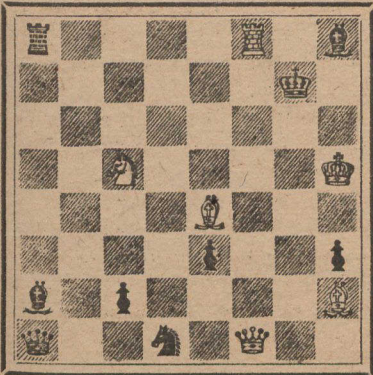# CHESS

Conducted by MALCOLM SIM

PROBLEM NO. 167, by Frank Janet.

(Mount Vernon, N.Y.)
Specially composed for the "Courier," with Holiday Greetings.
Black.—Nine Pieces.

White.—Six Pieces.
White to play and mate in two.

SOLUTIONS.

Problem No. 165, by D. Przepiorka.
1. Q—K2, R—R8; 2. QxKt ch, Kt x Q;
3. P—B5 mate.
1. ......, B—Kt4; 2. QxKt ch, KtxQ;
3. PxB mate.
1. ......, R—R7; 2. Kt—Q5, Kt x Kt;
3. PxKt mate.
1. ......, R—Kt7; 2. QxB ch, Kt—B3;
3. P—B5 mate.
1. ......, Kt moves; 2. QxKt ch, K—Kt5; 3. Kt—R6 mate.

To Correspondents.

G.L., Kingston.—The address of Mr. Davie is P.O. Drawer 783, Victoria, B.C. (J. McG.). Tamworth.—Thanks for revised problem. Are you sure 1. B—R2 is not a cook?
Correct solution of Problem No. 164 received from N. M. Knowles, Montreal.

CHESS IN HOLLAND.

An interesting and instructive game played the last Dutch masters' Tournament at Amsterdam. The winner, Van Gelder, captured first place at the congress with four wins and one loss.

Four Knights' Game.

White. J. W. Te Kolste.	Black. G. J. Van Gelder.
1. P—K4	1. P—K4
2. Kt—KB3	2. Kt—QB3
3. Kt—B3	3. Kt—B3
4. B—Kt5	4. B—Kt5
5. Castles	5. Castles
6. P—Q3	6. P—Q3
7. BxKt (a)	7. PxB
8. Kt—K2	8. R—K sq
9. P—B3	9. B—QB4
10. Kt—Kt3	10. B—Kt5 (b)
11. Q—K2	11. B—Kt5
12. P—KR3	12. Kt—R4
13. K—R2	13. Kt x Kt
14. PxKt	14. B—KR4
15. B—KKt4	15. B—Kt3
16. B—Kt5 (c)	16. P—B3
17. B—K3 (d)	17. P—Q4
18. BxB (e)	18. RPxB
19. Kt—R4	19. B—B2
20. P—QKt3 (f)	20. R—K2
21. Kt—B5	21. R—Q2
22. QR—Qsq	22. Q—K sq
23. P—B4	23. QR—Q sq
24. P—QR4 (g)	24. B—Kt3
25. Q—B3	25. BxKt
26. KtP x B	26. R—Q3
27. P—KKt4	27. Q—Q2
28. QR—Ksq	28. PxKP
29. PxP	29. R—Q7ch
30. R—B2	30. Q—Q6
31. R—K3 (h)	31. Q—Kt8
32. RxR	32. RxRch
33. K—Kt3	33. P—R4 (i)
34. K—R4	34. PxP
35. QxP (j)	35. R—KB7
36. K—R5 (k)	36. R—B5
37. Q—Kt2	37. Q—Q8ch
38. Q—K2 (l)	38. Q—KKt8
39. Q—K2	39. K—R2
Resigns (m)	

(a) This move is not good as it strengthens Black's centre and leaves him with two Bishops against Bishop and Knight. The right move was 7. B—Kt5.
(b) To prevent P—Q4.
(c) To induce P—B3, with a view of afterwards playing Kt—R4 and Kt—B5.
(d) Inferior to B—B sq, which would have enabled him to reply P—B4 to an eventual advance of Black's Queen's Pawn to Q5.
(e) This exchange not only improves Black's Pawn position, but also opens his Queen's Rook's file. The alternative was 18. B—B2 or B—B sq, or even Kt—R4 at once. In reply to the last Black could not have won a Pawn by 18. ......, PxP, etc. A somewhat embarrassing reply to 18. Kt—R4, however, might have been of White's 17. B—K3.
(f) White is now on the defensive, and his game becomes more and more difficult. He was threatened with the loss of a Pawn by PxP, followed by RxP.
(g) Further weakening his position, but it is difficult to suggest any satisfactory move for White at this stage.

