

## WHEN COMES THE SUMMER.

## A VISION BEFORE THE SPRING.

When comes the summer our spirits free,  
Dancing on the light waves of life's youthful ocean,  
Shall seek all glory of immensity,  
Pleased with the frenzy of our commotion.

Nor yet heed the battle looming from afar  
Gloom-bringing sadness, terrors fierce to greet us;  
We mark no evils of approaching war,  
Smiling we linger and laugh at all who meet us.

After that the spell of long-enticing charms  
Has displayed no power to conquer or to cherish,  
Quietly resting from old vague alarms,  
Guarded we will seek—fame that can never perish.

Life is at best a weak attempt at show,  
Shallow, and removed from bliss are we poor mortals,  
Doomed still to drink the bitter cup of woe,  
Ere the summons call us to Death's gloomy portals.

How shall we strive to live and win a name  
To be written nobly on the scroll of honour,  
Shall we in dullness crouch and sigh for fame,  
Fancying that idle heroes we have won her?

Shall we attempt the mountain's height to climb,  
Falling ere the middle we have gained in toiling,  
Such is the struggle to the vast sublime,  
In the heat of youth, with anger vainly boiling.

Stung by the sense of dull and dreary hours,  
Time slips fast away and we lose by complaining,  
Staying love fond in sweet and shady bowers,  
Ah! 'tis the wounds of Cupid that are paining.

Lord, now grant us aid to rise not now revelling  
In the public plaudits ignorantly given,  
While here as yet so proudly, nobly swelling,  
We soar from Earth and seek for higher Heaven.

Spare us to strike a blow in self-defence,  
Strengthened to fulfil our loftiest intention,  
Not with the emptiness of rash pretence;  
But in the calmness of an high invention.

So shall the years bring to us ease of thought,  
Soothing all harshness and embittered feeling,  
Out of confusion shall there, too, be brought,  
Fancies of memory, loveliness revealing.

Montreal. C. W. RITCHIE.

## NAPOLEON AND HIS COURT.

The emperor, feeling secure of France, gave himself up to his grand projects, and kept his eyes fixed on Europe. His policy was no longer directed to securing his power over the opinions of his fellow citizens. In like manner, he disdained the little successes of private life, which we have seen him at an earlier period anxious to obtain; and I may say that he looked upon his court with the indifference which a complete conquest inspires, when compared with one as yet unattained. He was always anxious to impose a yoke on every one, and to succeed in this he neglected no means to his end; but, from the moment he perceived his power to be established, he took no pains to make himself agreeable.

The dependence and constraint in which he held the court had at least this one advantage: anything resembling intrigue was almost unknown. As each individual was firmly convinced that everything depended on the sole will of the master, no one attempted to follow a different path from that traced out by him; and in our dealings with each other there was a feeling of security.

His wife was almost in the same position of dependence as others. In proportion as Bonaparte's affairs increased in magnitude, she became a stranger to them. European politics, the destiny of the world, mattered little to her; her thoughts did not reach to heights which could have no influence on her own fate. At this period she was tranquil as to her own lot, and happy in that of her son; and she lived a life of peaceful indifference, behaving to all with equal graciousness, showing little or no special favor to any one, but a general good will. She neither sought for amusement nor feared ennui; she was always gentle and serene, and, in fact, was indifferent to nearly all things. Her love for her husband had greatly declined, and she no longer suffered from the jealousy which had in former years so much disturbed her. Every day she judged him with greater clearness, and, being convinced that her greatest source of influence over him consisted in the sense of restfulness imparted to him by the evenness of her temper, she took great pains to avoid disturbing him. I have said long ago that such a man as he had neither time nor inclination for much display of affection, and the empress at this period forgave him all the fancies which sometimes take the place of love in a man's life; nay, more, she became his confidante in these little affairs.

## THE EMPEROR'S HOUSEHOLD.

The utmost order prevailed in Bonaparte's household; liberal salaries were paid to every one, but all was so regulated that no official could use for himself the sums that were intrusted to him.

Bonaparte's table was abundant and well served. The plate was of silver and very handsome; on great occasions the dinner service was of silver-gilt. Madame Murat and the Princess Borghese used dinner services of silver-gilt.

On an average the expenditure of the emperor's household amounted to fifteen or sixteen millions of francs annually. In later years he built extensively, and the expenditure was increased. Every year he ordered hangings and furniture for the various palaces from Lyons. This was with a view to encouraging the manufactures of that city. For the same reason he bought handsome pieces of furniture in mahogany, which were placed in storerooms, and also bronzes, etc. Porcelain manufacturers had

orders to supply complete services of extreme beauty.

