

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

X. Y.—A laconism is not a maxim; the former is only a short pointed saying taking its rise from the brief and pithy manner adopted by the ancient Lacedaemonians in expressing themselves, whereas the latter carries something in it to be remembered, either for the practical gravity of its wisdom or the humorous application of its sense. For example: "Better small help than none," is a maxim; but when the ancient general was told that the spears of the enemy were so numerous that they darkened the sun, and when he said, "Then we will fight in the shade," he uttered a laconism.

W. T. McL.—Temperance societies were originated in the United States by Mr. Calloun, in 1813.

H. E.—An alteration of the date of a check, if made without the consent of the drawer thereof, will have the effect of invalidating the same.

J. H. A.—The population of Canada on its conquest by the British was about 65,000.

A TYRO.—A Freemason's Lodge affords occasional temporary relief to a brother in affliction: but entering a lodge is by no means to be regarded as equivalent to providing a fund for continued help in sickness or old age.

ARTHUR S.—It is quite true that Louis Napoleon was sworn in as a special constable in London in 1848. Probably his staff of authority is treasured among his memorials of the past.

LAURA.—Literature is evidently not your forte, you had better turn your thoughts to something else.

F. W.—The Yeomen of the Guard is a corps of about 140 strong, hardy, agile men. They are to be persons next below the order of gentry. It is a part of the duty of yeomen to carry up the dishes to the royal table. They take care of all the baggage when the sovereign removes from one place to another. Their principal duty is, however, to keep the passages of the palace clear on state days.

VIOLET.—We know nothing of it and cannot advise you.

Geo. B.—Much obliged, will use them as opportunity offers.

SCIENTIFIC AND USEFUL.

A putty of starch and chloride of zinc hardens quickly, and lasts for months, as a stopper of holes in metals.

It is stated that dairywomen have discovered that milk, suddenly cooled after being drawn from the cow, will keep much longer than otherwise.

Putty for stove joints may be made by wetting together fine salt with double its bulk of fresh hard wood ashes. If a harder cement is wanted, use iron filings with white lead and linseed oil. It should have a day or two for hardening.

Pickling vegetables, as well as salting meats and tanning leather, is effected without loss of time by the pneumatic process. exhausting the air and letting in the liquid under atmospheric pressure, so as to force it instantly through the opened pores and cells.

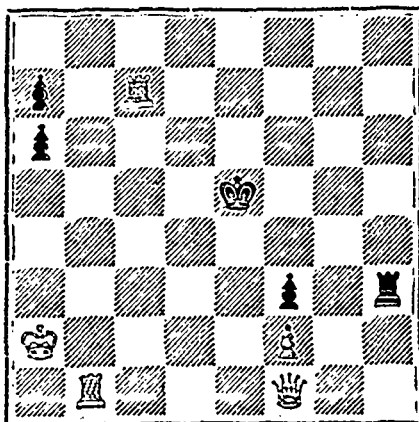
A white paste, adhesive to all surfaces, is said to be made as follows:—A solution of 2½ ounces gum arabic in two quarts warm water, is thickened to a paste with wheat flour, to this is added a solution of alum and sugar of lead, 720 grains each in water. The mixture is heated and stirred about to boil, and is then cooled. It may be thinned, if necessary, with gum solution.

THOMPSON'S MECHANICAL TEA MIXER.—The importance of this machine may be estimated when we mention that last year one hundred and two million pounds of tea were consumed in our country. The greater portion of this tea, before passing to the consumer, had to be mixed at an enormous amount of manual labour. This can now be effectually done by a machine which has been invented by Mr. William Thompson, of Dublin.—*Mechanics' Magazine.*

EFFECTS OF TOBACCO AND SNUFF IN IMPAIRING MEMORY.—The Abbé Migne has just addressed a letter to a very honourable director of one of the great seminaries of Paris, condemning the use of tobacco and snuff. This letter furnishes us with an opportunity of relating a fact that is personal to us. Several times in our youth and riper age we have taken up and discarded the use of the snuff-box. In 1861, when writing our mathematical treatises, we used snuff to excess, taking 20 to 25 grammes per day, incessantly having recourse to the fatal box and snuffing up the dangerous stimulant. The effects of this was, on the one hand, the stiffening of the nervous system, which we could not account for; on the other hand, a rapid loss of memory, not only of the present but of the past. We had learned several languages by their roots, and our memory was often at a loss for a word. Frightened at this considerable loss, we resolved in September, 1861, to renounce the use of snuff and cigars for ever. This resolution was the commencement of a veritable restoration to health and spirits, and our memory recovered all its sensibility and force. The same thing happened to M. Dabrunfaut, the celebrated chemist, in renouncing the use of tobacco. We do not hesitate in saying that for one moderate snuff-taker or smoker there are 99 who use tobacco to excess.—F. MOIGSO.

CHESS.

PROBLEM, No. 81.
By DR. CONRAD BAYER.
BLACK.