(h) If 31. QxQ, then 31. ......, R (Q7) xQ, followed by doubling the Rooks on the sixth rank with disastrous results for White.
(i) A powerful stroke to which there is no satisfactory reply.
(j) If 35. PxP, then 35. ......, R—R7ch, and if 35. KxP, then 35. ......, Q—Kt8ch, winning the Queen in either case.
(k) If 36. R—KB3, then 36. ......, R—K7, threatening 37. ......, RxP.
(l) If 38. K—Kt6, then of course 38. ......, R—R5, threatening 39. ......, R—R3, mate; but if 38. R—K2, then 38. ......, P—B4; 39. P—R4, K—R sq, and a curious position has arisen in which White loses by shortage of moves.
(m) Mate in a few moves, beginning with P—Kt3ch, could not be avoided. A finely played game by Heer Van Gelder. (Notes from "The Field," via "Year-Book of Chess.")
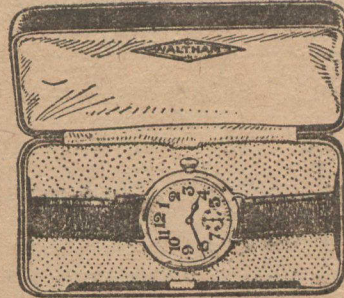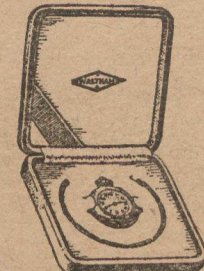

HALIFAX IN RUINS

two large windows at each side driven in across the bed he had just risen from, daggers of glass stabbing it through and through. A woman in bed with her baby heard the heart-shaking rumble and instantly covered her face and the baby's with the bedclothes. The next instant the window frame crashed on them without inflicting a scratch. A telephone girl operator had just come off the night shift and had gone to bed. At the first noise she wrapped the bedclothes round her; the blast flung her out of the house unhurt, whilst everyone else in it was killed. At the Naval College two cadets were skylarking on a table when the same thing happened. They were both hurled through the window and alighted on a bank outside, without sustaining the least injury. Indeed the escape of all the cadets is a marvel. They were cut with the flying glass, even got it in their eyes, but no one was killed, nor was the sight of anyone destroyed. The wife of a naval officer was at breakfast with her two children, while the baby was asleep in his cot upstairs. When the shock of the explosion was over she found herself in the middle of the room bending over the two children, the only clear spot where heavy furniture had not fallen. The staircase was smashed. She called the first blue-jacket she saw to her aid; he climbed up the ruin of the house and found the baby still in his cradle, protected from harm by a closet door which inclined across it. Forty-eight hours after the disaster a seven-months' baby was dug out of a smashed house in Richmond. He was semi-conscious but soon revived with proper treatment. He had been flung under the projecting front of the stove. Every one else in the house was killed.

And so on, and so on. There are as many stories of escapes as there are survivors. Every one begins, "If I had been there ten seconds before," or "after," as the case may be, there would have been no story to tell.

What happened on December the sixth is the worst calamity that ever befell Halifax. The material damage is estimated at thirty millions. The whole North End beyond Wellington Barracks will have to be rebuilt. The physical suffering, the mental anguish from wounds, blinding, crippling, bereavement, cannot be reckoned by human calculation. On Friday it began to snow, softly at first, but soon the wind blew with blizzard force. In the afternoon a pitiful little procession followed a hearse from St. Mary's, which looks like an old Gothic ruin. "We shall have many funerals now," said a sad woman looking on. There are hundreds of bodies blackened, charred, 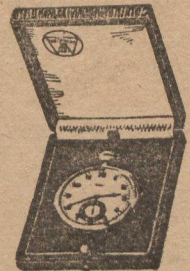dismembered, awaiting sepulture. "The visitation of God?"