

LITTLE MIKE.

"Little Mike," a lonely little waif, who died in the Children's hospital some time ago, lay all day the day before his death plaintively watching several children who were pronounced cured and whose friends had come to remove them; and then with a pitiful sob in his voice, turned to the nurse in charge, saying, "Dear Nurse, when will my friends come? All the rest going, only I have no home."

I.
Only a hospital child?
Why let fall a tear?
Only a hired nurse
Standing beside the bier!

II.
Only a mercy he went
After all the bereave;
Only a child the loss!
Only a bed the more!

III.
Alas I only that wait
Sounding for days gone by,
Only that hard-drawn breath,
Only that stifled sigh!

IV.
Only that eye beseeching,
Feebly fixed on mine;
Only that start convulsive,
Sudden suffering's sign!

V.
Only a fair straying curl,
Sweetly soft and fine,
Upon his brow all tangled
No mother's hand to twine!

VI.
Only those plaintive tones,
Wavering, weak, and low,
The last little speaker
Will ever breathe below!

VII.
Only "I have no friends!"
Dear nurse, when will they come?
See! all the others going,
Only I have no home!

VIII.
Only a short, short warning!
White-winged friends have come,
And borne the little lone one
Up to love and a home!

MONTREAL SKETCHES.

I.
THE VOICE OF THE ROCKS.

On St. Gabriel street, facing the Champ de Mars, there stands a handsome three-story building which, as a large brass plate informs us, is the Museum of the Geological Survey of Canada. Thousands pass before it every day without noticing it, but it is perhaps the most remarkable, and certainly one of the most important buildings in the Dominion. Let us enter it. In the vestibule, seated at a little desk, we find the obliging guardian, who, in reply to our inquiry, informs us that the collection contains a complete series of specimens illustrating the geological character of Canada from the lowest stratum to the highest.

The collection being public property the public are allowed to inspect it, free of charge. We are first ushered into a large, well-lighted room on the left of the hall. Glass cases are ranged along the wall and glass cases set along narrow tables in the middle of the floor. These are filled with specimens of primitive or igneous rocks, such as form the first and most ancient deposit of the earth and were crystallized from the action of the central fire. There are of course quartz, felspar and mica. Also, gneiss, sienite, hornblende and porphyry, with its rich specks of green and white.

In this room, too, are found specimens of the different ores which constitute the mineral and metallic wealth of the Dominion. Iron is abundant and so is copper. There are traces of silver, and gold dust is imprisoned in diminutive, almost capillary phials. A case is reserved for the graduated exhibition of Canadian coals, chief of which were taken from the magnificent beds of Nova Scotia. In a second room, opening on the first, are gathered the rocks used for building and decorative purposes. If this is strictly speaking a less scientific show, it is unquestionably of great practical utility.

Here are found in slabs and other wrought forms, marbles of every hue and grain—the buff sandstone, the snowy limestone, the delicately foliated serpentine or verd antique. These are all highly polished and flash like mirrors. Alongside are exhibited splendid specimens of the chalcidony, the jasper, wherewith the gates of paradise are inlaid, the agate, whose magic properties made it the *fidus Achates* of the wandering *Aeneas*, and the purple amethyst, whose property was that it rendered innocuous the deadly fumes of wine. In this room finally are ranged collections of mineral paints, mineral manures and lithographic stones.

Having done these two rooms, we ascend a first flight of stairs and with it mount to another stratum in the geological scale. This is the Silurian. Here, imbedded in the rocks, are found the first fossils, remains of the primordial and lowest forms of life. We have spread out before our eyes the crinoids or sea-urchins, the sea-anemones or polyps of the Radiata class; the accephala or headless clams; the brachiopods that creep upon their arms; the gastropods that crawl upon their belly; the pteropods that have pseudo-wings; the cephalopods or mollusks that walk upon their heads. Next come a few species of the Articulata. This whole room is

full of interest, being specially rich in specimens of the Potsdam and Hudson river groups.

A small room, on the one side, is consecrated to the Quebec group. It contains a fine series of trilobites entombed in their beds of slate and limestone. Another small room of the same flat is devoted to the primordial Silurian period, and is distinguished for a variety of casts. One monster cast imbedded in the wall is particularly worthy of attention.

We next ascend the third story and are introduced to all the higher geological strata. First of these are the middle and upper Silurian, subdivided into the Niagara, Onondaga, Heidelberg and other groups. The Silurian, in the disposition of this museum, is made to take a vast range, including the Cambrian and Cambrian strata. This is well enough—although perhaps for the purposes of study, to which the museum is ought naturally to be adapted, a more minute and modern classification might be an improvement.

