

## EXERCISE; AN ILLUSTRATION.

BY EDWARD E. HALE.

Two friends are in a canoe in the Mozambique Channel. A sudden flaw of wind upsets the boat. Before they can right her, she fills with water, and sinks; and the two men are swimming for their lives. "Ah, well!" says one of them to the other, "it is a long pull to the shore; but the water is warm, and we are strong. We will hold by each other, and all will go well."—"No," says his friend. "I have lost my breath already; each wave that strikes us knocks it from my body. If you reach the shore,—and God grant you may!—tell my wife I remembered her as I died. Good-by! God bless you!" and he is gone. There is nothing his companion can do for him. For himself, all he can do is to swim, and then float, and rest himself, and breathe; to swim again, and then float, and rest again,—hour after hour, to swim and float, swim and float, with that steady, calm determination that he will go home; that no blinding spray shall stifle him, and no despair weaken him,—hour after hour, till at last the palm-trees show distinct upon the shore, and then the tall reeds, and then the figures of animals. Will one never feel bottom? Yes, at last his foot touches the coral, and with that touch he is safe.

That story that man told me.

Now, what is the difference between those two men? Why does one give up the contest at once, and resign himself to what people call his fate, while the other fights the circumstances for hours, and wins the battle? On shipboard one was as strong as the other. He was as brave. He was as prudent as the other. "What if he was?" you say. Strength and bravery and prudence were all needed in the crisis; but something else was needed also. The man had never trained himself to swim. He knew how to swim, if knowing a method were of much use, where one has not trained himself to the habit. But that training he had never given.

Take that as a precise illustration, where nobody questions the answer, of the difference wrought in two men merely by exercise, or the steadiness of training. In matters like this, of pure bodily exercise, everybody sees and owns its work and its result.

## A SEMINARY OF BULLFINCHES.

A great number of piping bullfinches are annually sent to this country, after going through the usual course of instruction. No school can be more diligently attended by its master, and no scholars more effectually trained to their own calling, than a seminary of bullfinches. As a general rule they are formed into classes of about six in each, and kept in a dark room, when food and music are administered at the same time: so that when the meal is ended, if the birds feel disposed to tune up, they are naturally inclined to copy the sounds which are so familiar to them. As soon as they begin to imitate a few notes, the light is admitted into the room, which still further exhilarates their spirits and inclines them to sing. In some establishments the starving system is adopted, and the birds are not allowed food or light until they sing. When they have been under this course of instruction for some time, they are committed singly to the care of boys, whose sole business is to go on with their education. Each boy assiduously plays his organ from morning till night, for the instruction of the bird committed to his care, while the class-teacher goes his regular rounds, superintending the progress of his feathered pupils, and scolding or rewarding them in a manner which they perfectly understand, and strictly in accordance with the attention or disregard they have shown to the instructions of the monitor. This round of teaching goes on unintermittingly for no less a period than nine months, by which time the bird has acquired firmness, and is less likely to forget or spoil the air by leaving out passages, or giving them in the wrong place. At the time of moulting, the best instructed birds are liable to lose the recollection of their tunes, and therefore require to have them frequently repeated at that time, otherwise all the previous labour will be thrown away. There are celebrated schools for these birds at Hesse and Fulda, from whence all England, Germany, and Holland, receive supplies of the little musicians. — *Cassell's "Natural History."*

## Our Illustrations.

On Monday, the 18th December last, the barque HELEN PATTERSON, Captain Horne, from Pictou, bound to Portland, with a load of coal, having sprung a leak, put into this port for a harbour and anchored outside the breakwater. A gale springing up from the W. S. W., with a heavy sea, she parted one of her chains and dragging her remaining anchor, she went ashore near "Billey Nedd's" Ledges, when she immediately bilged. The crew took to the rigging where they remained all night and until nine o'clock the next day. The sea beating so high, it was thought impossible to get near enough to the wreck to get off the crew. But Capt. John P. Atkins, of the schooner "J. H. G. Perkins," of Gloucester, Mass., lying in the harbour, seeing the great danger the men were in, jumped into his dory with one of his men, and at the imminent risk of his life, rescued six of the crew. Following the heroic example of Capt. Atkins, Capt. Broadstreet, of the schooner "May Queen," took off the remainder of the crew. Captain Atkins, is a native of Shelburne, N. S., but has resided in the United States for the past twenty years. In addition to these particulars from the Liverpool (N. S.) "Advertiser," we have learned directly from the Department of Marine and Fisheries that in pursuance of an order in Council a handsome gold watch has been awarded to Captain Atkins, and a sum of \$25 to each of the men who went in the boat, the whole with a suitable letter of thanks.

