

THE MAGAZINES.

The *Penn Monthly*, welcome as ever, is later than usual this month. Its contents, however, make up for its tardiness in making an appearance. The number opens as usual with brief but carefully written editorial appreciations of the events of the past month—a feature that might be copied with advantage by many of the older and more widely circulated magazines. The papers in the current number are five in number. Two treat of political subjects; viz., the proposed constitution of Pennsylvania, and the Credit System and the Currency. There is also a timely paper on Professor Reid's "Daughter of Coleridge;" a sketch of "A Day at Chamounix," and another of Henry Coppee's articles on the Conquest of Spain by the Arab Moors, in which the author, in his valedictory, makes a half-promise of giving us fuller information on what has proved to be a most interesting subject, treated in an extremely satisfactory manner. The usual excellent reviews of new books close the number.

Our Illustrations.

The charming group on our front page represents Janet among her home pets. All the dogs are playing with the girl and they all seem to agree among themselves. The two little fellows are waiting their turn to be dandled, and improve the interval by pulling one another's ears. The only jealous creature there is Pussy who turns over on the flower bench and looks ferociously at the pet in her mistress' hands.

The butter week in St. Petersburg is a characteristic scene. The time is the beginning of winter when butter is of the best description and comparatively cheap. But the market also partakes of the features of a bazaar and witnesses many an attempt at flirtation and love making. There are many children present, but comparatively few girls.

Our views of Havana will be found interesting in view of the present excitement apropos of the "Virginus."

Several of the winter amusements popular in Lower Canada, with scenes peculiar to that portion of the country, form the subject of a series of little sketches from our artists' note-book.

The metropolis of Khiva, entered by the Russian troops, is situated on the banks of two watercourses belonging to the network of the Palam Ata canal, and is protected by a clay wall, about five miles in circumference and 10 ft. high. Within this wall there is another, about two or three miles in circumference and 22 ft. high, the foundations and lower portions of which are 28 ft. thick. This interior wall protects the palaces of the Khan, the houses of the most important dignitaries, and some ecclesiastical schools (Medresseh), of which there are no less than twenty-two in the place. The better to defend the inner town, which serves as a citadel, twenty guns are placed on the wall. The whole town has 20,000 inhabitants, with seventeen mosques and 300 shops; the space between the inner and the outer wall being to a great extent planted with gardens, midst which is the summer residence of the Khan.

News of the Week.

THE DOMINION.—The Quebec Parliament was opened on the 4th inst.—Peter Mallman, the Nova Scotian wife-murderer, has confessed.—A heavy gale swept over the country, last week, causing much damage to property.

UNITED STATES.—The SS. "Ville du Havre," which left New York for Havre on the 15th ult., sunk when seven days out after a collision with the British sailing vessel "Loch Earn." Two hundred and twenty-six lives were lost; and eighty-seven persons were rescued and transferred from the "Loch Earn" to the "Trimountain." The account of the disaster given by the rescued crew represents that the captain and second mate of the steamer came on board the "Loch Earn" shortly after the collision, and did not assist in saving any of the passengers, and that the French crew exhibited lamentable cowardice.—The latest intelligence respecting the "Virginus" imbroglio informs us that notwithstanding the excitement in Cuba there is nothing to diminish the confidence in the sincerity of the Spanish Government or its ability to fulfil its engagements. War preparations are, nevertheless, continued with unabating activity. Minister Sikes has tendered his resignation.—The rumour of Tweed's illness proves to be without foundation.

GREAT BRITAIN.—Vernon Harcourt has been re-elected for Oxford without opposition.

FRANCE.—The Government has ordered an enquiry into the "Ville du Havre" disaster.—On Saturday, the counsel for the prosecution in the Bazaine court-martial brought his argument to a close and demanded, first, the degradation of the accused, and afterwards his execution. Maitre Lachaud began the closing argument for the defence.—M. Barthold, First Secretary of Legation at St. Petersburg has been appointed French Minister at Washington, in the place of the Marquis de Noailles, who is to be transferred to Rome. It is also rumoured that the Duc de Rochefoucauld is to be appointed to the mission to London.

GERMANY.—It is stated that the city of Posen will probably be declared in a state of siege, in consequence of the prevailing Ultramontane agitation.—The health of the Emperor is failing fast. He is so weak as to be unable to walk.

ITALY.—It is said that at a Consistory to be held on the 22nd, 11 Cardinals will be created, and Nuncios to Madrid, Lisbon, Vienna and Paris appointed.

