

In our next we will speak of the more modern writers who have given to the world works on this most interesting game.

CHESSE ENIGMA.

No. 15 by Mr. W. Bone.

WHITE.—K at K 4th; Q at K B 3rd; R at Q B 6th; B at Q R 5th; P at K Kt 7th.

BLACK.—K at his sq.; Q at Q Kt 6th; R at Q 4th; B at K R 3rd.

*White compels Black to mate in three moves.*

Now, Laird, your facts.

LAIRD.—How much do you want?

DOCTOR.—Read, and I will tell you where to stop. (*Laird Reads.*)

HINTS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF SMALL GARDENS.

ONE of the finest features in the country towns of America is that almost every dwelling has its garden—small in many cases it may be, but still a garden, and capable of yielding many of the comforts and pleasures of gardening. The most active improvers of our day, the men who are really doing most for the diffusion of a taste for gardening, are the residents of country towns and villages, with their acre, half acre, and even quarter acre lots. Taking this view of the subject, we naturally regard the management of small gardens with much interest; and therefore propose, now and hereafter, to offer a few hints, in order, if possible, to establish more correct views in regard to the principles which should regulate their formation and treatment.

From pretty extensive observation, we have come to the conclusion that one of the most serious and prevalent errors in the management of small gardens, is *attempting too much*. This grows very naturally out of the desire that every man feels to gather around his residence the greatest possible variety of interesting scenes and objects; in other words, to make the most of his limited space. In laying out a garden, the design may be good, and it may, in the first place, be properly executed; but no sooner is this done than new trees or plants are fancied, and probably a neighbor's garden suggests some new walks or divisions—and thus one little alteration after another is introduced, until the original plan is effaced, and the whole becomes a piece of patchwork. We have seen many charming little gardens utterly ruined in this way. Now, the beauty of a small garden, and the pleasure it may afford, lies not in a great variety of embellishments, but in *simplicity and high keeping*—few walks and few trees.

Numerous walks destroy the unity and extent of a small piece of ground, and add very materially to the cost of keeping; and as a regular gardener is seldom employed in such places, the walks become neglected and grown over with grass and weeds, resembling more

a cattle path than anything else. The principle, there, should be rigidly adhered to, of having only such walks as are absolutely indispensable, and these to be kept in the best order. A good, well kept walk is not only a great beauty but a great comfort, whereas nothing is so useless and ill-looking as a bad or neglected one. In most cases a single walk, and that a foot walk, six or eight feet wide in proportion to the extent of the ground, will be quite enough.

The position of the entrance gate and the course of the walk must be determined by the shape of the grounds and the situation of the front door of the dwelling. If the space between the house and street be narrow—say twenty or thirty feet—and the front door be in the centre of the building, the most convenient, and probably the best, arrangement is the common one—having the gate opposite the door, and the walk straight. It would be much better if houses of this kind were so constructed as to have the main entrance on one side, so that the ground in front of the principal rooms might be kept in a lawn, embellished with a few appropriate trees. This would be a more agreeable sight from the windows than a gravel walk, and persons approaching the house would not be directly in front of the windows. When the house stands back a sufficient distance, even if the front door be in the centre facing the street, the walk should approach it by as easy curves as possible from one side, leaving the ground in front unbroken. A curved walk, however, is not only inconvenient, but obviously inconsistent, in a very limited space.

Box, and all other kinds of edgings, to walks that run through grass plots, are not only out of place, but add greatly to the expense of planting and keeping. Such things are only appropriate in flower gardens, to mark the outlines of walks and beds. Hedges of privet, red cedar, or arbor vitæ, are occasionally planted along the edges of walks, but are entirely superfluous, and have a bad effect, unless to screen a wagon road to out-buildings, or to separate a front garden or lawn from the kitchen garden, or such objects as it may be desirable to conceal. Such hedges have also a very good effect when placed immediately behind an open front fence, forming, in that case, a background to the lawn, when viewed from the dwelling.

DOCTOR.—That will do. Now, Mrs. Grundy, will you oblige us, and pray remember to give us nothing but what it is absolutely necessary that our fair countrywomen should be informed of.

(*Mrs. Grundy reads.*)

DESCRIPTION OF THE PLATE.

“Dress of light purple silk: the skirt, opening in the front on a breadth of white lutestring, has the edges slightly festooned and