WHITE.
White to play and Mate in three moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM, No. 79.
WHITE. BLACK.
1 Q to Kt 6. } K moves.
2 P to B 4.
3 Q to Kt 6 Mate.

Game between two Toronto amateurs.
EVANS' GAMBIT.

WHITE. (Mr. B.)	BLACK. (Mr. M.)
1 P to K 4	1 P to K 4.
2 K Kt to B 3.	2 Q Kt to B 3.
3 B to Q B 4.	3 B to Q B 4.
4 P to Q Kt 4.	4 B takes Q Kt P.
5 P to Q B 3.	5 B to R 4.
6 Castles.	6 P to Q 3.
7 P to Q 4.	7 P takes P.
8 Q to Q Kt 3.	8 Q to K 2 (a.)
9 P takes P.	9 B to Q Kt 3.
10 B to Q Kt 2.	10 B to Q 2.
11 B to Q B 3 (b.)	11 Castles.
12 Q Kt to Q 2.	12 P to K B 4 (c.)
13 K R to K sq.	13 P to Q R 3.
14 P to Q R 4.	14 Kt to Q R 4 (d.)
15 Q B takes Q Kt.	15 B takes B.
16 Q R to Q Kt sq.	16 P to Q Kt 4.
17 Q R P takes Q Kt P.	17 B to Q Kt 3.
18 P takes Q R P.	18 K Kt to B 3.
19 P takes K B P.	19 Q to K B sq.
20 B to K 6.	20 K to Kt sq. (e.)
21 K R to Q B sq.	21 P to Q 4.
22 K R takes Q B P.	

And Black resigns.

- (a) Q to K B 3 would have been a stronger move.
- (b) The object of this move will be seen later in the game.
- (c) Intending to commence an attack on White, but in reality losing time.
- (d) P to Q R 4, or B to Q R 2 appears preferable.
- (e) B takes B appears to be a better line of play here.

WITTY AND WHIMSICAL.

BRWERY.—Wanted, some of the beer produced "when mischief is brewing."

SCIENTIFIC INTELLIGENCE.—At the next meeting of the Zoological Society a paper will be read "On the Tears of the Crocodile."

A MAN in battle is not allowed to whistle to keep his courage up, and the whistling of the bullets doesn't have that tendency.

What is the difference between a blacksmith and a cobbler?—One shoes old hucks, and the other hacks old shoes.

A lady was seen intently gazing upon a piece of brocaded silk displayed in a window. A passer-by observed that it was Satin tempting Eve.

A Scotchman asked an Irishman "Why are farthings coined in England?" Pat's answer was, "To give Scotchmen an opportunity of subscribing to charitable institutions."

"I THINK I have seen you before, sir; are you not Owen Smith?"—"Oh, yes, I'm owin' Smith, and owin' Jones, and owin' Brown, and owin' everybody."

A LADY being asked to join a union of the "Daughters of Temperance," replied, "It is unnecessary, as I intend to join one of the sons' soon." Sensible lady, that.

A GLASS of soda-water was offered to a country lad, who rejected it with the greatest indignation. "Do you think I am a salamander," said he, "to drink water boiling hot?"

AN EPISCOPAL LICENCE NOT SUFFICIENT.—A young ecclesiastic having asked of his bishop permission to preach, the latter replied, "I do not forbid you to do so, but Nature does."

A gentleman who had a very deaf servant was advised by a friend to discharge her. "No, no," replied the gentleman, with much good feeling, "that poor creature could never hear of another situation."

An Irish Chief Secretary, being the owner of a fine ostrich which was safely delivered of an egg, received the following telegram from his steward—"My lord, as your lordship is out of the country, I have procured the biggest goose I could find to sit on the ostrich's egg."

A school-mistress while taking down the names and ages of her pupils, and the names of their parents, at the beginning of the term, asked one little fellow, "What's your father's name?"—"Oh, you needn't take down his name; he's too old to go to school to a woman," was the reply.

THE "OTHER SIDE.—There is a story of old Dudley Perse, of Roxborough, a bold rider and a keen sportsman, who after taking a high wall, completely disappeared, there being a "drop" of double the height. When Lord Gort cried out, "What's at the other side, Dudley?" the answer was, "I am, thank God!"

At an hotel dinner a gentleman observed a person who sat opposite use a toothpick which had just done the same service to his neighbour. Wishing to apprise him of his mistake, he said, "I beg your pardon, sir, but you are using Mr. —'s toothpick."—"I know I am. By the powers, sir, do you think that I am not going to return it?"

Rain, unlike light, has escaped taxation, although only narrowly; for during the long war, and when Pitt was puzzled what next to tax, he wrote, whilst staying at Burton Pines in Somersetshire, to a friend and neighbour in that county, asking him to suggest something that might be taxed, as he had exhausted his stock, and was at his wits' end. The reply was, "Tax umbrellas, and make the bishops order the prayer for rain to be read in all the churches till the end of the war." Pitt, however, had already taxed everything the umbrella was made of, and, having a conscience, the contrivance to keep the rain off did not share the same fate as the one to let the light in, although in exactly the same category.