

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Letters intended for the Editor, should be addressed "Editor Saturday Reader, Drawer #01," and communications on business to "R. Worthington, publisher."

PERPLEXITY.—We would remind our correspondent of the story which has been told so often of the celebrated Dr. Abernethy, who, when a lady came to him, and complained that she always suffered acute pain when she held her arm in a peculiar position, replied shortly, and to the point: "Then why on earth, madam, do you hold it up so?" If "Perplexity" finds the habit he refers to entails such disagreeable results, why does he not abandon it?

J. T. HAMILTON.—The chess column is resumed in the present issue, and will be continued, we trust, to the gratification of lovers of the "noble game."

BERTHA.—The lines commencing "The cloud-capped towers, the gorgeous palaces," occur in Prospero's famous speech at the beginning of the 4th act of the "Tempest."

L. B.—If a man once tried for murder be acquitted, he cannot be tried over again; but in Scotland, when the verdict of "Not Proven" is returned, we believe the suspected person is liable to a second trial, should further evidence tending to inculpate him be discovered.

A COUNTY TRADER.—Asks for an easy rule for determining the equivalent in greenbacks for a given sum in gold at a given rate of discount on U. S. currency. We know of no simpler rule than to deduct the rate of discount from 100, and divide the gold by the remainder. For instance, should "A County Trader" require to convert \$700 in gold into greenbacks at 30 per cent. discount, 30 subtracted from 100 leaves 70, and the \$700 divided by 70 gives \$1000, the equivalent in greenbacks. The proof is simple—\$1000 in greenbacks at 30 per cent. discount give \$700 gold, or 70 cents in the dollar.

LEO.—Watches are said to have been invented at Wurtemberg in 1447. They were first used for astronomical purposes by Purbach in 1500, and were imported into England from Germany in 1577. Repeating watches were invented by Barlowe in 1676.

MAY H.—We are sorry we cannot accept May's poetical contribution.

GEO. H.'s letter is very encouraging to us. We trust the efforts making for the improvement of the **READER** will be appreciated by the public generally.

A. M. T.—The MS. is not in our possession; but we will endeavor to obtain it, and will mail it to your address, or hold it at the office until called for, as you may direct.

G. L.—The missing numbers shall be forwarded.

MISCELLANEA.

ARCHIMEDES being asked to go and hear a person who imitated the nightingale to perfection, answered, "I have heard the nightingale herself."

"WHAT men want is not talent, but purpose; in other words, not the power to achieve, but the will to labour." As labour is the arch elevator of man, so patience is the essence of labour.

It was rather carnal advice which Sidney Smith gave Daniel O'Connell, yet there was good sense in it: "What trash to be bawling in the streets about the Green Isle, the Isle of the Ocean, the bold anthem of *Erin go Bragh!* A far better anthem would be, *Erin go bread and cheese, Erin go cabins that will keep out the rain, Erin go pataloons without holes in them.*"

SPEED AND STRENGTH OF INSECTS.—An humble-bee has been known to distance a locomotive going at the rate of twenty miles an hour, and a dragonfly to escape from a swallow after an hour's chase. A few burying-beetles will place

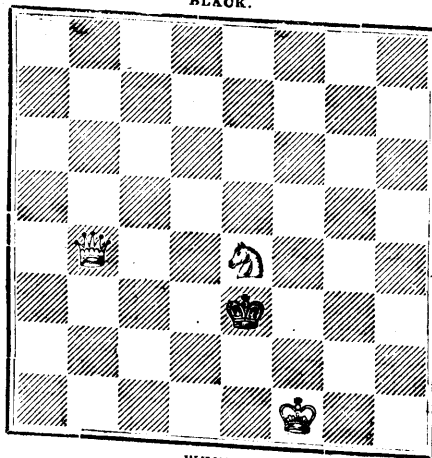
a mole under the earth in an hour, which is a feat equal to as many men burying a large whale in the same space of time.

UNCOMMONLY PARSIMONIOUS.—Captain Gronow says:—The famous General Monton, the bravest of the brave, was created Count of Lobau for his heroic conduct in the desperate attack upon the island of that name at the battle of Wagram. His commanding figure and stentorian voice many persons now living may remember, when as a marshal of France, under Louis Philippe, he commanded the National Guard. He was a most excellent man in all the relations of life, but of very parsimonious habits. One of his old comrades related to me the following anecdote of him;—General Monton, who was a great favourite with the Emperor Napoleon, was visiting his illustrious chief one morning at the Tuileries, when his Majesty, happening to look out of his window, beheld in the courtyard a very shabby-looking vehicle. "Is that your carriage, Monton?" asked the Emperor.—"Yes, sire." "It is not fitting that one of my bravest generals should go about in a hackney-coach."—"Sire, I am not a Croesus, and can't afford a better." The next day Monton received a cheque on the Bank of France for 300,000 francs (£12,000). About a fortnight afterwards, General Monton again paid a visit to the Tuileries in the same hackney-coach. On looking out, the Emperor's countenance clouded over, and he looked greatly displeased, as he recognized the obnoxious vehicle. "Did you not receive an order for 300,000 francs?" he inquired of the general. "Yes, sire," replied Monton, "and I am truly grateful for the gift; but if your Majesty insists upon my spending it, I would rather return the money."