AUSTRIA.—The Minister of Commerce has decided not to demolish the Exhibition building, but keep it for public use, like the Crystal Palace of London.

RUSSIA.—It is stated that General Kauffmann, by his wasteful and corrupt administration in Turkestan, and his conduct in the late campaign against Khiva, has incurred the displeasure of the Czar. A fresh expedition is about to be sent against the Turcomans.

SPAIN.—The bombardment of Carthagena continues steadily; the fleet will attack the city in conjunction with the land forces.

MEXICO.—Reports of religious disturbances come from Mexico. Recently the Protestants were attacked by a band of Roman Catholics shouting "Hurrah for our religion and death to Protestants!"

CUBA.—A telegram from Havana represents a reaction in feeling there, the inhabitants being in favour of a peaceful surrender of the disputed vessel, while another says they demand that the ship be taken to some Spanish port, there to await arbitration. The press is violent in its opposition to the surrender of the "Virginus." One hundred and one of the prisoners are still alive.

Chess.

It is impossible for us to answer letters by mail. Games, Problems, Solutions, &c., forwarded are always welcome, and receive due attention, but we trust that our correspondents will consider the various demands upon our time, and accept as answers the necessarily brief replies through our "column."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. W. B., Toronto.—Your solution of Problem No. 107 is correct.
R. H. R., Cobourg.—Your second game was received, and will appear shortly.

REVIEW OF CHOICE GAMES.

Well-contested game in a pool of chess, played some years since, between the late Mr. Brien and an Amateur.

French Opening.

White.—Amateur.

1. P to K 4th
2. P to Q B 4th
3. Kt to Q B 3rd
4. P to K B 4th (a)
5. B to Q 3rd
6. B to Q Kt sq (b)
7. K P takes P
8. P takes P
9. Q to K 2nd ch
10. K takes Kt
11. B to K 4th
12. Kt to K B 3rd
13. B takes Kt ch
14. Castles
15. P to K R 3rd (c)
16. R takes B
17. P to K 3rd
18. B to K 3rd
19. Q R to K sq
20. Q to Q 2nd
21. B to K B 2nd
22. B takes R
23. B to K R 4th
24. K to R sq
25. P to K B sq
26. P to K B 5th
27. R to K sq
28. Q to K 2nd
29. R to Q sq
30. B to K B 2nd
31. B to K Kt sq
32. B takes P
33. B to K Kt sq
34. P to Q 4th
35. P to Q 5th
36. Q takes Q
37. B to Q Kt 6th
38. K to Kt sq
39. K to B 2nd
40. K to B 3rd
41. B to Q B 5th
42. B to Q Kt 6th
43. B to Q 4th
44. P to K Kt 4th
45. P to K R 4th
46. P to K B 5th
47. P to Q R 4th
48. P takes P
49. R to Q Kt sq
50. R to Q R sq
51. K to K 4th
52. R to Q R 7th ch
53. R to Q R sq
54. B takes B
55. K to Q 4th
56. R to Q Kt sq
57. R to Q Kt 2nd
58. K to Q B 5th
59. P to Q 6th
60. R takes P
61. K to Q 4th
62. R to Q Kt 6th ch
63. R to Q Kt 7th ch
64. K to Q 3rd
65. R to Q Kt 4th
66. R to K 4th (d)
67. K takes R
68. K to B 4th
69. P to K Kt 5th (f)
70. K takes P. Drawn game.

Black.—Mr. Brien.

1. P to K 3rd
2. P to Q B 4th
3. Kt to Q B 3rd
4. P to Q R 3rd
5. K Kt to K 2nd
6. P to Q 4th
7. P takes P
8. Kt takes P
9. B to K 2nd
10. Q takes Kt
11. Q to Q 3rd
12. B to K Kt 5th
13. Q takes B
14. Q to Q B 2nd
15. B takes Kt
16. Castles (K R)
17. B to K B 3rd
18. K R to K sq
19. K to K 2nd
20. Q R to K sq
21. R takes R
22. R takes P
23. B to Q 5th ch
24. Q to Q Kt 3rd
25. Q to Q Kt 4th
26. P to K B 3rd
27. B to K 4th
28. R to Q sq
29. Q to Q R 5th
30. Q to K B 5th
31. Q takes K B P
32. Q to K B 5th
33. Q to K B 4th
34. B to Q Kt sq
35. Q to K 4th
36. B takes Q
37. R to Q 2nd
38. K to B 2nd
39. B to Q 3rd
40. B to Q B 2nd
41. B to Q 3rd
42. R to K 2nd
43. K to K sq
44. K to Q 2nd
45. P to K R 3rd
46. R to K sq
47. P to Q Kt 4th
48. P takes P
49. P to Q Kt 5th
50. R to Q B sq
51. R to Q B 5th
52. R to Q B 2nd
53. B to Q B 4th
54. R takes B
55. R to Q B 2nd
56. R to Q Kt 2nd
57. P to Q Kt 6th
58. R to Q Kt sq
59. R to K sq
60. R to K 4th ch
61. K takes P
62. K to K 2nd
63. K to B sq
64. R to K 2nd
65. K to B 2nd
66. R takes R
67. K to K 3rd
68. P to K B 4th (e)
69. P takes P ch

