

PETER AND HIS SINS.

Peter Drummond, resident in St. Monance, was born in 1776. About the beginning of the present century the Rev. Mr. Gillies was minister of the united parishes of Abercromby and St. Monance, and at that period Peter was "the minister's man." Peter was strictly honest, but he had many eccentricities and queer sayings and doings, and in short was one of the queerest fellows in the east of Fife. At one time when the coals in the manse were getting scarce, Peter had the horse yoked early in the morning, and was ready to drive off to see that all was right—an interference which Peter, who had been long his faithful servant, did not like, for he thought he might have been trusted to go unheeded on a work of this kind, besides the minister always threw in some "off-put," and so it happened in the present instance. When the cart was just about starting, Mr. Gillies asked Peter if he had said his prayers. "Deed no, sir," said Peter very honestly, "I had nae time, and was just gaun to say them on the road." "Hont, tout!" said the minister, "go into the stable and say them before you go, and that will make sure work." "Weel, then," said Peter dryly, "will you be so good as hand the horse, an' I'll gang inbye and pray!" The morning, which had been dull and lowering, was still fair when Peter went into the stable, but he had not been there long when the rain began to fall in torrents. Peter was in no hurry; he seated himself on a sack of straw, from which he was eyeing the minister from a hole window, and was loth to go out in the rain. Mr. Gillies at last lost patience, for he was nearly drenched to the skin, and cried out—"Peter, are ye no through yet?" "Very near, sir," answered Peter, "but I hae twa or three sins tae confess still, which perhaps I had better dae 'on the road.'" "Ay, just so," said the minister, who was glad to get rid of his charge on any terms, and Peter got his own way.

SOCIAL MYSTERIES.

"When a man axes me who libb next doah," began the old man as the triangle sounded to order, "I answer him Brown or Jones or White, or whatever de name may be, but when he goes beyond dat an' axes me what salary de man airn, how often his wife changes bonnets, an' how dey make seben dollars a week go furdur dan I kin fo'teen, I become a clam. I has no business to know an' when I do know I won't tell. I used to have some curiosity in dis direcshun, but I has got ober it of late y'ars. When I know dat a sartin man, receivin' a salary of \$12 per week, kin give parties, hire carriages an' dress his wife in silks, it makes me glut. Dat is, it used to. I used to wonder why I couldn't do de same thing on de same money, but I nebber could. When de ole woman used to tell me dat sartin woman had new silks, new hats, new close an' new shoes once a month de y'ar roun', an' we havin' to lib clus on de same money, it made me mad. Dat is, it used to. When I saw men who owed fur deir washin' struttin' aroun', like lords, while I had to work seben days in a week and pay my debts, I felt like smashin' trow de sidewalk. But I has got ober all dis. When I meet a woman who can dress like a banker's wife on de \$10 or \$12 per week paid her husband, I don't 'low myself to eben fink about it. When I see a man buyin' 20-cent cigars, sportin' a cane and takin' champagne, while his chillen at home an' bar'fut I try to believe dat it am all right.

When a lady with \$300 woff of close on axes me to do a job of whitewashin' in a parlor whar' de bes' pictur's come from a tea-store an' de bes' cha'r am under chattel mortgage, I doan' stop to wonder who she thinks she am foolin'. Nay-burs of mine who owe all de butchers within a circle of a mile, kin pay fo' dollars cash fur a libery rig on Sunday an' I shan't criticize. Wives may go shoppin' obery day in de week an' gib parties ebory night an' my ole woman will keep de cabin just de same. Since we quit wonderin' an' speculatin' ober dese fings we feel much better. We know fur a fact jist how fur we kin make money go. If odder folks kin lib like lords on a salary of \$600 a y'ar, it's a streak of good luck an' none of our business. My advice am to let sich fings pass. Dey are mysteries wid which we have no bizness, an' de mo' you ponder ober dem de less you will enjoy what you have honestly airned by ha'd work an' saved by good economy."—*De-troit Free Press.*

OUR CHESS COLUMN.

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

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. S., Montreal.—Papers to hand. Thanks.
Student, Montreal.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 322.
E. D. W., Sherbrooke, P. Q.—Correct solution received of Problem No. 331.

The second French National Tourney promises to be a very brilliant affair. It is to take place at the Cercle des Echeecs, Paris, on the 6th of November next. It is gratifying to see the President of the Republic taking an interest in the royal game, and in this way tending to make it popular, by giving the chief prizes to be contested for; and it is equally gratifying to find that in doing so he is encouraging art, by choosing for the purpose valuable articles from the natural Sevres manufacture. This is as it should be, and is far preferable to prizes given in the form of money. The first

prize is to be an egg-shaped vase, blue ground, and richly ornamented with gold, and the second prize, a coffee service of twelve pieces, blue ground, and gold border. The play is to be by rounds not yet decided upon, and each competitor will play two games with every other player, and draw games will count half a game to each. The tourney for the prizes mentioned above is only open to Frenchmen, but at the same time there will be a handicap tourney, open to all members of the Cercle irrespective of nationality. The prizes for this tourney are not made known yet.

