

politics; a portion of the German army to retain the forts; the payment by the city of Paris of a sum variously stated at 200,000,000 and 63,000,000 francs, and the discontinuance of the war. It is also said that the Prince Imperial is to be proclaimed Emperor with the Empress as Regent.

While the crowning calamity has fallen upon the capital, but little of importance has transpired in the Provinces. In the west nothing has been heard of Chanzy, who, at last advices, was reported to be in the vicinity of Laval, and to have been reinforced with 30,000 men from Cherbourg. Two German armies are said to be in pursuit, and another large force is to be sent from Paris at the expiration of the armistice, should peace not have been declared by that time. In the north the Prussians were marching upon Honfleur, on the left bank of the mouth of the Seine. It is also announced that military operations in this quarter were to have been extended in an important degree in connection with a movement of the army under the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg.

In the western Provinces the Garibaldians defeated an attack of the Prussians near Dijon on the 22nd, and subsequently occupied the town, but since that time nothing of importance has been done, operations having been suspended in consequence of the defeat of Bourbaki. A despatch states that the army of Garibaldi is now surrounded at Dijon by the Prussians. In the meantime Bourbaki, finding himself caught between Manteuffel and Von Werder, has taken advantage of the only loophole left, and crossed the border into Switzerland. The fortress of Longwy, on the Belgian frontier, has capitulated after a long bombardment, 4,000 prisoners and 200 guns falling thereby into the hands of the victors. The siege of Cambrai has been abandoned for a few days, but it is now stated that it has recommenced with renewed vigour, and that Arras and Douai are menaced.

ROUND AND ABOUT TOWN.

TOBACCO SMOKING.

"Hail solé cosmopolite. Tobacco hail!
No matter how much your enemies rail.
Hail strong cut, long cut, short cut, quid tail, pig or roll,
In every form congenial to the smoker's soul."

It was a grand scene. An Imperial Duchess, beneath a crimsoned canopy of velvet heavily hung and fringed with gold, was surrounded by armed knights; the banners of varied hues satin emblazoned with arms of great renown were fluttering in the breeze; monks with cowls, ladies of beauty, barons in sumptuous attire, trumpeters with silver horns rent the air with heroic sounds; the pomp and chivalry were there. The rich orange trees loaded the air with perfume, the pomegranates blossom crimsoned the green foliage, and the great sun shone resplendent on diademed crowned women, armoured men, and earth and trees and exotic flowers. Nicot, with bended knee, had returned from the New World, and on a gorgeous cushion was laying at the feet of his mistress, the new plant that was to be a European luxury forever. Even as Nicot came, so came Sir Walter Raleigh to the virgin Queen Elizabeth and brought from the land he had named after her this new found plant. Tobacco in English. *Tabaco* in Spanish, in Italian *Tabacco*, in French *Tabac*. In Latin it is called *Nicotiana Tabacum*. It is derived from the Indian *tabaco*, the tube or pipe in which the Indians smoked the leaf. Perhaps no acquired taste has ever had such a hold upon the human race; it solaces the oriental in his bareness, the German dreams half his life away watching its clouds ascending into all imaginable shapes. The Spaniard draws its smoke within his mouth, emits it from his nostrils, and seems to digest every particle of its essence, the Spanish Senora puffs her delicate cigarette as she sends love-glances from her eyes. The Englishman puffs away and smokes away millions of money, the American smokes and chews it, the Scotchman snuffs it up his nostrils. The Indian smokes his Calumet of Peace, and all the world since Nicot and Raleigh have been engaged in creating clouds of smoke. Tobacco Sylvester speaking of a new-born smoker, says:

"He is lately turned tobaccoist,
Oh, what a blow, what an abatement 'tis!"

Its cultivation absorbs acres and acres of the best land in every country, and all peoples have endeavoured to rival each other in its production. Virginia is famous, Cuba is famous, and so is Turkey for their peculiar kinds. What a delight to the smoker is good tobacco, and what an abomination is bad. There is an aroma about the pure that would tempt the gods to inhale the fragrance of its delights; to dream, to reverie, to build castles in the air, to read a novel, to lounge on the banks of a river, to recline on the green sward beneath a shady tree upon a summer's day and draw delightful sensations from the imperial burning regalia, is not to be described.

