

HEARTH AND HOME.

IMAGINATION.—Imagination is not an impulse or a habit which can be conquered by avoidance, it is a mental necessity which cannot be avoided. It is as essential a faculty of the human intellect as memory, and while, like memory, it can be degraded by misuse and dulled by disuse, it can less be disused than memory, since, though we may get on without conscious reference to the past, we cannot ignore the future, the future of to-morrow or of the next five minutes; and the simplest forming of a purpose involves conceiving something that has not happened, or a distinct effort of the imagination.

GOODNESS.—Nothing makes a man so in love with virtue as purity. Many a man has been lifted out of debasing sins, against which he has vainly struggled by coming to know and love a pure, sweet woman. It is the sight of embodied goodness that makes want to be good. Many a mother by the quiet usefulness of her life fills her children with a desire to be like her that makes them in their turn unselfish. There are obscure men and women, who hardly in their lives utter a word of conscious teaching, who by their example do more to make people around them gentle and truthful and Christ-like than any preacher can do. It is not those who talk about goodness, but those who are good that are the light of the world.

GOOD IN ALL.—People despise each other too much. There is really some good in almost every one—something admirable in most. The stiff and solemn serious man may be a model of integrity and purity, though the gay Bohemian grins at him. The Bohemian at whose approach the sober man shudders may really be warm-hearted, generous, and self-sacrificing, though many libations flush his face, and he seldom saves enough to buy himself the coffin for which he makes himself prematurely ready. The business man whom others think a creature of shillings and pence, doubtless fought in his youth a very Apollon of discouragement, and is secretly more tender-hearted and charitable than he dare let the world know.

HAPPINESS.—Man is not a happy creature on the whole; and it is a little remarkable that happiness exists more purely and simply the lower down you are, and evaporates more and more the higher you go up. As a matter of fact, children are generally very happy. They suffer very little. They have very little care, very little foresight, very little fear, very little self-torment; and, on the whole, child-life, even under unfavourable conditions, as a rule is a happy life. And men, as a general thing, are happy more than unhappy, until they come to majority, and begin to be independent and complex actors in the great sphere of social life; from that point on it will be found that, as men grow more various and wider cultured, happiness degenerates. Yet more, the most unhappy people in the world are the most cultivated people, the most thoughtful people, the most refined and sensitive people; and the capacity of suffering, as a matter of fact, not in every case, but as a rule, increases with general development.

OLD FRIENDS.—Old wine, old china, old shoes, are best; so, in general, are old friends. Old friendships of the best kind are, as a rule, before the new, save in such cases as prove that rule by their somewhat exceptional character. They are more trustworthy, because they have been longer rooted in time and trial, in circumstance and knowledge; and they are more delightful, because they are generally surrounded with the poetry and idealization which are borrowed from hope and the past. Who that has a heart to love at all ever knew the fount to fail—ever came to the day and hour when he said, "I can love no more—the possibilities of humanity are exhausted for me, and with the possibilities of humanity my own power of giving sympathy and affection?" Some there may be in life who do thus come to the dry well where no living water is; but they were ever dry, never had a living fount at all, or only one of such small and easily exhausted volume that they emptied it at the first libation, and it has ever filled since.

FOR THE LAST TIME.—There is a touch of pathos about doing even the simplest thing "for the last time." It is not alone kissing the dead that gives you this strange pain. You feel it when you have looked your last time upon some scene you have loved—when you stand in some quiet city street, where you know that you will never stand again. The actor playing his part for the last time; the singer whose voice is cracked hopelessly, and who after this once will never stand before the sea of upturned faces, disputing the plaudits with fresher voices; the minister who has preached his last sermon—these all know the hidden bitterness of the words "never again." How they come to us on our birthdays as we grow older. Never young again—always nearer and nearer to the very last—the end which is universal. "The last thing" which shall follow all last things, and turn them, let us hope, from pain to joys. We put away our boyish toys with an odd heartache. We were too old to walk any longer on our stilts—too tall to play marbles on the sidewalk. Yet there was a pang when we thought we had played with our merry thoughts for the last time, and life's serious, grown-up work was waiting for us. Now we do not want the lost toys back. Life has other and larger playthings for us. May it not be that these, too, shall seem in the light of some far-off day as the

boyish games seem to our manhood, and we shall learn that death is but the opening of the gate into the new land of promise?