We pass next to the Devonian, or the sandstone beds with which the name of Hugh Miller is immortally associated. Here the cases are filled with fine specimens. It would take too long to particularize, but as we move along the splendid array, our eye is caught by a large beautifully situated trilobite, the *Phacops Rufe*—an elegant toy such as the voluptuous Cleopatra or the long-haired Berenice might have worn upon her bosom as an amulet against the treacheries of an amorous fate.

The carboniferous period which follows is not so well represented, though one of the most interesting in the whole geological scale. The higher strata, up to the drift, are likewise singularly meagre. Of detached fossils there are almost none. Canada seems to have furnished few of the great mammals which swarmed in the waters and woods of the tertiary era. There are some giant teeth and tusks in this room, but they are not labelled. The only authenticated specimen of the kind is a Harp Seal, whose skeleton has been restored. It was found 30 feet below the surface in clay pits, at Montreal, in 1831. Strange, too, to say, Indian remains are very rare. One or two lance heads, an axe, a hammer, a dagger and a few other trinkets are the only relics of the Aborigines who so thickly inhabited this country for many ages.

It will be seen from this cursory description that the Geological Museum is a vast treasury from which the student of science can draw the largest and the most accurate stores of information. It was, indeed, for this purpose that the collection was made, and much care has been taken to prepare it. Its position in Montreal is most favourable as being central, but there are also good reasons why it might be transferred to Ottawa, and before this should happen I have hastened to put it first in this series of Montreal Sketches.

CARCANET.

BURLESQUE.

NOT HER MOTTO.—A Woodward avenue policeman was the other day halted near the City Hall by a two-hundred pound woman with a parcel in her hand, and she requested to be directed to the store where they sold mottoes. He asked what particular store she wanted, and she explained:

"Well, I can't tell. My old man came to town yesterday, and I wanted him to buy the motto of 'God Bless Our Home.' He got in somewhere where they told him that stylish folks no longer hung up that motto, and the old man went and brought home this one."

She unfolded the parcel and held up a card on which was tastily painted:

"Don't ask for credit—Our terms are cash."

"You needn't grin," she said as she rolled up the card again; "I'm heavy on foot, and the walking is bad, but I'm going to walk this town till I find the man who got this thing off on Samuel for 'God Bless Our Home.'"

HIS SENTIMENTS.—On a Grand River car the other day a lady suddenly discovered that she had lost her purse. The other passengers consisted of an old man and six women. Three of the women chuckled at the loss, two whispered to each other that they didn't believe it, and the sixth looked around on the floor with eager eyes. The old man's sympathies were aroused from the first, and he asked:

"Did your wallet contain any money?"

"Of course it did!" she sharply replied.

"Did it also contain a photograph of your deceased husband and other relics of no value to any one but the owner?"

"No, sir! My husband is not dead! I had over \$5 in the purse."

"Over \$5 and winter right at our doors!" he mused. "Were you carrying this wallet in your—in your pocket?"

"Yes, it."

"Did you stop in any tobacco store down town?"

She gave him a blast with her eyes and refused to answer.

"Because," he went on, "I allus lose my wallet in a tobacco store, if anywhere. I don't think you will ever see your lost wealth again. Have I your permission to take up a collection on this car for your benefit?"

"No, sir; you will please attend to your own business!"

"Very well—I will! My sentiments, however, force me to say: I sympathize with the bereaved in her loss. That's all!"

Then he sat down.

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

Solutions to Problems sent in by Correspondents will be duly acknowledged.

TO CORRESPONDENTS

J. W. S., Montreal.—Paper, &c., received. Thanks. Correct solution received of Problem No. 256.

Student, Montreal.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 253.

J. H., Montreal.—Many thanks for score of game. It shall appear next week.

B., Montreal.—Problems received. Many thanks. E. H.—Solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 255. Correct.

We have received the programme of the Fifth American Chess Congress, and would be very willing to publish it in full in our Column, but want of space compels us to limit ourselves to the chief particulars of this important Chess meeting.

The Grand Tournament will be open to all first-class players, and will begin on January 20th, 1880. The locality where this contest is to take place has yet to be decided upon by the Managing Committee.

