

THE PECUNIARY SERVITUDE OF WIVES.

MEN who are rated as honourable, upright citizens dealing justly with their fellow men, will, when a question of money comes up, treat their wives, the mothers of their children, with less honesty than they do the tax assessor, and with much less consideration than they do their office boys. The children, when not granted a certain weekly allowance, are "tipped" occasionally, but nothing goes to the wife without some haggling, duplicity, or humiliation on her part. Let it be understood that references is made solely to the pitiable state of things which so widely prevails in the disbursing of moneys in the household, and the wife's private purse. Here is an instance: For twenty years Mrs. Brown had been a faithful wife and mother, a prudent, industrious housekeeper, and a woman much beloved and respected by all her friends. Mr. Brown was rated as a prosperous business man, and as generous as most men. But all this time Mrs. Brown had no money that she could absolutely call her own. The credit system prevailed, and if by any unusual means a piece of money passed into her unaccustomed palm, it had to be scrupulously accounted for to the chancellor of the domestic exchequer. She was a long-suffering woman, but her soul had chafed and worn against the yoke till it was sick and sore. Still, she had too much self-respect, even under these degrading conditions, to wheedle, lie, or descend to small deceptions to gain her ends, and she abhorred a "scene" as much as any man living. So the little gifts she felt like sending to a friend, the few flowers to an invalid, the bit of damask to cover a chair seat, or the small surprise for the children, had to be passed by with sometimes a rising lump in her throat, which even at times developed into "a good cry" in private. Still, she made no remonstrance. She was proud in a certain way, and she believed the existing state of things irrevocable.—*Alice E. Ives, in the September Forum.*

GLADSTONE'S STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS.

Now, whatever may be the ultimate verdict of history on the motives of England in the Crimean War, it can hardly be denied, even by the warmest admirers of Gladstone, that in dealing with it as a public problem he displayed the disinclination of conscious incapacity, and in all his foreign experiments the same curious infelicity has attended his most strenuous efforts. England's internal development, her commerce, her finance, have found in him a successful champion; but whenever he has attempted to deal with anything really outside of England it would seem as if the proverbial insularity of the Briton had become intensified in his case; had become a narrowing ring of granite round the tortured head of Britain's loftiest son. It is as a financier, a commercial statesman, a conservator of the middle-class whence he sprung, not as an extender of empire, or a helper of democracy, that his rank, as a practical statesman, it seems to me, will be finally fixed; for, if the brilliant Budgets of 1853 and 1860 had not already ranked Gladstone with the great financial ministers of the past, his statement of 1861 would certainly have put him there. As a writer in the *Daily News* remarked: "The audacious shrewdness of Lancashire married to the polished grace of Oxford is a felicitous union of the strength and culture of liberal and conservative England, and no party of the House, whatever its likings or antipathies, can sit under the spell of Mr. Gladstone's rounded and shining eloquence without a conviction that the man who can talk "shop like a tenth muse, is after all a true representative man of the market of the world."—*The Greatest Living Englishman, in Arena for September.*

THE TRUE VALUE OF ARTLIES IN CHOICE OF SUBJECTS.

It is idle to talk about the lofty and the ideal in an art unless the subjects upon which that art is exercised are worthy. There must be a subject which demands the artist's best powers for its expression, the treatment of the subject must be in a measure governed by the emphasis laid upon its poetic elements, and the artist himself must have that seer's insight which reveals to him the deeper meanings in all that his art is exercised upon. It is said that Millet imposed upon himself a "mission;" that he felt impelled by strong convictions of duty to paint the sadness and dignity of agricultural life; that he read his Bible nightly and believed what he read. That a man should paint under the influence of such impulses, and paint pictures of striking power, seems to a technical critic not only distasteful, but incomprehensible. Indeed, one of the modern critics, in despair at such a phenomenon in the French art-world, is driven to express his opinion that this peasant with his Bible-readings, his convictions, his love of the labourer, and his wooden sabots, must have been a good deal of a charlatan, and all these things a kind of pose. But if Millet had a "mission," let us hope that more artists will be inspired in the same way. There are none too many prophets willing to go into the wilderness and endure hardship for the truth's sake. The world needs such in art to protest against mere cunning imitation, and to insist upon offering to man's love of the beautiful something better than sensuous beauty, something which is not only beautiful to the eye, but lovely to the thought, inspiring to the imagination, charming to the fancy, and uplifting to the spirit.—*From "Millet and Recent Criticism," by Walter Cranston Larned, in September Scribner.*

PRY makes the world soft to the weak, and noble to the strong.—*Edwin Arnold.*

BLACK MAILERS ON ENGLISH COMPARTMENT CARS.

