

interested in the latter. Great things are expected of these discoveries.—*Herald.*

**OPERATIONS AT LONDONDERRY.**—The new blast furnace has settled down to its regular work and now produces from 520 to 550 tons of foundry iron a week. This is principally No. IX. Fuel and slint have been reduced fully per cent and labour in proportion. Two roasting kilns are in operation treating 120 tons spathic ore daily. These are fired by water gas from blast furnace. New and important developments of ore have been made and further explorations are in progress, as the great resources of the company's property have not hitherto been understood. The fuel question has now become the most important, as Albion coal makes a firm, strong coke, but carries a large percentage of ash and occasionally an excessive amount of sulphur. The coke made from Springhill coal is weak and inferior to that from Pictou.

The Truro coal mining company (limited) are engaged in opening up a seam of bituminous coal on the Tatamagouche road, better known as McCollum settlement in Colchester. This seam promises to be a valuable one, as the coal is said to be of a superior quality. This is the first coal mine opened in Colchester and the locality is favorable for such an industry, being situated about 11 miles from Truro, 14 miles from Acadia mines and six miles from the I. C. R. on the nearest points.

**THE WITWATERSRANDT GOLD PRODUCT.**—Telegraphic advices from Johannesburg to the *London Mining Journal* under date of December 11th, state that the gold crushings at Witwatersrandt for the month of November realized 73,400 ounces. The following table gives crushings to date:—

	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.
January .....	11,269	24,986	35,038	53,205
February .....	12,162	25,800	36,886	50,073
March .....	14,706	28,075	37,600	52,549
April .....	15,853	27,136	38,799	56,362
May .....	19,002	36,298	38,884	54,672
June .....	16,328	31,272	37,412	55,863
July .....	19,966	32,407	39,452	54,920
August .....	19,877	32,142	42,861	59,070
September .....	20,495	34,369	45,467	65,601
October .....	27,775	31,914	45,250	72,793
November .....	27,336	36,116	46,800	73,400
December .....	26,148	39,218	50,352	.....

Total ounces.....230,917 379,733 494,801 648,908

The total number of ounces returned in 1887 was 34,897. No monthly totals were recorded in that year. Total output to date, 1,789,488 ounces.

**OUR NICKEL DEVELOPMENT.**—The development of our great mining districts goes steadily on. Only the other day it was announced that the Belgian Bank had acquired ten square miles of iron mining lands near Port Arthur; now it is said that British capitalists have paid \$2,000,000 for the Blizzard nickel mine, near Sudbury. The sale was negotiated by Mr. Duncan McIntyre, and it is said that the C. P. R. company is also largely interested in the mineral development of Algoma. That district is indeed proving one of the richest portions of our Dominion, instead of turning out as it was described but a few years since—a useless, rocky waste.

This news is welcome from many points of view. It is desirable that British money should be coming this way, and doubly so in a district which U. S. Senators and American speculators openly assert their intention of possessing. Secretary Tracy, of the Navy Department, has within the past few days formally reported in favor of nickel steel for American ships, and at a time when the British, German and Italian Governments are all proposing to obtain this now valuable metal it is especially pleasing to find British capitalists taking hold of our mines. Indeed the only other nickel territory being in New Caledonia, and under French control, it is all-important to England to keep a controlling influence in our great reserves. The papers in the States, as well as the authorities there, are closely watching our mineral development, and the following from the *New York Times* of December 17 is significant as showing the great value put upon that product:

"The discovery of new deposits of nickel-bearing ore in Canada, said to be as rich in quality as those of the Sudbury district, may be of interest to other countries as well as to the Dominion. Our navy department has already purchased the great quantity of 4,536 tons of nickel matte, containing about one-fifth that amount of nickel. But with nickel-steel armor definitely resolved upon for our ship armor, and the nickel alloy likely to enter into other manufactures of steel for Government purposes, an ascertained extension of ore-bearing region is naturally of importance."

The new nickel properties are in Nova Scotia (!) and seem to be of a high grade of value. Many uses are being daily discovered for nickel, and it seems probable that gun-shields, the guns themselves, projectiles, engines, the hulls of vessels and most of the steel now used for general purposes will receive a percentage, small or large, of this important metal. Now is the time, when the new Dominion Mineral Company, of which Mr. McIntyre is the head, are proposing to erect smelting and refining works upon their property, for the people of Toronto to reflect whether such works could be also built here to the betterment of our laboring classes and the profit of our moneyed men. At the present moment it is said that a number of companies are commencing mining operations, amongst others the Graham Mining Company, and the Straight Lake Nickel Mining Company.