The entrance fee is twenty dollars. Ten rules to be observed by the contestants in the Tournament are given, and they seem to have been drawn up by the Committee with great care. The laws of chess as laid down in Staunton and Wormald's "Laws and Practice" are adopted when they do not conflict with the rules especially made for this Tournament. As likely to interest players we may state that each player is to play two games with every other player, and that each contestant will be considered bound in honor to play all his games.

The time limit is to be fifteen moves an hour, and the time saved by a player in every hour will be allowed to him in the next hour. Drawn games are to count one-half a game won.

There will be five prizes in the Tournament: the first five hundred dollars; the second, three hundred dollars; the third, two hundred dollars; the fourth, one hundred dollars; and the fifth fifty dollars.

It is proposed if the funds be sufficient that a minor Tournament shall be held which will be open to all who receive odds from first-class players.

The particulars of the Tourney Problem are the same as those which we published in our Column about three weeks ago.

We see it stated in the programme that the Committee contemplate making arrangements for a series of blindfold games, and in connection with this we feel sure that should Mr. Blackburne, of England, be present, his wonderful talent in this respect will be brought into requisition. At the close of the Tournament the Congress will continue. The Congress will comprise subscribers to the fund, doing for us may be chosen to represent clubs and localities, the contestants in the Tournament, and such distinguished persons as may be specially invited by the Committee.

The principal subjects for consideration are: a new chess code, the formation of a National Chess Association, and the Grand International contest which has been contemplated as a feature in the World's Exhibition in New York in 1883.

We are sorry to see that the amount of money which the Managing Committee have at their disposal is as yet uncertain. We most cheerfully recommend the subject to the whole body of chess-players in the Dominion.

We must not forget that the Managing Committee have opened the two Tourneys to players in all parts of the world, and that the prizes in connection with these will constitute the chief expenses of the Congress, and in this account we feel that efforts should be made to help them in carrying out their liberal measures. Contributions may be sent to Charles A. Gilberg, Treasurer, Box 225, P. O. New York City.

It is hinted that the South is going to launch upon the New York Chess Congress another Murphy. It was at the first American Chess Congress that Murphy won the championship of America, and by two wonderful skill displayed caused the chess masters of the old world to tremble for their laurels. That was nearly a quarter of a century ago, and it is about time for a new chess inquiry. Look out for the "dark horse" in some corner where—*Hartford (Conn.) Press.*

One of the features of the Congress may be an address on the "History and Antiquity of Chess," by the veteran, Miro J. Hazeltine. Esp. then when no one knows better how to handle that interesting subject—*Turf, Field and Farm.*

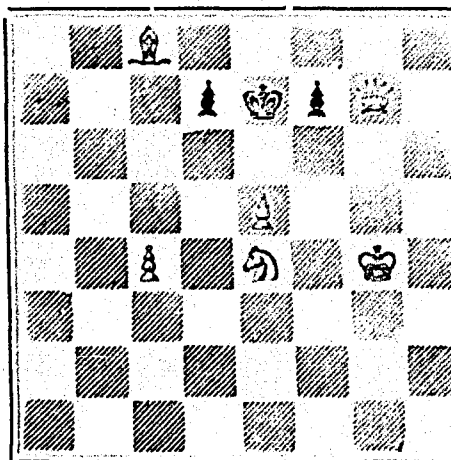
We understand that Mr. Blackburne will not find himself able to be in New York by the date fixed for the commencement of the Congress Tournament, but it seems likely that he will pay a visit to that city in February. Should he do so the New York chessists will no doubt give him a hearty welcome.

A match is at present going on in Paris between M. de Bezkrovy and Mr. Gossop at a time limit of twenty moves per hour, and the winner of five games to be the victor. We are by *La Revue des Jeux, des Arts, et du Sport* that the first game in the contest has been won by M. de Bezkrovy.—*Land and Water.*

PROBLEM No. 257

By J. P. Taylor.

BLACK.



WHITE

White to play and mate in two moves.

GAME 357th

CHESS IN AUSTRALIA.

(From the Adelaide Observer.)

Bravely and Brilliantly.

The following games, played between members of the Adelaide Chess Club, will be found entertaining, particularly the endings. The first was fought May 1, 1878.

during the stay of Herr F. Ott, formerly of the Vienna Chess Club:—

WHITE.—(Mr. H. Charleke.) BLACK.—(Prof. Ott.)

(From or Danish Gambit.)