A true lover of smoking is ever cautious in his selection, and yet how much must be left to the honesty and judgment of the importer and the dealer. We have ever been smokers from our earliest boyhood. We have puffed away from vile German cigars, and we have been as joyous as De Quincey, the opium-eater, under the stimulus of a pure Havana. There are Partagas, Upmann's, Figaros, (Figaro se Figaro is) there are Intimidads, Flora Cuba, Virginitas, Espanolas, and Pume-reigas, all when of honest brand never to be slighted by the smoker. In the illustration of Cohen & Lopez's cigar headquarters the various brands are exhibited. From their agents they receive tobacco in every form from various foreign countries, and always selected with care. It is the Montreal store for good judges to replenish their exhausted stock.

THE SNOW-SHOE PIPE.

They deserve to be patronised, for liberality and enterprise deserve to be supported. They have now on exhibition the Meerschbaum, the *Jucsimile* of which we present, which they have imported from Austria as a prize for the Snow-Shoe Clubs of the Dominion. It is valued at \$200, and is one of the richest we have ever seen, whether in design, quality, or execution. The bowl is engraved or carved into *bas reliefs* of the beaver, with snow-shoes, the maple leaf, and other symbols, with the name of the presenters, Messrs. Cohen & Lopez. The cup of the bowl is solid silver, exquisitely chased and surmounted by a shield, the apex where the neck joins with the stem is equally elaborate, the total weight of the silver is 8 oz. The mouth-piece is of the purest clouded amber.

There will be three races, and the winner of two out of three receives the prize. The profits from the sale of tickets will be handed to the General Hospital. The first race is on

the grand club race day, Feb. 11; the second on the following Saturday, the Montreal Snow-Shoe Club day; the third the Saturday following. It is a magnificent prize and is well worthy of examination. It may be seen at Cohen & Lopez's, corner of St. James Street and Place D'Armes.

The Montreal Workingmen's Society held its 4th annual concert on Monday night at St. Patrick's Hall, Mr. H. Brown, the President, in the chair. On the platform were also Sir A. T. Galt, K. C. M. G., and the Rev. Gavin Lang, who, in the course of the evening, delivered addresses. The musical part of the programme was admirably executed.

SCIENCE AND ART

The London *Art-Journal*, than which no better art critic can be found, in speaking of the progress of art in Canada, notices, in the most favourable terms, a painting by Mr. Allan Edson. The painting, most of our readers will remember, was on view at the annual exhibition of the Society of Canadian Artists in February last, and attracted well-deserved encomiums from all who examined it. A "Summer View of Mount Orford and Pond, Eastern Townships," is the subject chosen by the artist, whom the *Art-Journal* speaks as one "who has made considerable progress in his profession within the past few years." "Altogether," says the *Journal*, the picture is "nature in her own unexaggerated richness!"

GELATINE AS A MATERIAL FOR PLASTIC DECORATION.

The *Art-Journal*, in an extremely interesting article on the Application of Gelatine to the Requirements of Art, makes a suggestion that appears worthy of experiment. It says: "The properties by which gelatine invites the attention of the Art-workman are of the rarest and most valuable character. The mere fact of the easy manner in which a readily soluble substance may be made insoluble is one of which advantage may be taken in a hundred ways. When to this is added the rare property of sensibility to light, or rather to actinic influence, it becomes clear that gelatine is but in its artistic infancy. A material which it is possible to chase, engrave, emboss, and model with a delicacy that mocks the microscope, and without the touch of human hand, which may be poured into a mould like gum, and hardened until it will impress its own relief, in intaglio, on a solid metal plate, is one that promises obedience to other artificers besides the copyist of landscape or of portrait. Nothing would be more easy, for instance, than to construct beautiful caskets of plates of gelatine, covered with arabesques, foliage, medallions, or any other enrichment, by photographic aid, hardened into the likeness of amber, or covered with gold, or illuminated with gorgeous colour. Ornamental book-binding, again, has here a serviceable material ready for use. Personal decoration—in the use of brooches, bracelets, necklaces, or other ornaments, depending for their charm on the beauty of design and delicacy of ornamentation, and not on value of material—all branches of plastic decoration in which greater delicacy is sought than can be attained by the worker in *papier-mâché*—for all these and many other purposes gelatine will hereafter be available."