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

All communications intended for this department to be addressed to Chess Editor, Office of CANADIAN ILLUSTRATED NEWS, Montreal.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Letter and contents received. Much obliged. Solution of Problem No. 154 received. Correct. The position deserves the praise you award it. It is well put together and difficult of solution. Two essential points in Problem making.

Student, Montreal.—Solution of Problem No. 155 received. Correct.
A. S., Montreal.—The position shall appear next week.
B. R.—The position is correctly printed.
E. H.—Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 152 received. Correct.

The original Problem by Mr. M. A. Townsend, which we inserted recently in our Column has appeared since in the *Glasgow News of the Week*, with the remark that it is worthy of half-an-hour's study.

Although only two or three of our correspondents sent us solutions of this excellent study, we would like to acquaint the author with the fact that his composition was mastered by several players here, who, however, did not send in the results of their investigations.

We read in the *Land and Water* of the death of Mr. Remington Wilson, who, it appears, was a zealous patron of Chess literature, and whose Chess library may be considered as almost, if not quite unequalled throughout the world. He was a staunch friend of the late Mr. Lowenthal.

The Grantham Tourney is greatly occupying the attention of Chess players in England at the present time. The Lincoln Association meets with patronage to an extent that must, assuredly, satisfy those through whose instrumentality the Society has been established.

A prince of the blood royal gives it his support, and contributes a handsome prize, while upon its committee are peers, members of Parliament, various mayors, thirty-three clergymen, &c.

The games in the International Chess Match are progressing to the satisfaction of those whose action led to the inception of this interesting contest, and already some of the games have been published as far as they have been played.

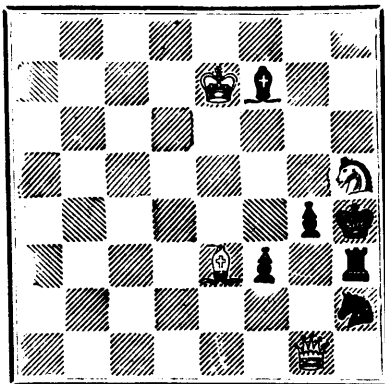
We shall endeavour in our next Column to insert one or two of these yet unfinished encounters.

Mr. Blackburne has recently been showing his great power as a blindfold player to the amateurs of Bradford and Manchester, Eng. At Bradford, out of eight simultaneous games he won five, lost one, and drew two. At the Manchester Chess Club, playing under similar conditions, he won five, and drew three, and at the Manchester Church Club; out of seven games 2 he won five, and drew two. We insert one of these games, which we copy from *Land and Water*.

We are informed by one of our correspondents that a Chess Club has been organized in Paris, Ont., with Mr. Wolph, as President, and Mr. Hackhead as Secretary. The meetings will take place every Thursday night at the members' houses alternately. In wishing success to this new club, we cannot avoid saying that the plan they have chosen for meeting together is an admirable one, and much more calculated to extend the benefits of the gentle game than confining it to the narrow precincts of the club-room.

PROBLEM NO. 156.

By W. S. PAVITT.
BLACK.



WHITE

White to play and mate in three moves.

GAME 232ND.

(From *Land and Water*.)
(Blindfold Chess.)

One out of eight games played by Mr. Blackburne, simultaneously and without sight of boards or men at Bradford, Eng., on the 28th ult.

(French Opening.)

WHITE.—(Mr. Blackburne.) BLACK.—Mr. Whittaker.)

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. P to K4 | 1. P to K3 |
| 2. P to Q4 | 2. P to Q4 |
| 3. Q Kt to B3 | 3. B to Q Kt 5 (a) |
| 4. P takes P | 4. P takes P |
| 5. Kt to B3 | 5. B to Kt 5 |
| 6. B to Q3 | 6. Q to B3 (b) |
| 7. Castles | 7. B takes Q Kt |
| 8. P takes B | 8. Kt to K2 |
| 9. B to K2 | 9. P to K R3 |
| 10. Kt to K5 | 10. B takes B |
| 11. Q takes B | 11. Castles |
| 12. P to K B4 | 12. Q to Q3 |
| 13. P to B5 | 13. P to K B3 |
| 14. Kt to Kt4 | 14. K to R2 |
| 15. Kt takes R P (c) | 15. P takes Kt |
| 16. Q to R5 | 16. Kt to Q2 (d) |
| 17. B takes P | 17. K to Kt sq |
| 18. R to B3 | 18. R to B2 |
| 19. R to Kt 3 (ch) | 19. Q takes R |
| 20. P takes Q | 20. Kt to B sq (e) |
| 21. K to B2 (f) | 21. Kt to R2 |
| 22. R to K R sq | 22. R to Q sq |
| 23. K to R4 | 23. R to Q2 |
| 24. R to Kt4 (ch) | 24. Kt to Kt4 |
| 25. B takes Kt | 25. P takes B |
| 26. R takes P (ch) | 18. Resigns. |

