practice of scoring debts due by customers, the P's signifying pints, and the Q's quarts. It was, and, for aught we know, is still, customary in the rural districts of England to score these debts with chalk upon the inside of the bar-room door.

A SUNSHOWER.—A Morgonatic marriage is one that is celebrated with the understanding that the issue of such marriage will not inherit the title or estate of the father. Such a marriage does not sanction the having two wives at the same time.

A. J.—Much obliged. We will forward specimen copies for your canvass.

BOLTON.—Declined with thanks.

ARTHUR W.—Yes.

WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

A Carib being asked if he remembered a certain benevolent missionary, calmly replied, "He was a good man. Me ate part of him."

"Do you like fish-balls, Mr. Wiggins?" Mr. Wiggins, hesitatingly—"I really don't know, Miss Robinson; I never recollect attending one."

"I have just packed my eight children off to school; how would you like the care of so many?" said a mother to an old bachelor. "Why, I should hate it," he replied.

"Would not you, sir, start as Mr. Garrick does, if you saw a ghost?" said Jemmy Boswell to Samuel Johnson. "I hope not," replied Johnson, "if I did I should frighten the ghost."

"One might have heard a pin fall," is a proverbial expression of silence; but it has been eclipsed by the French phrase, "You might have heard the unfolding of a lady's cambric handkerchief."

Dr. Browne having long admired a very beautiful young lady, made a point of always giving her for his toast. Being once told it was time to change it, he replied, "I believe it is; for though I have been toasting her for these twenty years, I have not been able to make her brown yet."

Dr. Dosey was ill: his friend, the Rev. Peter Quick, applied to the patron for the next presentation; but the Doctor recovered, and upbraided the Rev. Peter with such a breach of friendship, saying, "You looked for my death."—"No, no, doctor," said Peter, "you quite mistake; it was your living I looked for."

"All's well that ends well," as the gentleman said when he wrote the postscript to his letter.

"Measure for measure," as the chemist said when he took a bad sennep for a black draught.

PASTIMES.

FLORAL ANAGRAMS.

1. Why zero per! F.
2. O dread horn ugd.
3. A bard led so J. C.
4. Y. his hut can.

BENICUS.

SQUARE WORDS.

1. A sign.
An animal.
A lake in Ireland.
Want.

BENICUS.

2. To transmit.
Always.
A Roman Emperor.
A particle of water.

INNERMAN.

TRANSPOSITIONS.

1. PANTRISTONSIO. A sort of puzzle.
2. R.M.P. SIR CHARLIE MORRIS. A British general.

CHARADES.

I am a word of nine letters. My 1, 2, 7 is a beverage; my 5, 6, 7, 1, 2 is a useful article; my 5, 6, 2, 7, 1 signifies power; my 5, 6, 7, 8, 4 is a fruit; my 9, 4, 7, 1 signifies warmth. My 8, 3, 7, 6 is a fruit. My 1, 4, 7, 6, 8 is to rend; my 6, 3, 7, 8 is to cut down; my 5, 7, 1, 9, 2, 6 is to pick up; my 8, 2, 4, 3 is to pare; my 7, 3, 2 is a malt liquor; my 9, 7, 3, 4 is hearty; my 7, 8, 4 is an animal; my 9, 4, 7, 3 is to cure; my 3, 4, 7, 6, 8 is to jump; my 3, 4, 3 is a part of the body; my 2, 4, 3, 8 is a fish; my 9, 4, 7, 3 is to ring; my 1, 6, 7, 8 is to catch. My *whole* is a useful invention.

My first is drawn on paper, to convey distinct ideas of what it does portray; My next is a word that to the French belongs, It's also found in Roman poet's songs; My *whole*, a wander as its name implies, On its appointed path untiring flies.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

Two words, of five letters each, the letters in each to be the same. The five words forming the acrostic to contain the same number of letters each.

1. Half of a relation.
2. A small fiddle.
3. A card.
4. A beverage.
5. An animal.

F. F.

ENIGMA.

Tread lightly, speak low, nay, profound silence keep, If so be that you mean not to break on my sleep; My dreams you can't hurt, for, though strange it may seem,

I could slumber for aye, unmolested by dream. Impar, not to me what you wish to conceal; I'm a tell-tale, and all that I catch I reveal: So beware what you say, if you're wise—do you mind me?

For you know not in what lurking place you may find me.

And true it will prove, as my voice that is heard, That when'er I discourse, I must have the last word; Yet in converse with me when you happen to fall, I speak what you wish, or I speak not at all.

I always in all tongues, and have oft used the worst, Always ready to prate, but I never speak first; Like a cunning disputer, 'tis with me a fixed plan, e'er, To meet question with question, always shirking an answer.

Where once I am found, or in grotto or glen Be assured you may always detect me *again*, For where nature or art has determined my lot, As a true lover constant, I cling to the spot. And there I could slumber, unnoticed, unknown. Without growing fainter, when ages had flown.

H. M.

ANSWERS TO GEOGRAPHICAL BEBUS, &c., No. 80.

Geographical *Rebus, Tamerlane*.—1 Tay, 2 Alsace, 3 Matapan, 4 Estramadura, 5 Rhodes, 6 Lyons, 7, Alabama, 8 Nottingham, 9 Egypt.

Square Words.—S H E D.

H E R E.
E R I G.
D E C K.

Riddle.—Ice.

Charades.—1 Woman, 2 Washington Irving, 3 Oxford, 4 Capital.

Problem.—Original cost was \$12,000.

Decapitation.—Grace-race-acc.

ANSWERS RECEIVED.

Rebus.—Hero, Vivian, J. J. H. Argus, Geo. B. Ellen.

Square Words.—Bericus, Argus, Vivian, Camp, Ottawa, J. J. H.

Riddle.—J. J. H. Hero, Bericus, Argus, Geo. B., Prescott.

Charades.—Bericus, Argus, Ellen, Geo. B., Ottawa, Camp.

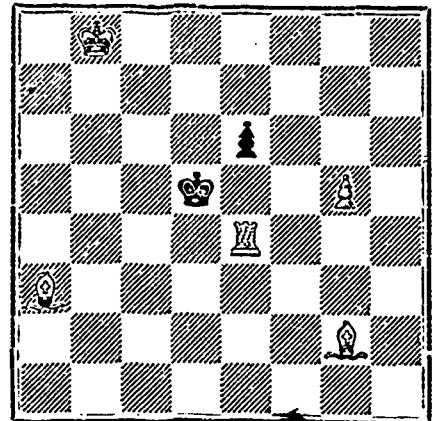
Decapitation.—Ellen, Camp, Bericus, Geo. B., Argus.

Problem.—Argus, Bericus, Geo. B., J. J. H.

CHESS.

PROBLEM, No. 81.

By "MEDICO," WATERVILLE, C. E. BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in four moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM, NO. 59.

WHITE.

- 1 Q to K 2.
- 2 Q to K 5.
- 3 Q to B 3 mate.

BLACK.

- K takes P.
- 8 moves.

The following game was recently contested by a member of the Montreal Chess Club, against three amateurs consulting:

BLACK, (Mr. A.)

WHITE, (The Allies.)

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

and in a few more moves, the Allies struck their colors.

- (a) P takes P seems preferable.
- (b) This is not so good as it looks.
- (c) Well played, if Black now takes B with Q (ch). White pushes on P, putting the Q en prise, followed by Q takes Kt (ch), &c.
- (d) Unexpected, no doubt.
- (e) Threatening to win the Q.
- (f) It matters little where the K goes.
- (g) The only move to save immediate defeat.
- (h) R to K B sq would have been better, the move in the text only hastens their defeat.