THE *Canadian Illustrated News*, Montreal, Christmas Number, 1870.—We have been favoured with a copy of the Christmas number of this really admirable publication, which in the profuseness as well as excellence of its illustrations, and also in the selection of its matter, is qualified to sustain an honourable rivalry with similar publications in the mother country. Some of the engravings embodied in the Christmas number are really masterpieces of art; and the editor, as well as the spirited proprietors, are fully justified in taking great credit to themselves for the surprising progress which the paper has made since the Christmas of 1869. The greater part of the illustrations are of a devotional character, as befits the season, but we desire to notice the beautiful engraving of Lady Lisgar, the wife of Sir John Young, now Lord Lisgar. This Christmas number of the *Canadian Illustrated* should find a place in the home of every settler in the Dominion.—*Railway Record*, London, England, Jan. 7, 1871.

AN ENGLISH APPRECIATION OF CANADIAN MUSICAL CRITICISM.—The *Queen* says: "Miss Nilsson has been singing in Toronto, Rochester, &c., with great success. The Toronto *Daily Telegraph* has two long sensational notices, headed 'The Gallowes' and the 'Nilsson Concert.' Precedence is given to the former, being a minute report of the execution of two murderers; and the musical criticism is equally personal in details of the *physique* of the fair caustic. 'Next to her grace and beauty,' writes our American journalist, 'the sweet smile and frank cordial manner, the attention is caught in the strange little original ways and action, seemingly wilful and coquettish, with which she keeps the audience waiting for her song. Then she begins, and her listeners are spell-bound and delighted, her voice being purely northern like herself—white, so to say, and colourless, till some emotion colour it. A voice from the mountains, pure and spiritual, not sensuous and full of southern warmth as a permanent condition, but quickly flushed with colour in the play of feelings like her own lustrous complexion. The harmony between her nature and her voice are perfect. Voice, look, smile, all are one—in fact, she is such an artist as inspires respect, mingled with affection and enthusiasm, subdued by reverence.' This is very fine writing, but we distinctly recollect that it was applied formerly to Jenny Lind—the very same words in fact. If our contemporary wished to see the faces of artistes flushed with 'colour in the play of feelings,' he should go behind the scenes of an opera house and hear two prime donne discuss their respective claims to particular parts in the *répertoire*, each demanding the monopoly thereof.

THE GERMAN NORTH POLAR EXPEDITION.

In a letter from Gotha, dated the 1st October, Dr. Petermann thus sums up the results of the expedition:

"The results and successes of the second German North Polar expedition are manifold in character, and relate to various branches of science; they prove the approachability of East Greenland in high latitudes; a comparative fullness of animal and vegetable life in the interior of the land, the

existence of beds of brown coal, navigable fjordes, going deep into the country, immense mountains, as high as fourteen thousand feet, and for these latitudes a not unfavourable temperature.

"As the principal results may be assumed, that with this expedition a new path to the final exploration of the North Polar regions is opened, new ground trodden, a new direction taken, and a new basis won. From the lands lying nearest to East Greenland, for example, the west coast of Spitzbergen and Greenland, scientific circles had long possessed large natural scientific collections of every description, which have given of late years important insight, especially in regard to the geology and history of our earth; it is easy at any time to bring whole ship-loads of collections relating to these departments to Europe; but it was not so with East Greenland, this extended *vis-à-vis* of our quarter of the globe. Of this hitherto almost unknown, scientifically great district, every exploration, every collection—every single petrification for example—is of especial value toward filling up the knowledge of our earth; Ober-Lieutenant Payer gathered on his various land excursions in East Greenland not less than twenty boxes of geological specimens, among them being many petrifications. With his theodolite he ascended up as high as seven thousand feet, accompanied by Dr. Copeland and Peter Ellinger. No other land possesses such magnificent characteristics, navigable fjordes, with a high temperature of water and air, immense mountains rising to a height of fourteen thousand feet, great herds of musk-oxen and reindeer, etc., as Greenland.