NOTES.

(a) Rejected now as unsatisfactory. Kt to K B3 has for some time past been preferred to any other move.

(b) Black's line of play is not according to the principles of the French Defence.

(c) One of Mr. Blackburne's own strokes, and the position, as usual, ready for it.

(d) Kt to Kt sq is no balm, on account of Q to Kt 6 (ch) and B takes P, after which R to B3 will have to be reckoned with.

(e) R to R2 is better, but it would be effectively met by R to K sq; for Black cannot then play K to R sq, and consequently remains helpless against further operations e. g.—

- | | |
|--|----------------|
| 21. R to K sq | 20. R to R2 |
| 22. B to Kt 7 (ch) | 21. K to R sq |
| 23. Q takes R (ch) | 22. K to Kt sq |
| 24. R takes Kt and wins, of course, very easily. | 23. K takes Q |

It is possible that Mr. Blackburne either had or could have discovered some more ingenious method, but this one suffices.

(f) B graceful conception, which forces the game.

GAME 233RD.

Played three years ago in England, between Messrs De Vere and Bird.

Ruy Lopez.

WHITE.—(Mr. De Vere.) BLACK.—(Mr. Bird.)

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. P to K4 | 1. P to K4 |
| 2. Kt to K B3 | 2. Kt to Q B3 |
| 3. B to Kt 5 | 3. Kt to Q5 |
| 4. Kt takes Kt | 4. P takes Kt |
| 5. P to Q3 | 5. P to K B3 |
| 6. B to B4 | 6. Q to R5 |
| 7. Castles | 7. Kt to K B3 |
| 8. P to K5 | 8. Kt to Kt5 |
| 9. B to B4 | 9. P to K R4 |
| 10. Kt to Q2 | 10. Q to Q sq |
| 11. Q to K B3 | 11. P to Q4 |
| 12. P takes P (en passant) | 12. B to K3 |
| 13. Q R to K sq | 13. Q to Q2 |
| 14. Kt to K4 | 14. Castles |
| 15. Kt to B5 | 15. B takes B |
| 16. Kt takes Q | 16. B to Q4 |
| 17. Kt takes B | 17. B takes Q |
| 18. P checks. | Resigns. |

SOLUTIONS.

Solution of Problem No. 154.

- | | |
|------------------|------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1. R to Q B sq | 1. K to B4 |
| 2. R to Q Kt 3 | 2. K moves |
| 3. Kt to K6 mate | |

There are other variations.

Solution of Problem for Young Players, No. 152.

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1. R to Q B4 | 1. K to K sq |
| 2. R to K B4 | 2. K to Q sq |
| 3. B to Q6 | 3. Any move. |
| 4. R mates | |

There are other defences.

PROBLEMS FOR YOUNG PLAYERS NO. 153.

(From the *Detroit Free Press*.)

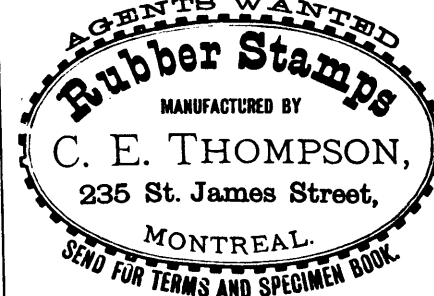
- | | |
|-------------|---------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| K at Q R 8 | K at K R sq |
| Q at Q R sq | R at K R 2 |
| R at K R sq | B at K R 2 |
| Kt at K R 6 | Pawn at K B 2 |

White to play and mate in two moves.

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