Bonaparte's expenditure on dress was put down on the budget at forty thousand francs. Sometimes it slightly exceeded this sum. During campaigns it was necessary to send him both linen and clothes to several places at once. The slightest sense of inconvenience, or the smallest difference of quality in the linen or cloth, would make him throw aside a coat or any other garment.

He always said he wished to dress like a simple officer of his own guards, and grumbled continually at what, as he said, "he was made to spend;" while, from his caprice or awkwardness, the entire renewal of his wardrobe was constantly necessary. Among other destructive habits, he had that of stirring the wood-fires with his foot, thereby scorching his shoes and boots. This generally happened when he was in a passion; at such times he would violently kick the blazing logs in the nearest fire-place.

Every year the emperor himself drew up a scheme of household expenditure with scrupulous care and remarkable economy. During the last quarter of each year the head of each department regulated his expenses for the following twelve-month. When this was accomplished, a council was held and everything was carefully discussed. This council consisted of the grand marshal, who presided, the great officers, the intendant and the treasurer to the crown. The expenses of the empress' household were comprised in the accounts of the grand chamberlain, on whose budget they were entered. In these councils the grand marshal and the treasurer undertook to defend the emperor's interests. The consultation being over, the grand marshal took the accounts to the emperor, who examined them himself and returned them with marginal notes. After a short interval the council met again, under the presidency of the emperor himself, who went over each item of expenditure anew. These consultations were generally repeated several times: the accounts of each department were then returned to its chief, and fair copies of them were made, after which they passed through the hands of the intendant, who finally inspected them together with the emperor in presence of the grand marshal. By these means all expenditure was fixed, and seldom indeed did any of the great officers obtain the sums for which they had asked.

## DOMESTIC HABITS OF NAPOLEON.

Bonaparte's hour for rising was irregular, but usually it was seven o'clock. If he woke during the night he would resume his work or take a bath or a meal. He generally awoke depressed, and apparently in pain. He suffered frequently from spasms in the stomach, which produced vomiting. At times this appeared to alarm him greatly, as if he feared he had taken poison, and then it was difficult to prevent him from increasing the sickness by taking emetics.

The only persons who had the right of entry into his dressing-room without being announced were the grand marshal and the principal physician. The keeper of the wardrobe was announced, but was almost always admitted. He would have wished M. de Remusat to employ these morning visits in giving him an account of all that was said or done at court or in the city; but my husband invariably declined the task, and persevered in his determination with praiseworthy obstinacy.

The other physicians or surgeons on duty might not come unless they were summoned. Bonaparte seemed to put no great faith in medicine—it was frequently a matter of jesting with him; but he had great confidence in Corvisart and much esteem for him. He had good health and a strong constitution; but when he suffered from any indisposition he became uneasy and nervous. He was occasionally troubled with a slight affection of the skin, and sometimes complained of his liver. He ate moderately, drank little, and indulged in no excesses of any kind. He took a good deal of coffee.

While dressing he was usually silent, unless a discussion arose between him and Corvisart on some medical subject. In everything he liked to go straight to the point, and if any one was mentioned as being ill his first question was always "Will he die?" A doubtful answer displeased him, and would make him argue on the inefficiency of medical science.

He acquired with great difficulty the art of shaving himself. M. de Remusat induced him to undertake this task on seeing that he was uneasy and nervous under the hands of a barber. After many trials and when he had finally succeeded he often said that the advice to shave himself with his own hand had been of signal service to him.

Bonaparte so thoroughly accustomed himself during his reign to take no account of those about him that this habitual disregard pervaded all his habits. He had not any of the delicacy that is ordinarily imparted by training and education, and would make his toilet in the most thorough fashion in the presence of any person whatsoever. In the same way, if he got impatient while his valet was dressing him, he would fly into a passion, heedless of all respect for himself or others. He would throw any garment that did not please him on the floor or into the fire. He attended to his hands and nails with great care. Several pair of nail-scissors had to be in readiness, as he would break or throw them away if they were not sufficiently sharp. He never made use of any perfume except eau de Cologne, but of that he would get through sixty bottles in a month. He considered it a very wholesome practice to

sprinkle himself thoroughly with eau de Cologne. Personal cleanliness was with him a matter of calculation, for, as I said before, he was naturally careless.

