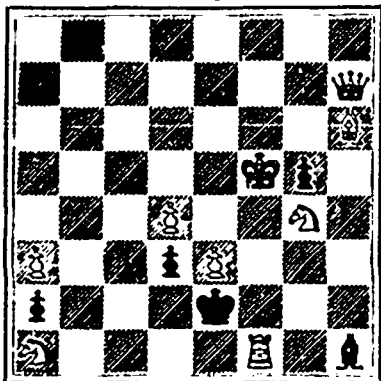


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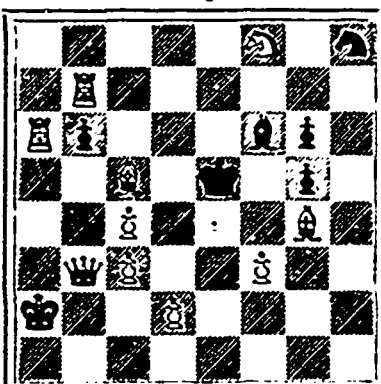
SOLUTION TO PROBLEM 189.
Q takes P (R3) etc.
SOLUTION TO PROBLEM 190.
Q-B8

PROBLEM 193.
Black 5 pieces.



White 9 pieces.
White to play and mate in three moves.

PROBLEM 194.
Black 6 pieces.



White 11 pieces.
White mates in two moves.

GAME 178. HISTORICAL CONTESTS. THE SIEGE OF BENDER.

This episode refers to the fight which occurred at Charles' camp at Varnitza, near Bender, when, in consequence of the refugee King's obstinacy in refusing to leave the Sultan's dominions, the Turkish troops by the command of their sovereign, were obliged to attack him. On learning of the attack King Charles XII made the circuit of his feeble and hasty entrenchments and then sat down coolly to play at chess with his favorite Grothusen, as if his life had been in profound security.

In exile still, the Swedish King
On Duclater's bank was lingering;
Near Bender's town he held his court,
And passed the time in varied sport,
Awhile upon the tented field,
He taught his followers to wield
The sword, which still for battle light,
Had rested, since Pultowa's fight
Then would he seek, some other while,
With Chess the moments to beguile;
His courtiers making feeble stand
At this, against his practiced hand,
Grothusen, Christian Albert light;
Against the King made sturdiest fight
Upon the checker's field;

But though in phalanx on the right
His force stand, and though each Knight
Does his devoir with falchion bright,
He yet, perforce must yield
To Charles' deeply planned attack,
Which drives his bravest warriors back
With broken spear and shield.

Thus did the monarch calmly spend
The time from day to day,
Till three long years had seen an end;
And now the Turk, erewhile his friend,
Fearing grim Russia to offend
If longer he should stay,
Raised a strong force, resolved to send
The refugee away.
But nought cared Charles, though foe came,
He still enjoyed his favorite game,
And laughed at shot and shell—

WHITE Grothusen.	BLACK King Charles XII.
1 P-K4	P-K4
2 Kt-KB3	Kt-QB3
3 B-B4	B-B4
4 P-QKt4	B tks P
5 P-B3	B-R4
6 Castles	Kt-B3
7 P-Q4	Castles
8 P-Q5	Kt-K2
9 Q-Q3	P-Q3
10 P-KR3	Kt-Kt3

The two Knights are now strongly posted, and threaten one or other of them to occupy the King's Bishop's fifth square with telling effect.

11 Kt-R2	Kt-R4
12 B-Kt3	K-KtB5
13 B tks Kt	Kt tks B
14 Q-B3	P-KB4
15 P tks P	QB tks KP
16 P-KKt4	B-Q6

An effective coup, indeed, and one that places White's game beyond hope. Besides attacking the Kt, it threatens to win the Queen by Kt to K's seventh ch.

17 Q-K3	B-QKt3
18 Q-Q2	Q-KR5

Threatening mate in two moves.

19 K-Rsq	Q tks RP
20 R-Kt3q	

'Twas thus, while firing raged around,
The monarch calmly held his ground—
He cries: "Grothusen, you can't play more!
There is a pretty mate in four."

B-K5ch; 21 P-B3, B tks Pch;
22 R-Kt2, B tks Rch; 23 Q tks B,
Q tks Q mate.

But even as the monarch spoke,
With a great crash, 'mid fire and smoke,
A bullet through the window broke,
And on the Chess board fell—

As riven by the lightning's stroke,
Splinter'd in some majestic oak,
Its branches scattered,
So did that bullet, in its flight,
Strike down Black's solitary Knight,
Which, shattered into fragments quite,
Was dashed upon the ground.
Up jumped Grothusen in affright,
But Charles looked calmly on,
And pondering the Chess board o'er
He cries, "I still can mate in four,
Although my Knight is gone."

Remove Black's Kt-B-K5ch;
21 P-B3, R tks P; 22 Q-KKt2
(best), R-B8; 23 Q tks R, R tks R
mate.

But ere Grothusen saw the mate,
Another musket ball
Flew in—most marvellous to relate—
It struck the Black King's Bishop straight,
Which, sharing now the Knight's hard fate,
Was dashed against the wall.
Grothusen stirred not, but turned pale;
While Charles exclaimed—"Of what avail
Is skill against such heavy odds?"
The Turk is on your side, the gods
Befriend your game. But still I may
Without that, see, yet win the day."