- (a) Kt to K B 3rd is a better move.
(b) The Bishop is not well placed on this square before the Rook has moved.
(c) R to K square at this juncture demands consideration.
(d) White has conducted all the latter part of this game with great ability, and can now obtain a drawn position by exchanging Rooks.
(e) The best move.
(f) If White had taken the Pawn he would have lost the game. The situation is highly instructive.

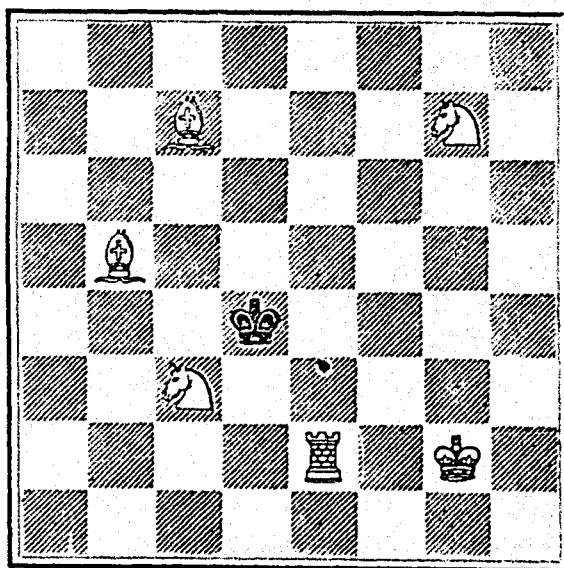
PROBLEM No. 109.

The following Problem won the prize as a two-mover in the late Canadian Chess Association Tourney.

Motto:—"The Church." Dedicated to Rev. H. Caulfield, Belleville.

By Mr. R. H. Ramsey.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 107.

White.

1. K to Q 7th
2. K to B 6th
3. P mates.

Black.

1. Any move.
2. " "

Art and Literature.

The *Irish Echo* is the title of a new Dublin daily paper which has just made its appearance.

Osgood & Co. are about to bring out another of Henry Blackburn's charming little books. Its title is "Artists and Arabs." Some of Charles Reade's admirers have presented him with a statue of himself. This gives him something to admire at last. It is rumoured that a well-known firm of picture-dealers has offered £50,000 for the artistic contents of the late Sir Edwin Landseer's studio.

Mr. Farjeon commences a new novel in the January number of *Tinsley's Magazine*. A sudden rise in the circulation of that publication may be looked for.

One of the Jesuit Fathers at Stonyhurst is engaged on a history of the doctrine of Free Will as it appears in modern English philosophy from Hobbes up to the present time.

Mr. Hepworth Dixon will complete his "History of Two Queens" before coming to America. He has made an engagement to deliver twenty-five lectures in this country.

A new illustrated journal is to be published in Paris. It is to be called *L'Audience*, and will be entirely devoted to pictorial representations of the crimes and offences of the week.

The Chaucer Society has just issued the main part of its work for 1876, bringing all the separate prints of its six MSS., as well as its "Six-Test," to the end of the verse-portion of the "Canterbury Tales."

Dr. Schlemmer has sent photographs of his Trojan collection of antiquities to Mr. Gladstone, in the hope that the originals may be purchased by the nation. It is stated that Mr. Gladstone has placed the matter in competent hands.

A Russian Christmas tale, entitled "Two Nights in a Haunted House in Russia," by Mr. Tracy Turnerelli, written in commemoration of the marriage of the Grand Duchess Marie of Russia with the Duke of Edinburgh, will be published at Christmas.