THE stories about the advantage taken of the compartment system in English railroad cars by female adventurers are not greatly exaggerated. In London, on the sulphurous and cavernous underground railroad, one day while I was a passenger there, an Englishman told me of two instances of attempted black-mail that were fresh in his mind. In one he played a conspicuous part. Happening to be left alone with a woman in a compartment, she raised an outcry when the train slowed up at one of the stations. He asked her what was the matter, and she said that unless he gave her a sum of money she intended to have him arrested. He defied her, and she screamed again, continuing her cries until the train stopped and a guard came to the door. To him my acquaintance told the plain story of what had occurred, and it chanced that the guard believed him. "I've seen you travelling a bit too often up and down the road," the guard said to her; "and I advise you to say no more, but leave before you get into trouble." This gentleman said that very shortly after this happened he was travelling on the same line when he noticed a man and woman get off at a station and go to the lunch counter. She followed behind her companion, insisting that there was not time to get whatever he wanted. He was very complacent and leisurely, however, and just as the guards were shutting the doors he urged the woman to run. She did so, and he helped her into the car as it began to move. Then he slammed the door and remained on the platform, while the train sped away. "That was a narrow escape," said he. "That woman and I were together in a compartment, and she insisted upon talking to me. I am certain she is a black-mailer. I flatter myself I outwitted her pretty neatly."—*Julian Ralph, in Harper's Weekly.*

THE PERSECUTION OF THE RUSSIAN JEWS.

We know from the history of Spain and from part of the annals of France how detrimental the policy of religious persecution ultimately is to the State which practises it. We know from the piteous appeals which now reach us what terrible suffering it inflicts on the victims at the moment. What is wanted is to bring these considerations home to the hearts and minds of the most influential Russians. The voice of the generous and enlightened British press has begun to make itself heard, and perhaps may effect something; but if no improvement is obtained, and that rapidly, we must bethink ourselves whether a large scheme of emigration from Russia to countries where new settlers should be welcome, as perhaps the Turkish Empire and Palestine especially, or the less peopled portions of America might not be organized. If the evil is allowed to go on too long the oppression from which they suffer will end by degrading the Russian Jews physically and mentally to a point at which they may cease to be suitable for emigration.—*Jewish Chronicle.*

IMPROPER DEFINITION.

It is a singular fact that of all things bought and sold, light alone should be without any definite basis for quantitative measurement. Our standards of weight, of time, of length, of electrical energy, current and electromotive force are quite satisfactory. Even our standards of heat and temperature are good, but measurements of light are badly muddled. To be sure we have a defined absolute standard of light, but it is about the most impractical one ever devised by the mind of man. In default of anything better the candle is the usual refuge here, and English practice is divided between the Methuen screen and the Pentane standard. Further than this, there is no generally accepted method defining the power of a light in terms of any standard whatever. We have candle-power, maximum, mean spherical, mean horizontal, and taken at all possible azimuths. It is to be hoped that, before long scientific men, and practical men will join forces, the former to give us a definite practical standard, the latter to put it into use. At present, to say a light is of a certain candle-power is about as scientific a description as it would be to characterize a cat as twice the size of a kitten.—*Electrical World.*

MOST men resolve to enjoy life, but no man ever yet enjoyed life who had so resolved.—*Mortimer Collins.*

THE strongest women must have their tears, the absinthe of the eyes.—*Mortimer Collins.*

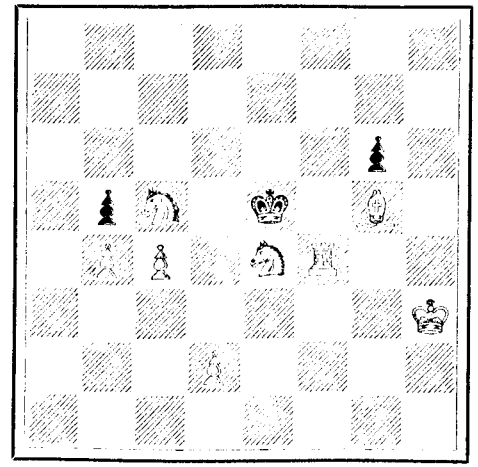
A PRIZE of thirty guineas is offered by the Glasgow Society of Musicians for the best concert overture or symphonic poem delivered to them by the 1st of November. The competition is limited to Scottish-born composers, or those having resided for three years in Scotland, and is open to both sexes. Dr. Mackenzie and Mr. F. H. Cowen have consented to act as judges.

FOLLOWING the announcement of the invention of smokeless and noiseless gunpowder comes the report of another invention which promises to do away with powder altogether. This is a "liquid gas rifle" which the French military authorities are now testing. It is the invention of M. Paul Giffard, of Paris, and he has spent many years and a fortune of 1,000,000 francs in bringing it to perfection. The advantages claimed for this new rifle are cheapness, a perfect weapon costing but \$5; rapidity of action, it being possible to fire 350 times in less than three minutes; force, exceeding that of gunpowder, and absence of noise and smoke.—*Boston Globe.*

CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 495.