As a pendant to the wreck of the "Helen Patterson," we give the quiet view of a SARINE FISHERY on the French Coast, not far from the bay of Biscay.

The eighth and ninth pages are graced with two companion pictures representing female experiences in skating. They will be pleasantly familiar to all our readers.

The twelfth and thirteenth pages are reproductions of German male and female types. The former is a group of the Heidelberg Allemantia drinking their beer at a country inn, on a Tuesday or Thursday half-holiday. The latter gives a galaxy of German girls' faces as seen at the Vienna Weltausstellung.

## Scraps.

The new British Parliament will meet on the 5th March. The *Nalle* of the 17th ult. announces that an admirable statue of Hercules was discovered a few days ago at Esquiline. It is larger than life, and is intact, with the exception of the feet and left arm, which are broken.

Mr. Hunt has intrusted the engraving of his picture, "The Shadow of Death," to Mr. F. Staepole, and the impressions are expected to be ready for delivery to subscribers in about eighteen months' time; application is to be made at the Gallery, 39, Old Bond street, or to Messrs. Thomas Agnew & Sons.

Paris, according to a correspondent, was never more brilliant than now. The boulevards are crowded with the finest equipages. The Bois de Boulogne is as well attended as during the Empire. The shops and theatres are doing splendidly. There are nightly balls and receptions in all the fashionable quarters of the town. In short, even under the Republic, Paris is *par excellence* the capital of capitals.

The pianoforte (or rather harpsichord) on which Rouget de l'Isle's "Marseillaise" was first heard, as also Cherrier's "Chant du Départ," and other patriotic songs, has been placed in the library of the Paris Conservatoire. During the German war the Prussians broke open the instrument under the impression that it concealed treasure, but the injuries have been repaired and the heir of Cherrier has made it a present to the nation.

The late Bishop of Lichfield was once travelling in a railway carriage, when a blustering man exclaimed, "I should like to meet that Bishop of Lichfield. I'd put a question to him that would puzzle him." "Very well," said a voice out of another corner, "now is your time, for I am the bishop." The man was rather startled, but presently recovered, and said, "Well, my lord, can you tell me the way to Heaven?" "Nothing easier," answered the bishop; "you have only to turn to the right and go straight forward."

A perfect mania for phenomena has sprung up in Paris. In opposition to their *homme-chien* and the Two-headed Nightingale, the manager of a café concert recently announced the first appearance of a female with two heads, four legs, but only two arms, named Mlle. Lini-Catherine. The public at once rushed to see this new monstrosity. The place was crowded to suffocation on the first night, and Mlle. Lini was at first acknowledged to be a splendid and wonderful creature. Suspicious, however, were excited by her unwieldy build, and on closer examination Mlle. Lini was found to be composed of two women fastened tightly together.

A young girl was about to be married to a journeyman carpenter, whose suit was by no means agreeable to her. She had refused and protested against the match, but her father was inexorable on the subject, and insisted on her marriage, though her mother would willingly have yielded. At length the bride-elect appeared resigned to her fate, and the father, pointing out the happy result of his firmness to his wife, triumphantly exclaimed, "I told you so." Next day, however, the poor girl, having left a letter at home explaining the cause of her action, jumped off the Bridge of Austerlitz into the Seine. She was, however, saved, and carried home by two sailors. The father returned home just as the dripping girl was placed in safety beside the paternal hearth, when the mother, with perhaps more point than discretion, simply observed, "I told you so."

