

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A. H.—John Evelyn, the well known writer of the 17th century, was born Oct. 31st, 1620, at Wotton in Surrey. He was educated at Oxford, and entered the Middle Temple in 1640. In 1642, he offered his services to Charles 1st, but, in 1643, retired to the continent where he mainly lived during the following eight years. He returned to England in 1652, when he lived very privately till the restoration, after which he was much employed by the government. Evelyn was one of the first members of the Royal Society, and was an industrious contributor to its Transactions. His best known works are "Silva," or a discourse of Forest Trees, and his "Memoirs," first published in 1818. The "Memoirs" are written in the form of a Diary, and are of great value, as they are continued for about seventy years, and relate to one of the most interesting periods of recent English History.

ROLAND, OLIVER & Co.—To give a Rowland for an Oliver is to give a full equivalent, as a retort or blow, &c., of equal force. The origin of the phrase is thus given by Warburton. "Rowland and Oliver were two of the most famous in the list of Charlemagne's twelve peers, and their exploits are rendered so ridiculously and equally extravagant that from thence arose that saying amongst our plain and sensible ancestors of giving one a Rowland for an Oliver, to signify the matching of one incredible lie with another."

G. T.—An engagement ring is worn upon the fourth finger (the one next to the little finger) of the right hand—the wedding ring upon the corresponding finger of the left hand. The authorities say that after marriage the engagement ring should be worn as keeper to the wedding ring.

POPPIE.—We must sentence our correspondent to more diligent research; the answer to her question will then be obvious.

CIVIS.—We are pleased to welcome an old friend again to our letter box.

R. V. R.—Proof will be mailed to you for correction.

RED COAT.—The cost of an Ensigns Commission in a regiment of the line is about £450 sterling.

R. E. G.—The term "Zollverein" is derived from the German *zoll*, toll or custom and *verein* for *vereinigung*, combination.

W. C. O.—We thank W. C. O. for his very kind note, and beg to assure him that no effort shall be spared on our part to make the READER a still more welcome weekly visitor.

F. B. D.—We cannot insert your contribution, but hope to have the pleasure of hearing from you again.

A SUBSCRIBER.—Sir Edward Lytton Bulwer Lytton was created a baronet for his literary eminence at the coronation of Queen Victoria. On succeeding to his mother's fortune in 1844 he took the additional name of Lytton.

H. H. V.—The first English Bible translated was that by Wickliffe about the year 1360. It was never printed, but MS. copies are still extant. The first printed Bible was translated by William Tyndal, assisted by Miles Coverdale; it was printed on the continent in 1532, and in England in 1540.

FLITE.—Napoleon Bonaparte was crowned Emperor of France, Dec. 2nd, 1804.

PUZZLED FANNY.—In commercial parlance a bear is one whose efforts are directed to force down the prices of stocks, gold, &c., whilst the bull, on the contrary, strives to toss prices up. We do not wonder that our correspondent has been puzzled, but we trust the explanation given above will remove her difficulties. Will Fanny forgive us if we assure her that she is almost a bear when she endeavours to cheapen (if she ever does) the price of a dress or a ribbon? The clerk who assures her that the articles will be dearer next week is, on the contrary, strongly tinged with the bull element.

CHESS.

Herr J. Lowenthal has commenced a series of literary and practical chess articles in the London *Daily Telegraph*.

Captain James Cunningham, for many years known as an enthusiastic and skillful amateur of our game, died suddenly at the Westminster Chess Club, London. In his early days the Captain obtained some reputation as the opponent of the late Mr. Williams.

The following difficult enigma has been submitted to the *Chess World*, through the columns of the *Illustrated London News*, by Mr. Sam. Lloyd, its author, now in England: Place the Queen alone on any square of the chess board, and in fourteen moves make her pass over every square and return to the point whence she started.

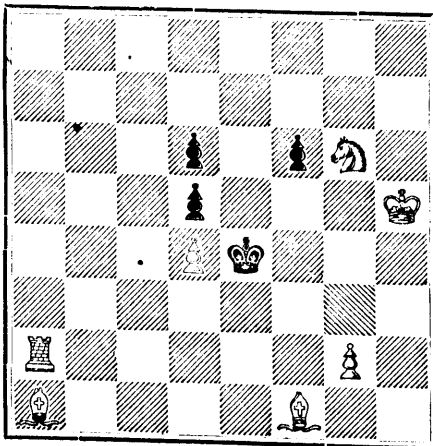
The annual tournament of the New York Chess Club is now in progress, and is open to all comers on the payment of a small entrance fee. According to the regulations for play, each player shall contest two games with every other, and the three winners of the greatest number of games shall receive, according to their achievements, a first, second or third prize.

We regret to announce the demise of Herr George Schultz, of Hanover, a chess player of no ordinary ability, and a gentleman of wealth and influence. He built an astronomical observatory at Hanover at his own expense, which bears the inscription, "George Schultz, wine merchant, botanist, natural philosopher, astronomer, African traveller, poet, and chess player." Mr. S. was the original promoter of the Hanover Zoological Gardens, opened last May.

PROBLEM No. 53.

By W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM, NO. 51.

WHITE.

- 1 B to Q 6 (ch.)
- 2 Q to Q Kt 6 (ch.)
- 3 Q to K B 6 Mate.