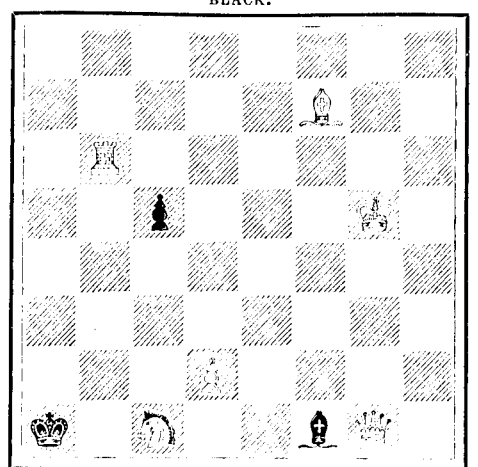
By EDITOR *Glasco Herald.*



WHITE.  
White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM No. 496.

By OTTO WURZBURG, Grand Rapids, Mich.



WHITE.  
White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTIONS TO PROBLEMS.

No. 489.

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| White.       | Black.     |
| 1. P-Kt7     | 1. K-B6    |
| 2. Q-KKt6    | 2. moves   |
| 3. Q-Q3 mate | if 1. K-K6 |
|              | 2. moves   |
| 2. Q-QB6     |            |
| 3. Q-B1 mate |            |

With other variations.

No. 490.

White. Black.  
Kt-B7

SEVENTH GAME IN THE MATCH BETWEEN BLACKBURN AND LEE AT THE BRADFORD CHESS CLUB.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

BLACKBURN.	LEE.	BLACKBURN.	LEE.
White.	Black.	White.	Black.
1. P-K4	P-K3	25. Q-Q1	B-B
2. P-Q4	P-Q4	26. Kt-Kt4	Q-Kt4
3. Kt-QB3	Kt-KB3	27. P-KR4	Q-QB4
4. B-KKt5	B-K2	28. Kt-R6 + (k)	K-R1
5. P-K5	K-Kt-Q2	29. Q-Q3	R-B4 (l)
6. BxB	QxB	30. KtxR	PxKt
7. Q-Q2	P-QR3 (a)	31. R-Q8	Q-K2
8. Kt-Q1	Castles	32. RxB+	QxR
9. B-Q3	P-QB4	33. Q-Q1	Q-K6 +
10. P-QB3	Q-Kt-B3	34. K-Kt1	Q-Kt3 (m)
11. Kt-K2	P-B3 (b)	35. Q-K1	B-K3 (n)
12. P-KB4	KBPxP	36. QxB	QxQ
13. QPxKP	Q-R5 + (c)	37. KtxQ	P-Kt3
14. P-KKt3	Q-R4	38. B-Q1	Kt-R6
15. Kt-K3	P-QKt4	39. Kt-B4	Kt-B7
16. Castles QR (d)	B-Kt2	40. B-B3	K-Kt2
17. KR-Kt1 (e)	QKtxP (f)	41. K-B2	P-KR3
18. PxKt	KtxP	42. K-Q2	P-Kt4
19. Kt-KB4	Q-R3	43. K-K3	Kt-Kt5 +
20. Q-K2 (g)	QR-K1 (h)	44. BxKt (o)	PxKt +
21. B-B2	P-Q5	45. KxP	PxB
22. PxP	PxP	46. KxP	K-Kt3
23. RxB	Kt-B6 (i)	47. K-B4	Resigns
24. R-Q7 (j)	KtxR		

NOTES BY GUNSBURG.

- (a) This move can be dispensed with.
- (b) This is often good - As Black has all his pieces on Q's side and as White threatens attack on K's side, Black wants his KBP on B2 or 4th for defence.
- (c) Not advisable as Q is brought within the range of attack of White's minus pieces.
- (d) Somewhat dangerous but best move for attacking Black on King's side.
- (e) To avoid Black's intended sacrifice Q Kt x P, then P Q 5 opening B on R.
- (f) Bold but probably best.
- (g) Position is interesting.
- (h) A sound and useful move.
- (i) Black seems to get what he wanted, but with Blackburn as an opponent one is never safe.
- (j) The initial move of a magnificent combination, all the more remarkable on account of the danger under pressure of which the conception arose.
- (k) Really splendid play when it is considered that the whole combination consisting of forced moves must have been preconceived. Of course if P x Kt then Q Kt 4 + wins.
- (l) If P Kt 3 then 30, R x P +, K x R; 31. Q x P + and mates next move.
- (m) This was a mistake - PR 3 would have been better.
- (n) If B Q 2 then White plays Q K 7.
- (o) Unnecessary though harmless generosity.