The mantua-makers, hairdressers, milliners, and costumiers are, they say on the Boulevards, to present next week a diamond ring to M. Sardou. Certainly no public man so well deserves the thanks of these honourable corporations. Whenever trade is dull Sardou comes forward at the nick of time to give it a fillip, and to inaugurate with a *piece aux robes* some startling fashion, which, by reason of its eccentricity, cannot possibly survive a season. His *Famille Benoiton* came before the public just as the Imperial Court was trying to become serious, and the Empress was endeavouring to react against the fashions she had been setting for fourteen years. Paris rushed to laugh at the toilette-extravagances of the actresses who played in this piece. But the ladies of the fast family looked so charming in their absurd belongings that every woman who could afford to imitate them dressed like them.

## Music and the Drama.

This is Wieniawski's last season in America. Offenbach's latest opera is entitled "Richelleu." P. S. Gilmore seems to be doing fairly in New York. Salvini doesn't draw in the West, owing to his high prices. Caroline Richings keeps up the "Old Folks' Concert" business.

Fechter left New York suddenly, in company with Miss Lizzie Price.

Franz Abt has written an opera for America, called "The Sharpshooter."

Albani was recently called before the curtain in Moscow more than forty times!

A London critic calls the Wagner movement "a weed growing on Beethoven's grave."

Lydia Thompson will retire from the stage of this country at the close of the present season.

Adelaide Nelson, the actress, has broken down her health, and has gone to Florida for rest.

The Camilla Urso troupe has been the most successful concert organization of the American season.

W. P. Spaulding has been presented with an elegant masonic gold Keystone, by the members of his company of Bellringers.

Carl Rosa's English opera company is said to be the best organization of the kind that has been heard in England for many years. It is vastly successful.

The Mexicans are good judges of opera, and when they don't like a performance they let the performers know it. Lately an audience in the city of Mexico became exasperated at the atrocious massacre of the music, and put a stop to it by hurling chairs, benches, cushions and other portable appurtenances of the house upon the stage.

In private life Miss Kellogg is even more charming than she is upon the boards. She is a sparkling and vivacious conversationalist and withal a most intelligent and sensible one. She is a thorough lady, and, what is better still, she is a pure-minded, high-souled, intellectual woman. And she is, too, a thorough American, proud of her nationality and of the fact that she received her musical education wholly in the United States.

Professor Cairnes will shortly publish a work on which he has been for some time engaged, and which will contain new expositions of some of the leading principles of Political Economy. Amongst other subjects treated of in the volume will be the doctrine of Value, the relations of Labour and Capital, with an investigation into the power of Strikes to influence Wages, the functions of Trade Unions, &c. The volume will also contain an examination of the principles of International Trade, and, in connection with this, a criticism of protectionist theories as advanced by American writers.

## Odities.

An American literary gentleman says—"I find plenty of people who are willing to tell all they know, if you tell them all they know, but the mizry of the trade is, they don't know much."

Rev. Gent.—"But you really can have no serious reason to wish to be parted from your wife." Rustic.—"Well, no, Sir. I like my wife well enough, but, you see, she don't please mother."

News is scarce in Minnesota. In the effort to present something fresh, a Lanesboro paper has found it necessary to publish the Ten Commandments, under an excuse of "a gentle reminder now and then."

"I am weary of life—bury me deep on the hillside," wrote a young man in Dubuque; but they pumped him out, and the same night he went to the circus and laughed till he cried at the antics of the trick mules.

Could anything be neater than the old darkey's reply to a beautiful young lady whom he offered to lift over the gutter, and who insisted that she was too heavy? "Lor, missus," said he, "I'se use to lifting barrels of sugar."

A bachelor says if you hand a lady a newspaper with a paragraph cut out of it, not a line of it will be read, but every bit of interest felt in the paper by the lady will center in finding out what the missing paragraph contained.

The stringency in the egg market is painful. There has been a large falling off in deposits of late, many of the hens having entirely suspended, while others are holding on to their reserves. It is thought, however, that nearly all will be able to resume in the spring, when the crops begin to move.

The Peoria Review says that a lady teacher in one of the public schools was amazed the other day by seeing a perfect forest of juvenile hands fly up in the air and shake and gesticulate with violent agitation. "What do you want?" queried the puzzled instructor. Chorus—"Yer hair's falling off!"