BLACK.

- K takes B.
- K to K 4.

The following game occurred in the match between Messrs. Steinitz and Bird.

IRREGULAR OPENING.

WHITE, (Mr. Bird.)

- 1 P to K B 4.
- 2 P takes P.
- 3 P takes P.
- 4 K Kt to B 3.
- 5 P to Q 4.
- 6 Q B to Kt 5.
- 7 P to K 3.
- 8 B takes Kt.
- 9 B to Q Kt 5.
- 10 P to Q 5 (b.)
- 11 B takes Kt (c.)
- 12 Q to K 2.
- 13 Q to Q sq.
- 14 B takes K.
- 15 K to B 2.
- 16 K to B sq.
- 17 P takes B.
- 18 K to Kt 2.

BLACK, (Mr. Steinitz.)

- 1 P to K 4.
- 2 P to Q 3 (a.)
- 3 B takes P.
- 4 K Kt to B 3.
- 5 Q Kt to B 3.
- 6 Q B to Kt 5.
- 7 Q to Q 2.
- 8 P takes B.
- 9 Castles (Q R.)
- 10 Q to K 2.
- 11 Q takes K P (ch.)
- 12 Q to B 8 (ch.)
- 13 Q R to K sq (ch.)
- 14 R takes B (ch.)
- 15 Q to K 6 (ch.)
- 16 Q B takes Kt.
- 17 B to Q B 4 (d.)
- 18 R to Kt sq (ch.)

And White resigned.

(a). This singular counter attack on the part of the second player was first devised, if we mistake not, by Mr. Burden.

(b). A dreadfully bad move, which commits the game at once; his best play seems to be Q Kt to B 3.

(c). Of course, if White takes Kt with P, he loses his Queen by discovery; perhaps White's best move was 11. Q to K 2, but play as he may, he will have a bad game.

(d). The last six moves are a masterly termination on the part of Mr. Steinitz.

WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

WHAT is the difference between a sailor who is ordered to the masthead and a gentleman's hat?—The one mans the top, and the other tops the man.

A LITTLE girl, happening to hear her mother speak of going into half-mourning, said, "Why are we going into half-mourning, mamma? Are any of our relations half dead?"

"Who made the world?" asked a teacher of a little boy who had not been long at school. The teacher threatened to whip him unless he answered. The boy, feeling impelled to a confession of some sort, broke forth, "Well, master, I made it; but I promise never to do it again?"

NO ADVANCING WITHOUT A GUARANTEE.—That miser, old Moneybags, who has lately joined the volunteers, has got into great disgrace, when commanded by the officer to "Advance," by positively refusing to do so, unless he was guaranteed his own rate of interest.

FOUR GOOD POINTS IN WOMEN.—A Chinese maxim says: "We require four things of women. That virtue dwell in her heart; that modesty play on her brow; that sweetness flow from her lips; that industry occupy her hand."

TIMELY CAUTION.—An old Scotch lady had an evening party, where a young man was present who was about to leave for an appointment in China. As he was exceedingly extravagant in his conversation about himself, the old lady said, when she was leaving, "Tak' gude care o' yoursel' when ye are awa'; for, mind ye they eat puppies in Chena!"

INCREASING WEIGHT OF THE EARTH.—The French savant, M. Dufour, has been making a very curious calculation with the view of showing that the bulk of our globe undergoes annual increase from the deposit of meteoric dust, amounting, as he states, to two cubic metres a year. According to this hypothesis, the earth increases annually the 114,400,400th part of its weight.

HOW TO MAKE COFFEE.—Professor C. A. Seely gives the following as the most economical way to make coffee of good flavour:—He uses two French strainers, the upper one containing the grounds of the previous day and the lower one fresh coffee. The hot water in filtering through the upper one extracts the strength, and in filtering through the lower one it extracts the aroma from the fresh coffee. The grounds in the upper strainer are then thrown away, having no remaining virtue; and the strainer is made ready for the next morning.

A COMMON BLUNDER.—A plain-spoken western preacher recently delivered the following from his desk:—"I would announce to the congregation that, probably by mistake, there was left at this meeting-house, this morning, a small cotton umbrella, much damaged by time and wear, and exceedingly pale in colour; in place whereof was taken a very large silk umbrella, and of great beauty. Blunders of this sort, brethren and sisters, are getting a little too common."

PAT'S PUZZLE.—In a jovial company, each one asked a question. If it was answered he paid a forfeit; or if he could not answer it himself he paid a forfeit. An Irishman's question was, "How does the little ground-squirrel dig his hole without showing any dirt about the entrance?" When they all gave it up, Pat said, "Sure, do you see, he begins at the other end of the hole." One of the rest exclaimed, "But how does he get there?"—"Ah," said Pat, "that's your question—can you answer it yourself?"

A WONDERFUL SIGHT.—A jolly Jack-Tar having strayed into a menagerie to have a look at the wild beasts, was much struck with the sight of a lion and a tiger in the same den. "Why, Jack," said he to a messmate, who was chewing a quid in silent amazement, "I shouldn't wonder if next year they were to carry about a sailor and a marine living peaceably together!"—"Ay," said his married companion, "or a man and wife."