Canadians have every reason to be proud of the recent mineral development of our country.—*Empire.*



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## DRAUGHTS-CHECKERS

All communications to this department should be addressed directly to the Checker Editor, W. Forsyth 36 Grafton Street.

### NEW 4.

Our readers will remember that on Thanksgiving day a match was played at Shubenacadie between two players of that place—Messrs. Lynch and Forbes—and two from Halifax—Messrs. O'Hearn and Hamilton—the prize being a valuable picture to which the four players mutually contributed. At that meeting it chanced that the two Halifax men were pitted against each other and the two Shubenacadians against each other. The result was that Messrs. Lynch and O'Hearn were matched for the final contest for the prize. One game was then played which was drawn, when the play had to be adjourned to enable the Halifaxians to take their train for home, but it was agreed that the match should be finished at some time convenient to both between then and New Year's day. In pursuance of this agreement Messrs Lynch and O'Hearn again met at Shubenacadie on Tuesday, Dec. 29th, when Mr. Lynch won the prize by the following score:—Lynch 2, O'Hearn 0, drawn 1. Below we give one of the games played in this match. As nothing is better calculated to create and maintain an interest in any amusement than those friendly contests of skill which frequently develop latent resources of strategy perhaps unsuspected by even the participants, we hope that the contest above noted will be but the precursor of several others during the current winter.

### SOLUTION.

**PROBLEM 255.**—The position was: black men 4, 13, 21, kings 7, 8, 32; white men 13, 17, 29, 30, kings 1, 19; white to play and win.

19 15 23—27 30 26 22—6  
18—23 19 24 31—22 1 12  
15 19 27—31 13 9

And white wins by first position.

### GAME No. 152—BRISTOL

Played at Shubenacadie Dec. 29th, 1891, between Mr. T. B. Lynch, of Shubenacadie, and Mr. P. O'Hearn, of Halifax.

11—16 14—18 9—13 3—7  
22 18 23 14 24 19 13—30 25

10—14 9—25 7—10  
25 22 29 22 21 17  
16—20 5—9 13—22  
11—18 15 22 18 26 17

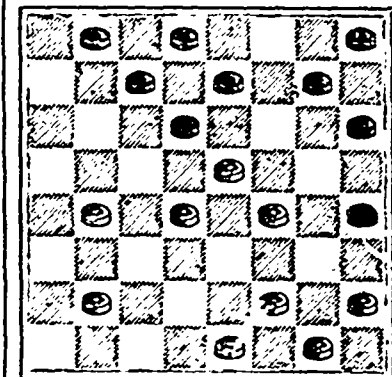
a This is an original move. We do not remember seeing it before, though it resembles a "centro" with colors reversed.

b This is an oversight in which Mr. O'Hearn seldom indulges. Had he played the piece to 26 instead of 25 we think he might have reversed the result and scored a win. Can any of our readers find black's possible draw from this point.

From this stage we take

### PROBLEM No. 257.

Black men 1, 2 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 12, 20.



White men 15, 17, 18, 19, 25, 27, 28, 31, 32.

Black to play and win.

Our young players especially should try to find the win without moving a piece.

There have appeared from time to time in the — during the past year accounts of remarkable cures in various parts of the Dominion. In each case the circumstances connected therewith had been investigated by well known newspapers, and there could be no doubt as to the entire reliability of the accounts given. Perhaps the case that attracted most was that of Mr. John Marshall, of Hamilton. This was not, perhaps, because his case was any more remarkable than some others, but because it was attended by some other peculiar circumstances that served to emphasize it in the minds of the public, as for instance the fact that he had been pronounced absolutely incurable by half a score of clever physicians, and was actually paid the \$1,000 disability claim allowed by the Royal Templars of Temperance. Elsewhere in the issue is given the particulars of a cure in Cape Breton, which is quite as remarkable as that of Mr. Marshall. The particulars of the case are taken from the *Halifax Herald*, but they are also vouched for by Mr. Richardson, the editor and proprietor of the *Island Reporter*, Sidney, C. B., who says that in not a single particular is the story overdrawn. We fancy we hear some reader say, "Oh, pshaw! this doesn't interest me." But it does. The story as told elsewhere is worth reading, and we will guarantee before you are through with it you will be thoroughly interested.

## SHORT'S

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