Attention is called to the size of the pop-corn balls now sold for a cent, as evidence that something is radically wrong in the condition of the country. In this connection it may be remarked that, nowadays, three cents' worth of gum will not last a schoolboy half a day, whereas it would formerly give his teacher a subject for conversation for a week.

Dr. Livingstone says that Schele, a famous African chief, observed to him, on the occasion of his preaching to his tribe, "Do you imagine that these people will ever believe by your merely talking to them? I can make them do nothing except by thrashing them; and, if you like, I will call my head men, and, with our whips of rhinoceros hide, we will soon make them all believe together."

Young Smith was walking out with the idol of his heart, the other evening, and they choose the favourite resort of lovers, the goat pasture near the dam. While admiring the falls and getting their noses reddened by the north wind, she burst out rapturously, "Isn't that dam splendid?" She nearly fainted away when Smith answered that he wasn't use to hearing young ladies swear, and another engagement is broken off.

An inebriate, some little while back, got into a car, and became very troublesome and annoying to the other passengers, so much so that it was proposed to eject him; but a kind-hearted and reverend doctor, who was also a passenger, interposed for him, and soothed him into good behaviour for the remainder of the journey. Before leaving, however, he scowled upon the other occupants and muttered some words of contempt, but shook hands warmly with the doctor, and said, "Good day, my friend; I see you know what it is to be drunk."

## Chess.

It is impossible for us to answer letters by mail. Games, Problems, Solutions, &c., forwarded are always welcome, and receive due attention, but we trust that our correspondents will consider the various demands upon our time, and accept as answers the necessarily brief replies through our "column."

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

W. H. P., Montreal.—We suppose it is possible to do so, but it would detract from the merit of the problem by pointing out the key move.

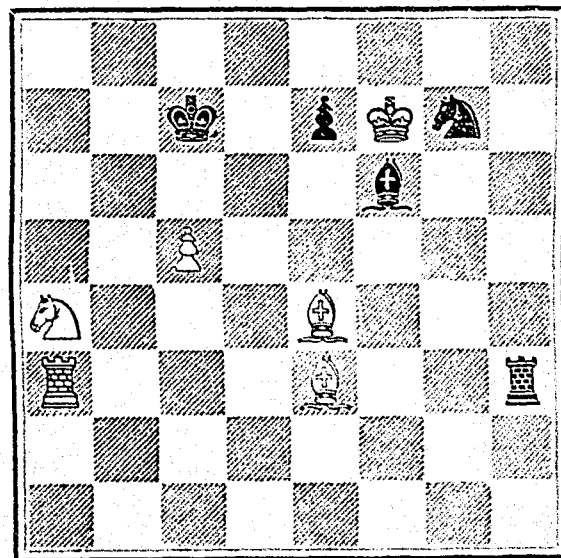
J. W. B., Toronto.—With reference to Problem No. 114, the position of the Black Rook was well defined as K. R. 4th, but no doubt it was a mistake made in writing down the position, and K. R. 4th was meant.

EUREKA.—Your solution of Problem No. 114 is not correct, for if Black play 1. B to K 5th, white plays 2. Q to K 6th ch and mate next move. The following is the solution as given by the author:

White. 1. Q takes Kt ch 2. Q takes Q ch 3. B to K R 7th ch 4. B takes R checkmate.

Black. 1. Q inter. ch 2. B takes Q. 3. R inter ch

CORRECT SOLUTIONS RECEIVED.—No. 115. Delta, Rock Island; Junius; F. X. L., Ottawa, and M. J. C., Hawkesbury; No. 116. W. H. P., Montreal; F. X. L., Ottawa, and J. W. B., Toronto.

PROBLEM No. 117.  
By Mr. F. X. L., Ottawa.  
BLACK.

White to play and mate in three moves.

## SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 115.

White. 1. B to K 7th 2. B to K 8th 3. B to Q 5th 4. B mates.

Black. 1. P to R 5th 2. P to R 6th 3. P to R 7th

## SOLUTION AS GIVEN BY CORRESPONDENTS.

White. 1. K to Q 3rd 2. K to R 3rd 3. B to K 4th 4. R to B 6th dis ch mate.

Black. 1. Any move. 2. " 3. "