"That a German expedition of discovery, fitted out from voluntary contributions from prince and people, has here opened up the way to the Pole, will bring imperishable fame to Germany. For more than five years great exertions have been made in England, France, and America to set afoot a scientific expedition for the exploration of the Central Arctic regions. Germany, however, has gone first into actual duty, and has achieved already great results."

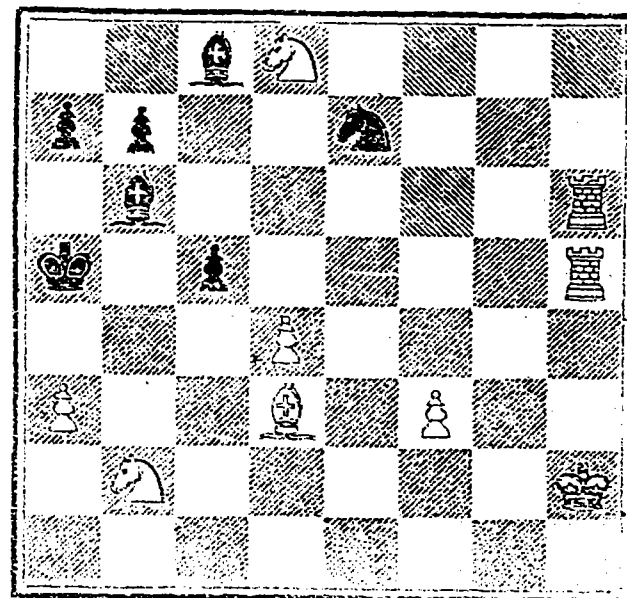
The most Rev. Dr. Cyril B. Benni, Archbishop of Mosul (the ancient Nineveh) is now in London, making collections for the schools and churches in his arch-diocese. On Sunday, the 8th January, he celebrated mass according to the Syrian rite, at the Roman Catholic Church, Kingsland.

RATS HELPING A BLIND COMPANION.—The following is related as a fact in the *Cathness Courier*:—"While Alexander Gunn, cattle-dealer, Brachour, was lately passing Mill and Dale, his attention was attracted to a large rat coming out of its hole, which, after surveying the place, retreated with the greatest caution and silence. It returned soon afterward, leading by the ear another, which it left close by the hole. A third rat joined this kind conductor, and the two then searched about and picked up small scraps of grain; these they carried to the second rat, which appeared to be blind, and which remained on the spot where they had left it, nibbling such fare as was brought to it. After this, one of the rats seized a small stick, about five inches in length, which he inserted in the blind one's mouth, and conducted it to the water, and afterward led it back to its hole."

CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 25.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

SOLUTION OF ENIGMA No. 7.

- | White. | Black. |
|-----------------------|-------------|
| 1. R. checks. | R. takes R. |
| 2. Kt. checks. | K. moves. |
| 3. B. to B 6th, mate. | |

CHARADES.

[Mr. Underhill was the composer of the last Charade published in the *News*, though we inadvertently omitted to credit him with it.—Ed. C. I. N.]

NUMBERED CHARADE.

Consisting of Seventeen Letters.

My 2, 8, 12, 3, 4, 10 is a material for dyeing.
My 3, 10, 17, 13 is a portion of the face.
My 9, 6, 3, 13 is sometimes given to a dog.
My 1, 10, 14, 8, 1, 6, 9 is the assumed name of a Canadian comic writer.
My 3, 10, 7 is the present moment.
My 11, 6, 5, 15 is the Emblem of England.
My 16, 2, 8, 1 is a favourite resort for Canadians.
And my whole is the name of a Regiment lately quartered in Canada.