1. P to K4 1. P to K4
2. P to Q4 2. P takes P
3. P to Q B3 3. P takes P
4. B to Q B4 4. P takes P
5. B takes Kt P 5. Kt to K B3
6. P to K5

Gossip in his latest work on the Openings gives Kt to Q B3 as best.

7. B to Kt3 6. P to Q4
8. K to B 7. B to Kt5 (ch)

White's tactics deserve attention. He must now win with the Q P.

8. K Kt to Q2

We prefer Kt to K5 ex gr.

9. B takes P 8. Kt to K5
10. Kt takes Kt 9. Kt to Q7 (ch)

This variation we cannot find in the books, and we commend it to the notice of analysts.

10. B takes P 9. Castles
11. B takes P (ch) 10. P takes P
12. B takes P (ch) 11. K to R

If Q to Q4 Black can retort with Q to B3. If Q to Kt4 Black then plays Kt to K B3. The text makes it clear some lively manœuvring.

13. Q to Kt4 (ch) 12. K takes B
14. Q takes B 13. K to R (ch)

Exactly! Still, Kt to K4 were more effective.

15. Q to Q B3 14. Q to B3

A saving clause.

16. Kt to K B3 15. Kt to K4
17. B takes B 16. Q Kt to B3 (ch)

18. Q to Q2 17. Q takes B
19. Kt to K4 18. Q to Q
20. Kt to Q B3 19. Q to K B3
21. Q to K 20. R to Q3

Well played! White dare not take the Kt.

22. Kt to K4 21. R to Q3
23. Q to Q Kt3 22. R to Q5
24. P to K R4 23. P to K R4

To play R to R4 leaving the Kt and P to be taken, although White hardly expected Black would venture to destroy them by taking them.

25. P takes Kt 24. K takes Kt
26. R to K Kt (ch) 25. Q takes B P

White mates in two moves.

GAME 358th

WHITE.—(Mr. Charleke.) BLACK.—(Mr. A. J. J.)

(Rousseau's White's Q P.)

(Petroff's defense.)

1. P to K4 1. P to K4
2. Kt to K B3 2. Kt to K B3
3. B to B4 3. Kt takes P
4. Kt to B3 4. Kt takes P
5. Q takes Kt 5. P to K B3 (ch)

6. Castles 6. Q to K2 (ch)

7. Kt to B4 7. P to P B3
8. K to R4 8. P to K B3
9. P to B4 9. P to Q4

10. P takes P 10. P takes B P (ch)

11. P takes P 11. Q to K B3
12. B to K5 (ch) 12. B to K5

13. Q to K Kt4 13. K to Q2
14. Q to Q (ch) 14. B to Q3
15. Kt to B3 15. B to Q3
16. R to K7 (ch) 16. B takes R

The winning move.

17. Kt to K5 (ch) 17. K to K3
18. K takes Q 18. B takes B P
19. Kt to K5 (ch) 19. K to K2
20. Q to B5 (ch) 20. K to Q2
21. B to B4 21. B takes Kt

White fore smate in six moves. How

SOLUTIONS

Solution of Problem No. 256.

White. 1. Q to K5 1. P to K5
2. Q to Q Kt3 2. B to K5 P
3. Q to B mates 3. Anything.

Black has other defenses.

Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 255.

White. 1. R to K Kt4 1. K takes B
2. R mates 2. R takes B

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS, No. 254

WHITE. BLACK.

K to K Kt4 K to K5
R to K2 K to K R4
B to Q7 P takes Q3
Kt to Q5 P takes Q3 and 4
Pawn to K5

White to play and mate in two moves.

DERBY.—Lord Derby is enormously rich, one of the very wealthiest subjects in Europe, and his income is steadily increasing. It is calculated that in a few years he will be in receipt of some two-thirds of a million per annum. This is one great secret of his success, or rather of the profound veneration with which the majority of Englishmen regard him. The second fact to be taken into account is that this man of God, as a year is the head of the Stanleys, a name which has shown again and again with singular brightness in English history, and has been inscribed by immortal writers in the pages of English literature. The Earl of Derby, the oldest on the roll excepting that of Shrewsbury, dates from 1485, when Henry VII. conferred it on Thomas, Lord Stanley, as the meed of his treason to Richard III. For even a Stanley may fall short of absolute perfection.

We would advise all our readers who think of making a Vegetable or Flower garden this spring to send to D. M. FERRY & Co., Detroit, Mich., and get their valuable and beautiful Seed Annual. The house is entirely reliable, and if you wish to get exactly what you order, you can not do better than to entrust your order to them.