A survey of the board he took,
Then laughed until the afters shook.
And shouting cried, "Grothusen look!
As sure as we're alive,
In spite of Turk, in spite of fate,
There yet remains a splendid mate!
I give checkmate in five!"

Remove King's Bishop-B-K5ch,
21 P-B2, R tks P; 22 Q-KKt2, R
-B7; 23 Kt-Q2, R tks Q; 24 Kt
tks B, Q tks Kt mate.

The poetical description of the
incident, with some slight alterations,
was written by the late Mr. J. A.
Miles.—*Bristol Mercury*.

Halifax Printing Co.,

161 Hollis St.

Halifax.

MINING.

Mineral samples sent to the CRITIC office, accompanied by a fee of one dollar, will be submitted to a thoroughly competent assayer for a preliminary examination and slight test of contents. The results will be communicated to senders of samples, and if full assay are deemed advisable, they will be notified and instructed as to amount of fees to be remitted.

MINING OUTLOOK.—In sympathy with the prevailing stringency in the money markets of the world no great advance is being made in mining. There never was a time when so many properties were tied up awaiting the completion of agreements to purchase as at present. This has caused a decline in active mining at a time when unusual activity had been anticipated. When capitalists find ready investments for their money protected by gilt edged collateral, at abnormally high rates of interest, they are not inclined to invest in mining or any other business ventures. Confidence is, however, being restored and the time is at hand for low rates of interest and when this arrives legitimate mining is almost certain to receive the attention it deserves. For the present we can only wait and hope for a speedy change in the financial situation.

A VALUABLE DISCOVERY.—Mr. Geo. McFaden, of Bridgewater, has discovered at New Germany, about 28 miles from Bridgewater, a quarry of stone suitable for razor hones of the finest quality. Mr. McFaden is himself a barber and therefore a good judge of the sharpening qualities of the stone which he says surpasses anything he has ever tried. He has been distributing samples of the stone cut into suitable shape to the barbers in Halifax, and in all cases they are found to work like a charm. There is an unlimited quantity of the stone, and he has a very large sample with him, the face of which is polished and presents a beautiful mottled appearance. The stone is evidently a silicious slate commonly known as hone stone, but presents peculiarities that may render it much more valuable than the usual run of such stone. We should judge that as an ornamental stone for the manufacture of mantels and fire-places it would be in great demand, and as Mr. McFaden reports the stone present in unlimited quantities a large business in this line might be developed. It should also prove valuable as a polishing material for metals, marble, etc., etc. As good hones cost at retail from \$4 to \$6 dollars some idea of the great value of the quarry may be formed. Mr. McFaden has purchased the property, and has arranged with the former owner, who has a saw mill near by run by water power, for room and power to work the stone, and proposes to at once place the article on the market. If the stone of equal quality with the samples we were shown is present in the quantity Mr. McFaden represents there should be an immense fortune to its discoverer and owner in the quarry.

NOTES ON THE CANADA COALS AND RAILWAY COMPANY.—Under the new and energetic management of the Canada Coals and Railway Co. the output is increasing daily. Changes have been made on the bank-head for hoisting a larger quantity of coal. Mr. Beard, late manager, before taking his departure was presented with a complimentary address accompanied by a gold-headed cane and a return ticket to the World's Fair. He expects to leave about the 15th inst. The Canada Coals & Railway Co. will open a new slope about three-quarters of a mile from the present one. A tramway will convey the coal that distance to the screens, where it will be loaded for shipment by rail and water. The roadway is being chopped out and will be graded and laid with rails at once. It is likely the output of the colliery will be considerably increased when this work is completed. The output at present is about 400 tons per day. There are at present 335 men on the pay roll of the Canada Coals & Railway Co.

GOLD MINING REVIVING IN CALIFORNIA.—California would seem to be trying to regain her old reputation as a gold-producing state. During the last three months the Bank of California has received \$3,800,000 from the gold mines and smelters of the state, and it would not be surprising if the next three months saw a still larger auriferous yield. Gold can be produced much more cheaply now than formerly, and the result is that Californians are paying much more attention to the industry than they have done for years.

MEMRAMCOOK.—Work is progressing on the Memramcook Gold Mine. Lots are being crushed from different parts of the mine, to ascertain the yield, with a view to determine the kind of machinery to be employed. The tests will occupy most of this month.—*Amherst Record*.

MOOSELANDS.—Last season Mr. J. C. Ross, of Pleasant Harbor, did considerable prospecting on his areas at Mooselands cutting several leads and getting the throw from a very large lead containing some fine gold specimens. He is about resuming work and hopes soon to locate this large lead and open it up.

TANGIER.—Messrs. Murphy & Barton have now secured about all the best properties in Tangier outside of the Strawberry Hill Mine and are making good progress in their prospecting, having cut a number of new leads and placed some of the old ones in good position for active mining. There are undoubtedly many valuable properties in this noted old district and Messrs. Murphy & Barton are fully qualified to bring it up to its old standard as a gold producer.

TREATMENT OF REFUSE PYRITES.—In a series of experiments made recently and reported to the Industrial Society of the North of France, Messrs. Blatinor and Koestner found that when they passed a current of chlorhydric acid in a gaseous form through the refuse of copper bearing pyrites

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