When his toilet was concluded he went to his cabinet, where his private secretary was in attendance. Precisely at nine o'clock the chamberlain on duty, who had arrived at the palace at eight a.m., and had carefully inspected the whole suite of rooms that all might be in perfect order, and seen that the servants were at their posts, knocked at the door and announced the *levée*. He never entered the cabinet unless told to come in by the emperor. I have already given an account of these *levées*. When they were over Bonaparte frequently gave private audiences to some of the principal persons present—princes, ministers, high officials, or prefects on leave. Those who had not the right of entry to the *levée* could only obtain an audience by applying to the chamberlain on duty, who presented their names to the emperor. He generally refused to see the applicants.

The *levée* and audiences would last until the hour of breakfast. That meal was served at eleven o'clock, in what was called the *salon de service*, the same apartment in which he held private audiences and received his ministers. The prefect of the palace announced breakfast and remained present, standing all the time. During breakfast the emperor received artists or actors. He would eat quickly of two or three dishes, and finish with a large cup of coffee, without milk. After breakfast he returned to his work.

After 1805 he almost always dined alone with his wife, except when the court was at Fontainebleau; he would then invite guests to his table. He had all courses of the dinner placed before him at once; and he ate without paying any attention to his food, helping himself to whatever was at hand, sometimes taking preserves or creams before touching the more solid dishes. The prefect of the palace was present during dinner; two pages waited, and were assisted by the footmen. The dinner-hour was very irregular. If there happened to be any important business requiring his immediate attention, Bonaparte worked on, detaining the council until six, seven, or even eight o'clock at night, without showing the smallest fatigue or appearing to feel the need of food. Madame Bonaparte waited for him with admirable patience, and never uttered a complaint.

The evenings were very short. I have already said how they were spent. During the winter of 1806 there were many dancing entertainments given both at the Tuileries and by the princes. The emperor would make his appearance at them for a few minutes, and always looked excessively bored. The routine of the *coucher* (retiring for the night) was the same as it was in the morning, except that the attendants came in last to receive orders. The emperor in undressing and going to bed had no one near him except the *valets de chambre*.

No one slept in his chamber. His Mameluke lay near the inner entrance. The *alcôve* of the day slept in the ante-room with his head against the door. In the rooms on the other side of this salon or ante-room a marshal of the Home Guard and two footmen kept watch all night.

No sentinel was ever seen in the interior of the palace. At the Tuileries there was one upon the staircase, because the staircase is open to the public, and they were everywhere at the outer doors. Bonaparte was very well protected by very few persons; this was the care of the grand marshal. The police of the palace was extremely well managed. The name of every person who entered its doors was always known. No one resided there except the grand marshal, who ate there, and whose servants wore the emperor's livery; but of these there were only the *valets de chambre* and the *femmes de chambre*.

## DRAMATIC EXCHANGES.

As a general rule there are very few exchanges of civility between rival "stars" in the same city, but there was a notable exception last week in St. Louis. Sothorn and Florence were playing there—at two theatres, of course—and they are "chums." Ed. Sothorn and Billy Florence go a-fishing together in the summer, and they angle for the biggest trout or salmon or maskinonge, and tell their own stories about their fisherman's luck; but no matter for that. They are friends. They act in the dramatic season, but seldom meet. When they do come in collision in the same city they are fruitful of practical jokes, and they played some that night. Sothorn was quietly playing Dundreary, and was skipping through the third act with Georgina, in the dairy scene, when Florence lumbered in upon him, made-up and dressed as the Hon. Bardwell Slote. No two characters could be more diametrically opposed and positively heterogeneous than Lord Dundreary and Bardwell Slote. Sothorn was dumfounded, and looked more dazed than usual to see the "queer fish" on his scene. Slote lumbered off, and victory perched on his banner "by a large majority." He hurried up from the Olympic to Pope's to go on with his own concerns in the play, and the Olympic audience relished the immense joke.

The love scene of Slote and Mrs. Gillfory was progressing all right in the fourth act of the "Mighty Dollar" at Pope's. Slote and Gillfory were fixing it, when a strange figure appeared on the scene and staggered them. It was Sothorn as Lord Dundreary, who came skipping on as if he had something of vital interest to com-

municate. Mr. and Mrs. Florence were paralyzed. The audience felt "mixed" until Dundreary commenced telling his story of the dogs and the rabbits, involving a complex question of the double rule of three, when the audience let go and laughed and screamed for one hour by the watch. There was likely to be a tragedy until Mr. Horace Wall came on and led Dundreary off the stage, telling him he had no manner of business there. Then Slote and Gillfory gathered themselves together and finished the scene and the play. The effect was immense and Sothorn scored the last joke.

## OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Paper to hand. Thanks.

Student, Montreal.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 267 received.

E. D. W. Sherbrooke, P.Q.—We gave the solution of Problem 262 in our last Column. The Problem was correctly printed.

H. & J. McGill, Cote des Neiges.—Correct solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 264.

E. H.—Solution received of Problem for Young Players No. 264. Correct.

J. W. R., Buffalo, N. Y.—Thanks for letter. Will answer by post.

We could not resist the temptation to insert in our Column this week the following extract from a recent number of the *Illustrated London News*. It contains such a graphic and otherwise pleasing account of noble chessplayers of years gone by, that we cannot but feel that it ought to find a corner, at least, in every chess student's scrap-book:

## DELTA'S REMINISCENCES.

We continue our old correspondent's reminiscences of chess and chessplayers. "No one who looked at Staunton's fine frontal development and keen serious glance as he played 'en garde,' could doubt for a moment that he was a chess matador of the very first class. He was not by any means a general rule, a slow player. It was only in positions of great complexity that he saw once or twice long, and pondered. He told me that I played far too quickly to do myself justice. The average length of our games was not more than three hours. After Staunton left me and went to Glasgow I found him there, and played at the club a game at 1 and two, in consultation with A. G. McCombe, against Staunton, which we drew. It was published in the *Chessplayer's Chronicle*. Staunton thought, in his after analysis of the game, that at one point he ought to have won it, by a certain brilliant manoeuvre; but neither McCombe nor I agreed with him in that view, as we had looked at that very manoeuvre, and believed it to be unsound. The game is well worthy to be studied by young players. The game at 1 and two, which Staunton won at Edinburgh against Gamma, Meikle, and Donaldson consulting, was not played by me, but by the son of my old chess friend, who gave promise of becoming a first-rate player, like his father, but who died in his early life. Staunton's visit to Scotland in 1852 was quite an ovation, and he returned to London much pleased with the reception that he had met with everywhere north of the Tweed. We considered him to be our champion as well as that of England, and honoured him accordingly. Harrwitz, at the odds of 1 and 2 with Staunton, in 1875, did not fare much better than I did, as he won only three games out of seven. It was much debated about the year 1855-56, in chess circles, whether Lowenthal or Harrwitz was the better player. Their long and arduous match, which Harrwitz won at last only by the odd game, after Lowenthal had at first carried all before him, proves to my mind that they were then of equal force. They both improved very much after that, and showed good fight with Morphy at last. He was 'facile princeps,' the first player of the age."

## BELLEVILLE CHESS CLUB.

This club met on the 15th inst., and elected the following officers for the year: President, Chief H. McKinnon; 1st Vice, W. J. Diamond; 2nd Vice, P. H. Hamblay; Secy., T. D. C. Ferguson; Managing Committee, H. May, J. W. Dufour, Thos. Ritchie, R. Thomson, A. Diamond.

It was also resolved to affiliate with the Ontario Chess Association and send a delegate to Toronto next month.—*Toronto Globe*.

## CHESS ITEMS.

A chess contest took place recently between East and West Scotland, forty-seven players aside. East gained 22, West 18, three draws.

The scores in the pending N.Y. matches are as follows: Delmar, 2; Barnes, 0; Mohle, 2; de Visser, 1. Mr. W. de Visser and Mr. C. Mohle are playing a private match for a set of chessmen.

Toronto has just sent some players to Hamilton for a friendly fight.

Two International Chess Congresses are to be held in Germany next summer.

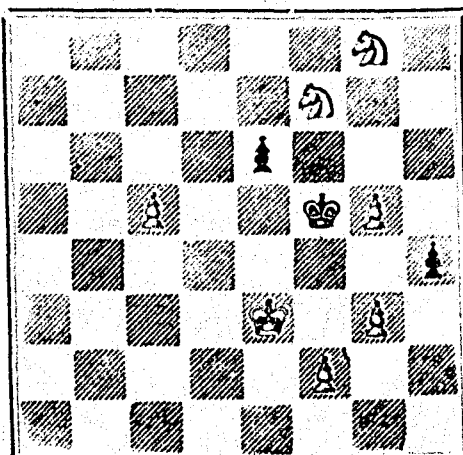
Mrs. Gilbert has won the fourth game from Mr. Gustip in the International Tourney.

## PROBLEM No. 270.

(From *Mechanics Magazine*.)

By J. E. A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.