CHESS.

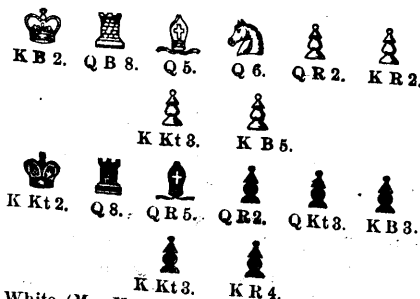
As we are now resuming our Chess Column by special request, we would bespeak for it a continuance of the favour it has received in the past; and, we need hardly add that communications and contributions from old correspondents as well as new ones, will be always welcome.

PROBLEM No. 46.
BY S. A.
BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play and mate in three moves.

ENIGMA No. 20.
Termination of a *partie* which occurred in one of the match games between Messrs. Lowenthal and Harrwitz.



White (Mr. Harrwitz) having to play, announced

WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

EPITAPH ON AN ANGLER.—"Hooked it."
EPITAPH ON A PORTRAIT-PAINTER.—Taken from life.—

COCKNEY EPITAPH FOR A COOK.—"Peace to his hashes."

"HAVE you fish in your bag?" asked a person of a fisherman. "Yes, there's a good eel in it," was the reply.

"WHY did Adam bite the apple?" said a schoolmaster to one of his pupils. "Because he had no knife," replied the urchin.

WHY are books the best friends?—Because when they bore you, you can always shut them up without offence!

"PLEASE, sir," said a little girl who was sweeping a crossing, to a miser, "you have given me a bad penny." "Never mind, my girl," replied he; "you may keep it for your honesty."

"AH," said Seraphina Angelina, speaking on some subject on which her feelings were enlisted, "how gladly I would embrace an opportunity——" "Would I were an opportunity!" interrupted her bashful lover.

A CERTAIN barrister, who was remarkable for coming into court with dirty hands, observed, "that he had been turning over Coke." "I should have thought you had been turning over coals," remarked a wag.

A **PRINTER'S TOAST.**—Woman—the fairest work of creation. The edition being extensive, let no man be without a copy.

A **YOUNG** man advertises for a situation as son-in-law in a respectable family. Would have no objection, he says, to go a short distance into the country.

SYDNEY SMITH speaks of a man so dry that if you were to bore holes in him with a gimlet, sawdust would come out.

At what time of life may a man be said to belong to the vegetable kingdom? When long experience has made him sage.

WHAT metamorphosis does a washerwoman undergo in the night? She goes to bed a washerwoman, and gets up fine linen.

The literary style of asking for a slice of ham at dinner is, "I'll thank you for an elegant extract from Bacon."

Two ladies contended, in the court of Charles V., as to who should take precedence of the other. They appealed to the monarch, who replied, "Let the elder go first." We are told that such a dispute was never again heard of.

An Irishman dropped a letter into the post-office the other day, with the following memorandum on the corner for the benefit of all indolent postmasters into whose hands it might happen to fall: "Please hasten the delay of this."

A **GENTLEMAN**, complaining of the various imposts and taxes, says he cannot put on his boots without a stamp.

"How can you prove the existence of these 'sperrits?'" asked a sceptic of an adept. "Prove them!" replied the conjuror, impressively: "the sperrits are above proof!"

A servant, newly engaged, presented to his master, one morning, a pair of boots, the leg of one of which was much longer than the other. "How comes it that these boots are not of the same length?" "I really don't know, sir; but what bothers me the most is, that the pair down stairs is in the same fix."

A **FOREIGNER**, speaking of the House of Commons, says, "So difficult is it for anything to be heard inside its gorgeous walls, that the impatient members are obliged to be continually calling out, 'Hear! hear! hear!'"

A **CYNIC** named Wright, in Wrightsville, Wright county, out West, recently writing on woman's rights, said, "It is so seldom that women do write what is right, that it is more than right that when they do write it should be rightly done." Now, if Mr. Wright is not right, then he had no right to write the above.