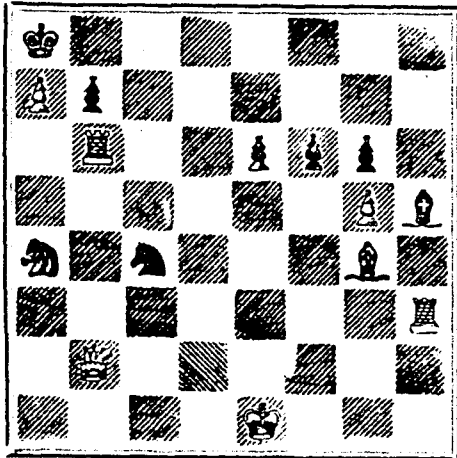
J. F. S., of New Melford, points out that a Knight placed on either of the two middle squares of the long diagonal, can, in one move, command twenty-six of the remaining squares of that colour, or all but five. The excepted squares are situated on the two diagonals that meet at the starting point, four of them being two squares distant, and the fifth being the most distant corner square of the long diagonal. The fact that the Bishop can command all of the thirty-one squares, not only from the middle of the board, but also, from any starting point, furnishes another proof of its superiority over the Knight.—*Brentano's Chess Monthly.*

In the Manhattan Chess Club Tournament the chances for the gold medal and title of champion lie between Mr. F. M. Teed and Mr. W. M. De Visser, each of whom has won five and one-half games, lost one and one-half, with three more to play.—*St. Louis Democrat.*

Count Casabianca, who, in consultation with the late Duke of Brunswick, played the famous game with Morphy at the Paris Opera House, died recently, aged 85 years. He was a warm and enthusiastic patron of the game, and was President of the Paris Congress of 1877.—*Turf, Field and Farm.*

PROBLEM No. 335.

By A. Townsend, Newport.
BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

CHESS IN SCOTLAND.

GAME 463RD.

Played between Messrs. Court and Baxter in the recent East and West match.

THE EAST AND WEST MATCH.

The following game was played in the above contest:—

(Evans' Gambit.)

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| White.—(Mr. J. Court.) | Black.—(Mr. C. R. Baxter.) |
| 1. P to K4 | 1. P to K4 |
| 2. Kt to KB3 | 2. Kt to QB3 |
| 3. B to B4 | 3. B to B4 |
| 4. P to QKt4 | 4. B takes P |
| 5. P to QB3 | 5. B to R4 |
| 6. P to Q4 | 6. P takes P |
| 7. Castles | 7. B to Kt3 |
| 8. P takes P | 8. P to Q3 |
| 9. P to Q5 | 9. B to R4 |
| 10. B to Kt2 | 10. Kt to K2 |
| 11. B to Q3 | 11. Castles |
| 12. Kt to QB3 | 12. Kt to Kt3 |
| 13. Kt to K2 | 13. P to QB4 |
| 14. Q to Q2 | 14. P to B5 |
| 15. B to QB2 | 15. E to Q2 |

B to Kt5 is much better.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 16. Kt to Kt3 | 16. P to B3 |
| 17. Kt to B5 | 17. B takes Kt |
| 18. P takes B | 18. Kt to K4 |
| 19. Kt to Q4 | 19. B takes Kt |
| 20. B takes R | 20. P to QKt4 |
| 21. P to KB4 | 21. Kt to B2 |
| 22. Q R to K sq | |

The attack is admirably conducted by Mr. Court.

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 23. Q to B2 | 22. Kt to Kt2 |
| 24. R to K6 | 23. Q to Q2 |
| 25. K R to K sq | 24. Q R to K sq |
| 26. Q to K2 | 25. Kt to R3 |
| 27. K B P takes R | 26. R takes R |
| 28. P to Kt4 | 27. Q to K2 |
| 29. P to Kt5 | 28. P to B4 |
| 30. P to KR3 | 29. Kt to Kt5 |

This exchange is compulsory. K to B2 is answered by Q to R5 (ch).

Overlooking White's 30th move, but at this point Black seems to have little resource. K to R4 would be answered by the same, and the Rook would afterwards occupy a decisive position on the Knight's file.

And Black resigns.

SOLUTIONS

Solution of Problem No. 333.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Kt to Q4 | 1. Kt to H4 |
| 2. Q to K6 (ch) | 2. Kt takes Q |
| 3. Mates | |

Solution of Problem for Young Players No. 331.

- | | |
|---------------|--------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| 1. Q to Q3 | 1. Any |
| 2. Mates acc. | |

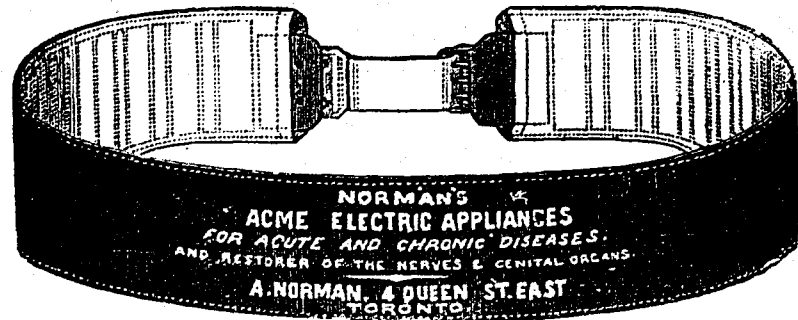
PROBLEM FOR YOUNG PLAYERS, No. 331.

- | | |
|----------|----------------|
| WHITE. | BLACK. |
| K at Q3 | K at Q sq (ch) |
| R at KR7 | Kt at Q3 |
| R at R7 | |

White to play and mate in two moves.

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