Messrs. Chapman and Hall have decided to add Mr. Carlyle's translations from the German to the People's Edition of his works. The first volume of "Wilhelm Meister" will appear in December, and this will be followed by the "Specimens of German Romances."

It is stated that Mr. Carlyle is engaged in writing a pamphlet on the struggle between the German Government and the Pope. Mr. Carlyle has watched the struggle with intense interest, and is more fully acquainted with its incidents and character than most Englishmen.

A book printed two hundred years ago, but only just published, should be a literary curiosity. An edition of the *Officium, R. V. M.*, printed in 1677, by the famous firm of Plantin, was recently discovered, folded in sheets, in an old house at Amsterdam. Some copies have found their way over here. They are very small, prettily printed in red and black, with cuts, and as fresh and clean as if they had just come from the press.

Messrs. Osgood & Co., of Boston, have sold their list of magazines in order to confine their attention exclusively to the book trade. The *Atlantic* and *Every Saturday* have been purchased by Messrs. Hurd & Houghton, and *Our Young Folks* has been bought by Scribner & Co., and will be merged in the *St. Nicholas*. We are glad to learn that there will be no change in the editorial management of the *Atlantic*, and that it will continue to be published at Boston.

Music and the Drama.

Herr von Bulow has returned to London.

J. L. Toole is about to visit this continent.

Miss Braddon's "Grieldia" has proved a success.

The death is announced of Mrs. Ternan, the once popular actress.

"The New Magdalen" is to be burlesqued by an English dramatist.

The Holmans appear at the Detroit Opera House on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prox.

F. C. Burnand—the "Happy Thought" man—is coming out as a public reader.

Mr. Ross intends to introduce "Lohengrin" to the English musical public next spring.

A baritone named Bane, appeared at the Italiens, Paris, without a rehearsal, yet won a great success.

"Marie, Tu Dors Encore," is a parody on Hugo's "Marie Tudor," which has been produced in Paris.

Mdme. Thalberg is in Vienna. She is said to have inherited from her husband some four thousand pounds a year.

The new Paris Grand Opera House will probably be opened in six months, but the decorations in that case will have to be made afterwards.

Mr. Charles Fechter began, on the 1st inst., a season at the Boston Theatre of five nights and a matinee, appearing as Hamlet on the opening night.

Burnad's latest extravaganza, "Little Tom Tug," has made a great "hit" at the Opera Comique, London. The Orchestra says it overflows with animal spirits.

Toole is to appear at the Gaiety Theatre, London, in conjunction with Charles Matthews and Mr. Phelps, during the nine nights immediately preceding Christmas Day.

The Variétés Theatre of Berlin has introduced a novelty. Selections from operas and choruses are sung by fourteen persons, each wearing a costume of a different nation. The effect is singular.

The Abbé Liszt was presented at Pesth with a gold and silver chaplet of laurel leaves on the 10th inst., which was the fiftieth anniversary of the day on which he commenced his artistic career.

A collection of autograph compositions by Mozart has just been purchased for the Royal Library, Berlin. It consists of 531 pieces, and includes 10 operas, 1 oratorio, 5 masses, 15 symphonies, &c.

Among the works to be performed at the Italian Opera this season at Paris are Ciro Pinault's "Merchant of Venice"; Gomez's "Il Guarany"; "La Contessa di Mena," by Lauro Rossi; "Luigi XI," by Fumigalli; "Maria Antonietta," by Badiali; and Vetrilla's "Contessa d'Amalfi." "Richard Cœur de Lion" has been revived at the Opéra Comique after a lapse of about seventeen years.

M. Alfred Assolant writes in the *Dir-Neuvième Siècle*, a letter to M. Bardon, to propose that as the greater portion of the new play of "L'Oncle Sam" is obviously plagiarized from a tale by the former published in the "Scènes de la Vie des États-Unis," an arbitrator should be chosen by each, and that those two should name a third, to examine together the two works, and then decide whether M. Assolant has not a right to a share in the author's receipts, and in what proportion.

The Beaumarchais Theatre, Paris, is playing a drama by Mdme. Alfred Duprez, called the *Mère de Famille*. The heroine is a girl of 13, who assumes towards her little brothers, her elder sister, and her grandfather, the place of the absent mother. Some very pretty domestic incidents are to be found in this piece, somewhat long, but studied with good sentiments. The curiosity of the performance is an actress twelve years of age, who plays with great intelligence a difficult part.